

**Minutes
Ida Lake Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Ida Township Hall
May 22, 2021**

Members Present

President – Elaine Greer	Vice President – David Geddes
Treasurer – Mike Kleve	Secretary – Pamela Phillips
District 1 – Wesley Smith	District 10 – Frank Steen
District 2 –	District 11 – Dave Murphy, Bob Reed
District 3 – Jim Phillips, Jeff Sorum	District 12 – Dan Montgomery
District 4 – Bob Everson	District 13 – Michael McNab
District 5 –	District 14 – Jim Conn
District 6 – Kim Barse, Tom Eystad	District 15 –
District 7 – Tom Duxbury	District 16 – John Dahl
District 8 – Bud Nielsen	District 17 – Jean Challeen, Betty Cichy-Anderson
District 9 – Andy Lopez, Dian Lopez	District 18 –
Past President – Dick Sudmeier	

President Elaine Greer called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

Meeting Agenda Jim Conn moved to approve the agenda. A couple of people called out that they seconded the motion (couldn't get the name). Motion approved.

Secretary's Report Betty Cichy moved to approve the minutes. Dick Sudmeier seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2021.

Total cash assets of \$31,473; investment balance of \$56,171; Total assets \$87,644.42.

Membership dues paid so far in 2021: \$750 has been received for 30 memberships so far in 2021. At the end of 2020, we had a record high of 497 paid members. Thus far, we have 119 paid members for 2021 (some people paid ahead in prior years).

Bills paid:

- Insty Prints - \$458.36 for Newsletter
- AIS for boat inspections - \$1462.50

To be Paid:

- Douglas County Lakes Association – dues of \$1000, and \$754 for water testing
- Weebly website Domain renewal \$19.95 paid by Pamela Phillips

Fish Stocking: Fund was depleted in 2020. New donations have resulted in a \$442 balance.

Kim Barse moved to pay open bills and approve the Treasurer's report. Bob Reed seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Old Business

Ditch 23: Notice from Jerry Hagenmiller – At the April 2021 Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) meeting they approved the agreement with Barr Engineering to complete the final design for the diversion ditch and revamping the existing sediment pond. They have gone over scope of work and permitting issues that need to be addressed. SWCD will obtain detailed elevations of the area where the diversion ditch will be constructed and also the existing sediment pond.

The MN DNR, US Army Corps of Engineers, the Douglas County Ditch inspector, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), and Barr Engineering will meet in early June to finalize permitting issues.

First grant from BWSR was for the engineering and feasibility study. The grants from BWSR cover 75% of the cost, and other organizations/individuals are to make up the other 25% of the cost. The 25% match for the feasibility study was \$100,000, and ILA committed \$15,000 toward the match. ILA was never billed for the \$15,000, which we had set aside as committed to the Ditch 23 project. The matching funds for the feasibility study ended up being met by donations from the county and other organizations.

Legacy Fund Update: Dick Sudmeier had sent the Officers a list of pros and cons of the money we sent to the Water Quality Legacy Fund (WQLF). The WQLF was established at the recommendation of the DCSWCD, County Commissioners, and the Douglas County Lakes Association and includes members from those organization on its board. WQLF is meant to be a place for the 25% matching fund requirements of grants for soil and water projects in the County to be found. The matching funds requirement for the actual improvements to Ditch 23 will be around \$175,000. WQLF has nearly all of that. ILA donated \$25,000 to the fund. This donation is actually only \$10,000 more than the \$15,000 we had previously committed to the feasibility study, but was not used at that time.

AIS Report: The total treatment cost for Curly Leaf Pondweed for 2021 is \$16,456 (\$900 for the survey and the rest for treatment). Douglas County is paying \$12,342 through a grant. ILA must come up with 25% funding match. ILA received a separate grant for part of matching funds, bringing the total we must pay to \$513.75. ILA pays the full amount and is then reimbursed.

Treatment will be for 18.7 acres. Treatment is slowly beating CLP back.

Bob Reed and David Geddes participate in monthly AIS calls with the MN AIS Research Center (MAISRC). ILA will keep doing an annual survey for CLP. We may need to treat for more than 3 years that was originally recommended, as we need to keep an eye on any further spread and treat. All CLP in the lake cannot be treated because there is a thermocline at 10-12 feet and the chemicals can't get below that. Treatment cost would be

exorbitant and not be effective. The company ILA contracts with, PLM, will treat this Monday (5/24), weather permitting. ILA will send out a notification email.

