

Minutes
Ida Lake Association
Board of Directors
Ida Township Hall
April 27, 2019

Directors Present

President: Dick Sudmeier
Vice-President: Elaine Greer
Secretary: Pamela Phillips (acting for Geneva Sorum)
Treasurer: Mike Kleve

District 1:	District 9: Andy Lopez
District 2: Janet Vandendriessche	District 10:
District 3: Jim Phillips	District 11: Don Erstad, Dave Murphy
District 4:	District 12: Glen Van Amber
District 5:	District 13:
District 6: Kim Barse, Tom Eystad	District 14: Elke Richards, Jim Conn
District 7: Suzanne Sudmeier	District 15:
District 8:	District 16: Cliff Drenttel, John Dahl
	District 17:

President Dick Sudmeier called the meeting to order at 9:00 am
Dick mentioned that there were 2 additions to the agenda - Ditch cleanup and signs. Andy Lopez moved to approve the agenda. Suzanne Sudmeier seconded the motion. Agenda approved.

District Reps introduced themselves. It was noted that Bob Reed was a guest to the meeting from District 11.

Secretary's Report

Suzanne moved to dispense with reading the minutes from the September 22, 2018 meeting since they had been forwarded by email. Tom Eystad seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mike Kleve presented the Treasurer's report.

- Balance of \$94,890.93 at the end of 2018 which put us close to 2016 balance after spending \$16,000 on walleye stocking
- Memberships (\$1300) includes \$300 to Conservation Minnesota and \$1000 to Douglas County Lake Association
- Insty Prints \$171.72 was for annual dues post card reminders
- Insty Prints \$347.15 for letters about Curly Leaf Pond (CLP) Weed treatment plans
- \$2500 from Leaf Valley
- 468 paid members in 2018

Jim Conn moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Andy Lopez seconded. Report was approved.

Some further discussion ensued about some of the expenses.

ILA spent \$16,000 on walleye stocking, leaving \$4786 as of April, with additional donations expected to be received.

Three bills/expenditures required approval:

- RMD lab fees for testing of water quality (\$660)
- CNA Surety bond for Directors (\$20,000 dishonesty protection, which is different from the liability insurance) for \$167 (same amount as last year),
- Reimbursement for flowers sent for the funeral of Chuck Myrin who was a long time member (20+ years) of District 12 (\$37.59).

Jim Phillips moved that payment of the 3 bills be approved. Andy Lopez seconded the motion. Approved.

There was additional discussion when a question was asked about what benefit ILA gets from belonging to the Douglas County Lakes Association (DCLA). Dick Sudmeier explained that there are 200 named lakes in Douglas County. The group meets monthly and has speakers of interest to lakeshore property owners. They have a water quality legacy fund which they collect from various entities, such as resorts, County government, etc. It is a fund to be used for water quality projects. Government grants require a 25% contribution from someone else, so this fund may be used for that. They've collected \$50,000 from Douglas County supervisors. The fund is managed by West Central Initiatives. The board includes representatives from the County, Lake Associations, and the City Council. There is also a technical board that evaluates applications that includes representatives from Soil & Water, engineers, etc. who approve the money.

They hold public meetings – everyone is invited to attend. Dick will send notices of meetings to all of the Directors.

Last time an assessor came and explained how the taxes are figured – How much comes from lake shore owners, 2nd home owners, farmers, etc.

There has been talk about zoning and variances – Dick gets a message from the board of adjustment that gives addresses and details of every variance applied for – schedule and address – ILA can go out with board of adjustment and look at the place – If it affects Lake Ida – ILA could see and provide input – They bring in County Commissioners -

Old Business

Ditch 23:

There was a \$230,000 grant for an engineering and feasibility study. Barr Engineering and local firms have worked on the study for 1-1/2 years. Jerry Hagenmiller (the District Coordinator for the Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)) has all the invoices from all the work so far and they haven't spent all of the money yet. The study will be wrapped up in June and a report will be issued. The study includes the whole watershed of Lake Ida, not just Ditch 23. All issues will be addressed and they will have meeting for ILA.

DNR has control of the property that goes through the sediment pond at Ditch 23 so they have to be involved and approve any plans.

They will need more money to get projects done. By end of summer ILA can apply to same entity and it is likely to get approved since we've done the big study. Maybe by the fall projects will be approved and funded. ILA will need the 25% to get it started. There will be hydraulic modeling plans, etc. Maybe in June ILA will have an answer.

In the fall ILA applied for a couple of other smaller projects – all 3 were turned down by the entity that funds those types of things.

SWCD also received a \$300,000 grant for projects like that. Jerry Hagenmiller said that he will reapply for the 3 that got turned down. ILA won't need to go through the same hoops since that money is already approved, He hopes to get the money from the grant. They will still need a 25% contribution from either ILA, landowners, or the DCLA legacy fund.

