



January 19, 2024

Dear Neighbors & District Members,

The Lake Dunlap WCID Board want to convey its best wishes to all of you for the new year! As we can see, already the lake has begun to settle down. The water is nice and clear, and the floating vegetation and duckweed appears to have diminished significantly. It is certainly nice to see neighbors out on the lake enjoying themselves!

As more time passes between the date the lake was declared officially full on Oct 31, 2023, and now, the work of the WCID is changing as well. We're moving from our oversight role with the construction to a greater focus on the management of taxpayer funds and payment of the bonds now that the financial parts of our plan are in play. The recent January 16, 2024 meeting was the first in literally years where there was really not much to report on the dam's progress — because the dam and the lake are back!

Nonetheless, a number of important items appeared on the Board's Agenda this week and this update is the first of a new kind of update. Going forward, the Friday following each meeting, we will report to you the significant board actions that took place at the meeting the preceding Tuesday.

What we won't dwell on unless there are specific reasons, are routine items like the approval of minutes, the payment of bills, and similar items. These will be documented in the board-approved Minutes of each meeting that constitute the official record. Board agendas and packets for every meeting are posted at LakeDunlapWCID.org for those interested in the full detail for any item.

Annual Audit Report

At the top of the list for the January meeting was for the board to receive and approve our annual audit. The audit was "unqualified" which is the highest level awarded. The board thanked our accountants and financial advisors for ensuring our taxpayer's resources are adequately and appropriately accounted for.

District Investment Policy and Investment Strategies.

Each January, we also review, update, approve the District's Investment Policy. As a government agency, we are expected to invest our taxpayer funds, but only in a very specific, very safe manner. For example, we cannot invest in the stock market. The only changes to this policy this year were in the list of approved investment brokers that we are allowed to work with.

May 4, Election

In May, three of the five seats on the board will up for election. The incumbents and any other interested party can run for one of these seats in this election if they choose to do so. The process

and required one-page filings to be placed on the ballot were discussed. The board did the preliminary work required to order the election, name an Election Agent, and enter into contracts with the counties, who are responsible for holding the election.

We are legally required to make the election calendar public as well as the required information for someone to file as a candidate. As noted on the District website, the last day to file to run is February 16, 2024. (The first available day was January 17, 2024.)

Communications Chair Named

In work that has been in process for a long time, the previous approach to communications was replaced with a new Communications Policy, and Larry Johnson was named as the inaugural Communications Chair (*Hi folks!*), replacing the Communications Committee. The entire board will have the opportunity to provide individual feedback on each communication, in conformance with the Open Meetings Act, but has delegated the responsibility for incorporating such feedback and then distributing official communications to the chair.

New Communications Policies and Procedures Approved.

The following policies and procedures were approved (italicized material is quoted from the board packet):

The Lake Dunlap WCID (LDWCID) will publish regular, timely, and ongoing communications relevant to its authority, duties, responsibilities, and interests with district members and others in accordance with the following policies:

1) The aim of LDWCID Communications is to always to be factual, transparent, and responsive in its communications with district members.

2) Official LDWCID Communications are to be sent via direct email to district members and others who have requested to receive these communications. A link for District Members and others to sign up for these communications will be prominently placed on the LDWCID website.

3) All official Lake Dunlap WCID Communications will be clearly identified as such. A special purpose email address will be created for the purpose of sending official District communications, identifying them as official, and providing a return address for questions or comments related to the communication. Any emails to that address will be forwarded to the District Communications Chair.

Communications@LakeDunlapWCID.org has been set up for this purpose.

4) An open archive of all official LDWCID Communications will be kept on the District website, LakeDunlapWCID.org, and made easily available to the public.

Official WCID Calendar for Public Meetings Adopted

This was another piece of work that has been in process for a long time. Going forward, our aim is to make it easy for District members to know when the WCID will meet. The regularly scheduled date for board meetings is the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

The LDWCID has business that must be conducted in:

- **January** (review & approval of the annual Audit, renewal of insurance policies, investment policies, and other business practices that require periodic review)
- **April** (award of the audit contract, preview of tax rates and budget)
- **August** (first round of tax discussions, additional budget discussions)
- **September** (conduct a tax hearing, set tax rates, and adopt a final budget)

These four months have been chosen as clearly planned WCID meetings. Under this plan, in most years, the board would spread its workload over four meetings each year in the above four months, and barring any unusual events would be on hiatus during February & March, May through July, and October through December each year.

There will be times when the Board may need to add a special meeting due to a time-sensitive matter. The Board agrees that it can and should add special meetings at any time as it sees necessary to accomplish its work.

Our next meeting will be on April 16, 2024. This new and ongoing schedule will be posted on the LDWCID website as soon as possible.



This message is an official communication from the Lake Dunlap WCID Board of Directors.

The Lake Dunlap WCID Board is committed to keeping District Members accurately and transparently informed about WCID business and actions, and to providing timely updates on state of the dam and the lake to District Members as needed.