



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

History of Medicine Lake Water Level Issue with BCWMC (Compiled for 9/18/13 Administrative Services Committee Meeting)

October 2009: Memo from BCWMC to AMLAC on recent low water levels. Barr prepared a memo that reported on lake levels throughout the metro area as well as precipitation data. The memo also noted the level of the dam would not have an effect on the drought conditions in the lake.

June 2010 BCWMC Meeting: Responding to a request from the City of Medicine Lake to conduct hydrologic/hydraulic analysis and environmental assessment of the Medicine Lake Dam at Bassett Creek. The Commission directed Barr Engineering to meet with the Medicine Lake City Council regarding the issue and to provide an estimate of costs for further study.

August 2010 BCWMC Meeting: Memo provided by Barr reported on the meeting with Medicine Lake. There was discussion about forwarding the issue to the Technical Advisory Committee. However, the Commission took a motion to not forward the issue to the TAC. (In the past, the TAC recommended that dredging of Medicine Lake to improve water quality and provide better access *not* be added to the Commission's CIP program.)

November 2011: Written request from AMLAC to create a document that combines all pertinent data and information regarding the dam for broadcast among residents so that facts could be succinctly and accurately conveyed.

January 2012 BCWMC Meeting: In response to the above request, some discussion but tabled to March 2012 meeting.

March 2012 BCWMC Meeting: Much discussion about the Commission's role in this issue related to the priorities of the organization (flood control and water quality) and which entity should be responsible for contacting the DNR about the project. No action taken.

August 2012: Request from AMLAC to install controllable weir at ML dam (via email).

October 2012 BCWMC Meeting: Information presented on the dam and history of the water level issue. BCWMC discussed the issue and recommended that AMLAC work with cities of Plymouth and Medicine Lake and Hennepin County to discuss and determine "hurdles" before bringing a proposal to the BCWMC because conversations with those entities pre-empt the Commission. The Commission also noted that communication with the DNR is vital.

June 2013 Watershed Summit and Survey: The majority of the attendees prioritized the dam issue as their most important issue in the watershed. Multiple survey respondents commented on the degraded recreational capacity of Medicine Lake and low water levels.