Someone has to come forward and say they are giving the 25%. It should be expected that Ida Township may want to contribute since some of the projects involve the washing out of township roads, etc. SWCD will go to the farmers and township and ask for money. ILA could go to Township meetings and speak up and ask them to approve, but it's not ILA's job to request the money. ILA could throw in money. ILA had approved a \$15,000 contribution to the matching fund for Ditch 23, but they don't need that money yet.

Curly Leaf Pond Weed:

Dick sent out preliminary map from PLM in Brainerd – AIS Consulting did the survey at the end of June after our treatment. They found no CLP in the areas we treated. PLM says we shouldn't be 100% confident in that and should treat any affected areas 3 years in a row.

The map shows 5 areas to be treated. – they charge more per acre for small areas because they use different chemicals. PLM recommends treating more areas – but some are too deep – treatment doesn't work at that depth and if they don't reach the surface they're not as much of a navigation problem. It will cost \$24,632 to treat. ILA will do one more survey to determine if there are other affected areas before being treated this Spring.

Dick applied for a grant to Douglas County Land and Resources – they will pay for surveys and 75% of the treatment. \$19,624 has been approved for treatment. ILA will have to pay about \$5000. They will do it at the end of May (water temperature should be about 61 degrees).

ILA may need to do another survey at the end of the treatment, but county may do its own AIS survey at the end of July, so we may not need to.

To get the treatment permit from DNR ILA is required to send a letter to all property owners around the lake. If they don't want treatment in the water adjacent to their property they have to opt out by sending ILA a letter. Last year ILA got 3 letters from people, but they didn't live next to areas needing treatment. We've received no letters yet this year. Dick will send results to DNR after the 30th. We have to do it every year. Suzanne asked if ILA could send the letter in September instead of the Spring to give people more time to respond. ILA could do that, but if property changes hands it could be a problem.

The new survey will be done before May meeting with new mapping by prepared by PLM – ILA needs to approve going ahead with the treatment recommended by PLM this spring and to approve spending the \$24,000 minus the grant.

Jim Conn moved to approve the expenditure. Jim Phillips seconded the motion. Approved.

Fish stocking:

ILA put in 1000 lbs of walleye fingerlings – ILA watched them weigh in and be put in. Last year DNR stocked 875,000 fry (teeny) and 11,000 yearlings (659 lbs) and 20 adults. ILA has just over \$4000 remaining in fund for this Fall. Information and discussion will follow in the summer.

Redistricting:

Jim Phillips volunteered to look at possible redistricting since there are so many members in District 3. It was recommended that District 3 be divided into two Districts – one with approximately 32 members,

and the other with approximately 49 members. Jim will need to get addresses. He explained that the Big Horn Cove Association (the trailers) and other homes on Big Horn Bay Road East to Highway 34 would be one District, and the Townhouses and other homes on Gehrkes Point would be the other District. Dick indicated that the ILA bylaws say there are 17 Districts. Splitting District 3 would require a change to the bylaws to be 18 Districts. This change will be brought up for approval at the May meeting. Jim said that he would talk to some people about being District Reps for the new District.

Another bylaw issue that Dick brought up was that there is no way to appoint interim Directors when people die, move away, or resign. This leaves several Districts without representation. Currently voting for District Directors is every two years (1/2 each year). There needs to be a provision in the bylaws that indicates the Board of Directors can appoint or accept interim directors until the next election. This will also be added to the bylaws for approval at the May meeting.

New Business

Walleye slot limits:

Dick sent out initial email a couple of months ago and got responses from 12 Directors. Several said they catch their limits when they want. Others said they never catch walleyes. He didn't get a consensus on the slot limits. The main consensus is that Directors/members need more information. A lot of places have discussed this and it could be natural causes changing fish habits, etc. Dean Beck (or another fish specialist) from the DNR will come to the May general meeting to speak about pros and cons of slot limits and whether anything really improves fishing by changing size limits or number limits.

DNR only allows 3 different slot limits, not just whatever anyone wants.

Mike Kleve has talked to friends at Big and Little Pine. Their fishing had been poor and stocking didn't help, so for them, natural reproduction worked better. In 2003 they set their limit at 18" and at the end of 10 years, fishing has been improved. They said it was not tough to control.

Lake Ida fishery report did a survey in August of 2015 (and the population was the highest since 1990s). DNR should do another survey this year. Data suggested that fishing should remain strong. DNR also annually does electro shocking to see how many they get. Last year they got no walleyes. People say it's because fish have moved and not that there are fewer walleyes. Some of the changes may have been caused by zebra mussels.

Jeff Johnson in our ILA says that walleyes don't reproduce in this lake because of the shoreline and because they aren't native – so he says we have to keep stocking. They reproduce in rapid water over rocky shoreline, which Ida really doesn't have.

Last year we committed verbally (no written contract, but a gentleman's agreement) with the stocking organization to spend \$16,000 for each of 3 years.

