

**Minutes
Ida Lake Association
Membership Meeting
Ida Township Hall
May 25, 2019**

President Dick Sudmeier called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker:

Dean Beck from DNR in Glenwood spoke about the walleye fishing status in the lake. He talked about the fishery and options for walley harvest or slot limits that could be considered by the Association.

The DNR did a survey in 2015 and they are scheduled to survey again this year. The DNR survey averaged 10 walleye per gill net. There's been a gradual increase in Northern populations and there is a negative relationship between walleye and pike. Northerns are the primary predators of walleye (but largemouth bass are as well). These predators shouldn't be thrown back if they are not kept for eating. Increasing water quality caused by zebra mussels promotes vegetation growth which is the best for northern. The more fertile and turbid a lake is, the more walleyes there are, as green algae is important for fish productivity. Zebra mussels eat up the green algae, reducing zooplankton. He thinks that the walleye may be losing natural reproduction and that multiple lakes have this issue..

The four options for harvest regulations or slot regulations that could be requested from DNR are:

- ½ of statewide bag limit (3 fish daily limit) – spreads the harvest across more anglers or across more of the fishing season. (A recent initiative to drop the statewide limit to 4 per day would make this option 2 per day.)
- 17" minimum length limit (would have to be this big to keep) – maximizes the value and return for stocking. This is a good option for lakes without a lot of natural reproduction as it lets the fish grow and reproduce
- 17-26" protected slot (would have to release anything in this range) – maximizes trophy potential and catch rates – catch and release – good on natural reproduction lakes – for lakes with a surplus of young fish.
- 20-24" protected slot (only used if a lake has too many adult spawners)

Dean has reservations about using any of the options on Lake Ida. We (DNR and ILA) have to stock the lake. We can't predict there will be lots of young fish, and we want to maximize return on stocking, so usually a 17" slot makes sense. But Ida is different because it doesn't have good natural reproduction (deep lake). It's also a problem, because fish are brought up shallow when caught, gas bloat can prevent them from being able to go back down if released, and they won't survive, which defeats the purpose of the slot.

Dean also discussed other options, such as redesigning the dam at the south end of the lake to stage the water levels below with rocks to allow fish to pass easier.

These were all just options presented for ILA consideration. No actions or decisions by the Association were made.

Meeting Agenda Dian Lopez moved to approve the agenda. Jim Phillips seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Secretary's Report Jim Conn moved to approve the minutes from the August 2018 meeting. Dave Murphy seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report as of May 23, 2019.

Total cash assets of \$99,955.01

470 memberships in 2018 – 63% of total residents

Membership as of May 22, 2019: 213 members, \$3,600 received for memberships (does not include dues collected at the meeting or after May 22nd)

Bills to be paid:

- \$19.95 for annual domain name (lakeidamn.org) renewal
- \$57 for stamps
- Supplies for meeting

Open commitments:

- Ditch 23 project
- Fish Stocking \$5761 received in donations as of 22 May

Suzanne Sudmeier moved to pay open bills and approve the Treasurer's report. Dian Lopez seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Old Business

Ditch 23: Barr Engineering has 3 proposals to address the issue of more phosphorus coming out of wetlands into the lake than going into the wetlands (which is supposed to filter it). If the water went directly into lake at this point it would contain less phosphorus. ILA can check with Jerry Hagenmiller of Douglas County Soil & Water Conservation about participating in a conference call. DNR can reject any of the proposals, or they can apply for grants to move forward with any of the proposals. ILA may try to get the engineering firm or Soil & Water to the June Director's meeting to present their recommendations. Will report how meeting went with DNR.

Run Off Issues: The engineering firm is studying the whole lake watershed and documenting all run-off issues, not just those at Ditch 23. Report will be out soon. There are a couple of issues ILA looked at last year. Grants were applied for and turned down. There is a new source of money this year, so grants may be approved and projects could be done this year or next year. ILA does not apply for the grants, this is done through Soil & Water.

Curly Leaf Pondweed Treatment: Surveying this week. Will treat at least 28 acres when water temps reach 60 degrees. ILA approved the spending of \$5,000 – the rest is a grant. Notices were sent to parcel owners who had to opt out if they wanted no treatment next to their property. Got zero opt outs. Survey showed that where we treated in spring 2018, there is no living CLP. Looks successful. It is recommended that we retreat in same area for 3 years.

Fish Stocking: Stocked 1,000 lbs. of walleye fingerlings in the fall. Paid \$16,000. Plan to do the same this fall.

Water Sampling: Jerry McClure and Wes Smith have been sampling lake 4-6 times a year for the past several years. Need 2 volunteers to fill those spots.

New Business

Bylaws Changes: Approved changes at the Directors meeting allowing us to fill vacancies mid-term. Let us know if you're willing to fill vacancies.

Redistricting: District 3 will be split into 2 Districts.

Ditch Cleanup – Saturday June 1st 9:00 am Pilgrim Point and Highway 34 - three miles.

Director Vacancies: 2, the part of 3 that is being split off, 5, 9, and 15.

Secretary Vacancy: Pamela Phillips volunteered to fill the slot.

Newsletter: Need a new person

Dues Payment Methods: Can pay by credit card now – online or at the meeting.

Lake Problems: Call the sheriff if you have issues with wake zones or noise issues.

Other New Business: 4th of July Parade – North end (since last year was cancelled) – Rain date of 5 July. Will watch for wake restrictions.

Organics Recycling: It was recommended that ILA use compostable products at our meetings. Since we share facilities and products with the Township, Elke Richards will approach Township about this.

AIS Inspections: The state and county are making an investment. Dave Geddes and Bob Reed were trained and certified to identify Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) through DNR and UofM extension. Front line people who have been trained will be a local resource. 8 hours

on-line before, 8 hours of training, 2 exams. They noted there are permanent decontamination stations on Lake Le Homme Dieu and Lake Carlos.

Elke Richards wants to start an Instagram page for ILA.

Annual Meeting: August 24, 2019 at 9:00am.

Adjourn: Bud Nielsen moved to adjourn the meeting. Someone seconded the motion (didn't catch the name). Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 10:45ish.

Respectively submitted,
Pamela Phillips, ILA Secretary