

I'd like to start by thanking Mr. Fogg for his overly kind words during his presentation, and also thank the rest of the board and the membership as a whole for the full support you all have given me since I started. Whether it be the volunteers who came and helped me clean the maintenance building my very first day, the guys who came and filled in our irrigation trenches on Heron, all the ladies who do a great job of taking care of all the landscape around the tee boxes, or the daily words of encouragement that many of you give me any time you see me around on the course or in the clubhouse. When I first got here the board asked me to identify what I thought to be the problems areas of our golf course and the main four that concerned me the most are the irrigation system, the lack of necessary equipment and condition of the equipment we do have, the lack of consistent agronomic practices over time, and the age of the course itself.

Mr. Fogg already touched on the irrigation system and while that would be a big investment, we already currently spend a relatively large number annually keeping alive the system we have. Currently we budget \$48,000 a year for repairs and maintenance of the system, not including any labor required with any necessary repairs. I spend between \$1,800 to \$2,400 a month on city water, to operate the hydraulic portion of the system. Finally I have 1 staff member who is fully dedicated to the irrigation system, whether it be cleaning filters, or adjusting clocks, or fixing a head. So overall we spend roughly \$72,000 a year plus labor trying to keep our current system as operational as possible. With a new system the 48,000 a year in repairs would be eliminated, for at least the first 7 years, because that's the life of the warranty on the system. The roughly 24,000 a year we spend on city water would be eliminated because the hydraulics would be eliminated. Labor could also be allocated to other aspects and areas of the course as well. Basically, yes there is a cost to the new system, however there is also a relatively high cost to our current system, with very little to show for it.

My next 2 areas of concern, somewhat go hand in hand. We currently do not have all the necessary equipment to perform the standard agronomical practices of a golf course, which is why in my opinion they have not been consistently performed. However in July I have scheduled rental equipment to be able to wall to wall aerify and verticut all 3 courses. While we do need more equipment, unfortunately a lot of our current equipment is in need of replacement. You can on average get 6 to 7 thousand operating hours out of a piece of equipment, if it is properly maintained. We have numerous pieces with 8 and 9 thousand hrs on them, which leads to costly repairs and lots of down time. We have recently started replacing some of the worst equipment and this summer some of our newer equipment comes off lease, so we will be able to get some more equipment then as well. We also are having a golf outing next Saturday afternoon, where all proceeds will go directly towards purchasing some new equipment. We have already gotten pretty strong support from the membership in the form of hole sponsorships, however there is still plenty of room to sign up to play in the event or to sponsor a hole and help the cause.

My final concern that we will continue to battle, is the age of the golf course itself. The United States Golf Association and the American Society of Golf Course Architects give components of the golf course a life expectancy. Which are Greens 15-30 years, Bunker Sand 5-7 years Irrigation Control System 10-15 years, PVC pipe under pressure 10-30 years, Pump Station 15-20 years, Cart Paths 15-30 years, Practice Range Tees 5-10 years, Tee Boxes, 15 -20 years, and bunker drainage pipes 5-10 years. While I'm not entirely sure when Pelican and Osprey were built, I do have records going back to 1977, so we're talking at least 42 years. I do know that Heron was put in by McCumber golf in December of 1987, so it's be almost 32 years since Heron was built. Unfortunately the course itself is at the age where things are just going to start needing renovation in the near future.

In conclusion, I truly believe a new irrigation system is the start to reaching the course playability and aesthetics I know I want to be able to provide the membership. With a consistent reliable water source comes green grass in our dry season, our busiest time of the year, instead of the brown dust bowl we currently have. It allows me the capability to use products that I currently can't because they must be precisely and properly watered in, products that help battle our salt problems, or kill nematodes that infest our greens and tees and kill the turf. Basically and overall better conditioned more aesthetically pleasing golf course, which in turn should bring in more membership and increase outside play, which drives up our revenue and increases the clubs budget to be able to make BSGAC the place it can and should be for everyone.