AIS Inspections at boat launches:

The County sets number of hours – they allow Lake Associations to pay for more hours. County schedules and pays for about 300 hours. They emphasize fishing tournaments and holidays. ILA has paid every year for a few more hours – ILA paid for 250 hrs at \$6 per hour (county also pays \$6 for \$12 total) – this year ILA is restricted by the County to add only 250 hours (\$1500). ILA must tell them by May 5th. The North landing averaged 2.2 inspections per hour. The South landing 1.9 inspections per hour. The inspectors apparently don't find much – mostly just drain plugs. It ends up being more of an education than finding AIS. Last year they found 2 weeds that someone had on their boat. They've found no new AIS.

Glen Van Amber moved to approve paying for the 250 additional hours of inspection. Andy Lopez seconded the motion. Approved.

There is a program for volunteers to be AIS detectors. They will be trained to learn how to detect things in the lake. Dick asked for volunteers. He received 3 responses – David Geddes – Bob Reed – Dustin Palmersheim. The County will pay \$175 for the first person. But it's a good idea for more people to be trained, and ILA could pay for 2 more people. They could then follow up by going around lake talking to people and it might relieve some work for Dick.

Suzanne moved that ILA pay for the 2 additional people. Janet Vandendriessche seconded the motion. Approved.

Records issue:

Dick mentioned that he will likely not continue past this summer as President, and he wants information on the best way to preserve his electronic records and transfer them to the next President. Pamela mentioned that a Google Drive can be set up for ILA with restricted access to specific board members. Documents can then be uploaded and viewed by those with access. She will work with Dick to get it set up and allow him to transfer his records.

Dues Payment Methods:

Mike Kleve has set up a Square reader that can be used at the May general meeting to accept credit card payments in person for dues. Dues paid by credit card will be \$26 to cover the 2.5% processing cost charged by Square. Currently he has tested it with his personal account. He would like to link it to the ILA checking account.

Dave Murphy moved to approve linking the official ILA bank account to the Square account to take credit card payments at meeting. Jim Conn seconded the motion. Approved.

Pamela will help look at setting up a PayPal account for online payments via the webpage. She will work with Mike and will bring results to the May meeting for approval. It would involve the same type of up-charge for paying electronically.

Pilgrim Point Sale:

The Board of Pilgrim Point camp has voted to sell it. The congregation was apparently up in arms about it and demanded a full congregation vote which will take place in May. As lake property owners, we should be interested in what happens if the decision is made to sell the property. Dick suggested property owners contact Dave Rush (zoning from Land and Resources) as well as County Commissioners (Dave Eglund) to provide our input and concerns for use of the property and how it may affect our lake. It was suggested that we put that contact information on the ILA web page if it is not already.

Newsletter:

Don Erstad indicated that his daughter Diane Achterkirch may not have time to do the Newsletter anymore. Dick will contact her to find out her plans. Elke Richards indicated that she may be willing to take it over in 2 years if Diane gives it up, but she is too busy to do it now.

Water Testing:

For 10 years, Wes Smith and Jerry McClure have collected water samples for SWCD which is then sent to a lab in Detroit Lakes and is tested for Chloroform and Phosphorus. They also checked clarity for depth of visibility. They would like to "retire" from this and want new volunteers. The lab will be offering training the afternoon of May 2nd. Testing is done during the 5 months of the summer. ILA pays \$250 for this. ILA has data for all the same sites for years. Dick will send email to full membership looking for volunteers.

Water Quality Legacy Fund:

As mentioned above, the Douglas County Lake Association has put together this fund. ILA will go to them when it needs funds. They will likely be asking ILA to put some money into it. ILA will wait. ILA currently has a lot of money in its funds, but once the Ditch 23 recommendation comes down, it could require a lot of money to come up with ILA's 25% matching to get the projects done.

General Meeting:

The next Board meeting will be May 25th at 8:00 a.m., followed by the General Membership meeting at 9:00 a.m. A Fish specialist will speak at the meeting.

Ditch Cleanup:

Saturday May 18th was picked for the cleanup of the ditch along highway 34 from Pilgrim Point north to highway 5. Volunteers will meet at Pilgrim Point Road at 9:00 am. An email will be sent out requesting responses by volunteers. Dick cannot participate this time so will need someone to pick up the vests from the county. Dick will also send out an email about the general meeting.

ILA Signs:

10 new road signs advertising the General Meetings were printed and available to those Directors who had no signs. No stands were with them. It was thought that Geneva may have them. Stands will be available at Pamela and Jim's home and can be picked up.

Badges:

It was noted that there are no badges for some of the new Directors. Specifically Jim Conn and Elke Richards of District 14 need badges and any other new Directors. Geneva made the badges so she will be asked to make more.

Additional Business:

Jim Conn is concerned about new flow of water from some of the new culverts wondering where it will go. SWCD and DNR have been involved in all of that. Elke went to Township meetings. Engineers were at every meeting, the process was very detailed. Some will go into holding ponds, some may go into the lake but in an environmentally careful way.

Elke mentioned that the Organics composting receptacles at the Township Hall are very well used. She mentioned that the Township coffee cups that they and ILA use for coffee are Styrofoam and are not recyclable or compostable.

Jim Phillips moved to adjourn the meeting. Jim Conn seconded the motion. Approved and the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.