

Windemere Township Lakes Association General Meeting Minutes Saturday June 8, 2024 City of Moose Lake Community Center

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chair Laurie Patrick at 9:05 AM.
- II. The Chair asked for additions to the agenda. There were none.
- III. The Secretary recognized the board members. Present: Chip Wells, Jerry Blazevic, Dan Benzie, Loren Radtke, Laurie Patrick, Joann Murphy, Bill Yechout & Kathy Burkard. Excused: Noah Cashman, Russ Rehtzigel and John Tasky
- IV. The minutes of the August 12, 2023 general meeting were posted on the website, sent out earlier and distributed at the meeting. A motion was made by Mark Behrends and seconded by Bill Patrick to approve the minutes. APPROVED
- V. Treasurer Dan Benzie went over the financial report that was handed out. He reported a balance of \$118606 (general fund \$44971, AIS fund \$62453, water quality \$11081 and education/memorial fund \$100). A motion was made by Bill Patrick and seconded by Ernie Muller to approve the treasurer's report. APPROVED
- VI. Membership Chair Joann stated that she sent out 520 2024 membership forms which included a mailing to all property owners on Sand Lake. She has received 192 memberships(76 Sand, 62 Sturgeon, 41 Island and 13 small lakes). There are several forms that have been received in the past few days that are not included.
- VII. Committee Reports:
 - a. Lakes: All lakes have high water due to recent rains. Sand-Jerry stated that the lake level is 2.5 inches above ordinary high water (OHW). It is twelve inches higher than last fall. The lake is draining. Sturgeon-Bill reported that the lake is four inches above OHW. The secchi reading was 29.5 feet. Due to the high water the buoys have been placed on the lake. Island-Chip stated that he had received readings of 14.5 and 9 feet for water clarity in May. He has received some calls about the high-water level. One of our members discussed the water level with the township. As a result of creating the open outlet the township agreed to maintain the channel. Tony Bakhtiari, a lakes association member and township supervisor said that township officials had not been aware of the agreement until recently. A couple of weeks ago the township had a crew clean out the outlet. Tony requested that the lakes association work with the township to monitor the outlet. The documents about the outlet are posted on the lakes association website. Smaller Lakes-Bill Lyon introduced himself. Lords Lake is up four inches and Passenger is up 6 inches, Bill plans on visiting other small lakes and encouraging membership in our association.
 - b. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)-Loren announced that that he has secured up to \$40,000 from state and county funds for Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) treatment this summer for Sand and Sturgeon Lakes. It costs about \$1000 an acre for treatment. Rich Rezanka will survey the lakes this month. The permit and treatment will follow. Overall, the amount of EWM is trending down. The lakes association will be surveying the township for Purple Loosestrife this summer and working with the Minnesota DNR to use biocontrol next summer. We have joined

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- a. a statewide network to survey our lakes for Spiney Water Fleas. We have purchased about \$500 of equipment that will be reimbursed by the county.
- c. Brush-Bill informed the members that the brush pile will be open the third Saturday of the month through October from 10 AM to 1 PM. Use of the brush pile is restricted to Windemere Township property owners.
- d. Road Pickup-Kathy requested that more members volunteer. She distributed trash bags to members that volunteer to do pickup.
- e. Newsletter- Laurie asked for a volunteer to take over the newsletter.
- f. Website-Chip said he had experienced a couple of times last week when he could not access the site. He has requested an explanation from Minnesota Lakes and Rivers, the host for the website.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Sturgeon High Water Committee-Bill reported that the board discussed the status of the committee at the May meeting. The options to create an outlet that the DNR would approve are very expensive. The board feels that we have taken the issue as far as we can. There will be a final report at the July meeting.
- b. 501(c)(3) Status-No report but Noah will report at the July meeting.

IX. New Business

- a. Membership Signs-John Tasky was not available to report but the membership signs seem to be well received.
- b. 2025 Memberships and Sponsorships-Laurie announced that the board had voted to keep the 2025 membership and sponsorship dues at \$25 and \$100.

X. Adjournment

It was moved by Dan and seconded by Bill Patrick to adjourn. APPROVED

Speaker: Rich Rezanka, Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist, Minnesota DNR

Chip Wells, Secretary

June 9, 2024