Watercraft Inspection: Elke Richards lined up additional boat inspection hours.

ILA requested 75 hours of level 1 and and 75 hours of level 2 inspection hours. Inspections will be done at the 2 south landings. 150 hours is max that can be applied for. ILA will pay \$1,462.50 for 50% of the cost, the rest of which is covered by the County.

Level 1 performs basic assessments (visual inspection) and education to boaters.

Level 2 will bring a mobile decontamination unit to actually “wash” the boats. DNR approved this decon unit only for the Sugar Sands access.

Inspectors work 5-10 hour shifts, generally Friday through Monday. Elke requested additional support through holiday weekends. She also suggested that in 2022 when Pilgrim Point Park opens we may want to submit a request for a permanent decon unit for the Sugar Sands access.

Douglas County Lakes Association Report: Dian Lopez attended the May 12th meeting – Discussions included the Lake Winona issue and the Nelson lake drainage issue. Also discussed were Vacation Property rentals – some members wanted to put a limit on how many places around a lake can be rentals. Nothing was decided because of how it might impact those lakes with resorts. Most important thing about the rentals is that a property owner needs to have someone available who neighbors can contact and who can respond to issues immediately. DCLA wanted to decide if they should have a Newsletter. Instead, they will email a little article telling other lake associations everything they have done so they’ll know what they are doing and can include in their Newsletters. Dian will also ask that they report on issues they are working on, not just what they’ve completed. They also reported on Ditch 23 and noted that construction may start in winter or spring for sure.

Dave Rush of Douglas County Land and Resources monitors vacation rentals – inform him of any issues with rentals in your area.

Pilgrim Point Park: We had a committee while the property was being considered for sale and during the initial considerations on development. Now that the County is moving ahead, it was suggested by Bud Nielsen that a committee is no longer needed. The County had a public open house with some of their proposed development, and they will continue to notify the public of its plans and will likely have public hearings on some actions. Bud moved to dissolve the ad hoc committee at this point. Jim Conn seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Fishing Stocking Update: ILA paid \$48,000 over 3 years for walleye stocking from ILA member donations and donations from outside organizations. There may be an abundance of fingerlings available this year, so we may be able to do something in the fall if we get an influx of money. DNR also stocked fingerlings in the spring at no cost to ILA because of the extra they had. Last years netting survey reports were poor, but local fishermen say the fish are there, but deeper.

Boat Landing Lighting: Duane Doucette reported (to Elaine) that the estimated cost has more than doubled since he last reported and since we approved a budget for it because of the cost of materials and work has doubled. In addition, a property owner adjacent to the landing is selling and doesn't want the light there now. We will revisit the issue at a later date. REA had committed \$450 for the project, which ILA already received. REA said they don't need it back and that we can put it in our fish stocking fund.

Nelson Lake Project: Nelson Lake in Ottertail County has a proposal to lower the lake by 3 feet to prevent adjacent roads from being flooded out. It would affect the watershed that eventually leads to Lake Ida, moving phosphorus downstream through Fish lake, a creek, Lake Miltona, and potentially into Lake Ida. Some 25 people spoke against the project at a public hearing; there was only 1 attendee for it. It is not a done deal, but is still being looked at. ILA had representatives at the meeting and hope we made an impact.

Newsletter: Pamela Phillips will be doing it from now on. Thanks to Sara Hnath for her work on the last one.

New Business

Outlet Gate: Judy Burkey, whose property is next to to the south outlet and dam, called to say that one of the dam's carp grates had dropped, and she was concerned. She cleaned out the debris and raised the gate herself. [Dan Swilling, a dam safety engineer with the state and Mr. McKibbins, Acting Fisheries Supervisor from Glenwood, may look at doing a rock dam in the future like the one they did on Lake Carlos. ILA will work with them if they look at this. At this point no additional work is being done.]

The Big Ole SUPathon event is scheduled for July 16-17. Participants often end up coming onto the private property adjacent to the outlet to get around the dam. It was suggested that maybe organizers could put a ladder in the lake to climb over it. When people go on the private property, they knock erosion rocks down from the shoreline. Jim Conn mentioned that if two people are at the dam to guide and help the participants over the dam they can avoid the private property. Elaine will contact the organizers with some suggestions.

Other New Business: None

Next Directors Board Meeting: Saturday, June 26th, 9:00 am.

Adjourn: Bud Nielsen moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Murphy seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 a.m. to get ready for the general membership meeting.

Respectively submitted,
Pamela Phillips, ILA Secretary