

**BLUE LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**January 26, 2016**  
**1491 Owasippe Rd., Twin Lake, MI 49457**

**Meeting opened at 6:32 PM.**

**Present:** Melonie Arbogast, Lyle Monette, Don Studaven, Debbie Therrian

**Absent:** Dick Parker (excused)

**Agenda Items**

- **Brown's Pond Dam**

- David Schultz of Schultz Land & Water Consulting, Inc. gave a synopsis of what is needed and what potential projects are available. The base project is what has to be done (\$50,000); the expanded scope is improvements that could be done; the enhanced scope is things worth considering. (Expanded & enhanced scope - \$15,000).
- John Warner (DPW) is ready to file the petition with the circuit court.

- **Public Questions**

- Greg Vitkus (11576 Pond Rd.) - agreed with enhanced scope; questions on vehicular traffic
- Gary Bacon (665 Fruitvale) - in favor of public accessibility if pedestrian traffic can be controlled; asked for clarification on accessibility, has had problems with trespassing
- Deb Bowlin (610 Fruitvale) - question on liability & road maintenance
- Melita Swier (11530 Pond Rd.) - in favor of expanded scope & enhanced scope if it will help township get grants and help with costs
- Mike Hansen (11264 Pond Rd.) - not in favor enhancements; questions on foot traffic & erosion, parking, water levels
- Joanne Vitkus (11576 Pond Rd.) - partially in favor of enhanced scope, specifically fishing dock, parking & guard rails; in favor of protecting property
- Norm Swier (11530 Pond Rd.) - not in favor of railings - in favor of footbridge & grating, kayak accessibility, fences; thanked board for hearing everyone out and Dave Schultz for his work; question on township's role in special assessments
- Berta Marshall (11250 Pond Rd.) - opposed to any assessment
- Donna Hansen (11264 Pond Rd.) - opposed to enhancements; questions on who wants footbridge; has problem with golf carts; wants control of pedestrians; length of assessment; cost of removing dam

- **Board Comments**

- Melonie - will look into who has jurisdiction on water
- Lyle - non-motorized pond/pontoon boat
- Debbie - policing pedestrian control is not feasible; let board know of further questions before the next board meeting
- Dave Schultz - comments made will have a direct impact on moving forward

- **Public Comments**

- Mike Hansen - how binding is the petition for property owners who did not sign original petition
- Norm Swier - only one property change after petition drive
- Greg Vitkus - thanked everyone for coming and expressing their opinions
- Joanne Vitkus - would like to see the township as leader for handicap accessibility
- Deb Bowlin - thought this was all taken care of when the township took over and the first assessment brought - feels let down by the township
- Berta Marshall - who is getting the most benefit
- Mike Hansen - hopes court will take into account who receives the most benefit and bases assessment costs accordingly

**Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.**

Richard B. Parker  
Clerk