

**Minutes
Ida Lake Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Ida Township Hall
April 23, 2022**

Voting Members Present

President – Lee Gustafson	Vice President –
Treasurer – Mike Kleve	Secretary – Pamela Phillips
District 1 –	District 10 – Frank Steen
District 2 –	District 11 – Bob Reed
District 3 –	District 12 –
District 4 – Todd Searcy	District 13 –
District 5 – Mike Shaughnessy	District 14 – Jim Conn, Elke Richards
District 6 – Tom Eystad	District 15 – Roger Schultz
District 7 –	District 16 – John Dahl
District 8 – Lee Katzmarek	District 17 –
District 9 – Andy Lopez, Dian Lopez	District 18 – Matt Gunlogson
Past President – Elaine Greer	

President Lee Gustafson called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and introduced himself.

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

Secretary's Report Bob Reed moved to approve the September minutes that were emailed. Roger Schultz seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2022.

Total assets of \$83,373.58

Membership dues paid so far in 2022: \$1,680 (some for future years). 146 current memberships paid through 2022. Mike noted the membership fees increased to \$30 in 2022, but some people sent in the old amount of \$25. This should correct itself with the Newsletter which will have the new amount on the membership form.

Bills paid prior to the meeting:

- Post Box Rental \$130
- Insty Prints for the waiver letter \$363.25
- Stamps \$23.20
- Stamps \$58.00

Open action items:

- Bid from Freshwater Scientific Services for Curly Leaf Pond weed (CLP) survey to be completed by May 31 \$2,190. Invoice will be paid when David Geddes signs off that work is satisfactory.
- Bid from PLM for CLP treatment to be completed by May 31 for \$16,682. Invoice will be paid when David Geddes signs off that work is satisfactory.

Mike noted that Douglas County pays for 75% of the treatment, and ILA has also been awarded a grant of \$2,850. Total CLP cost to ILA will be \$3,510.

Tom Eystad moved to approve the Treasurer's report and the two action items. Elke Richards seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Old Business

Ditch 23 Update: Lee spoke with Danielle Anderson with Douglas County Soil & Water Commission (DCSW) who is the lead now. Nothing happened this winter. Specifically, they will be separating a big wetland from the ditch so that the wetland doesn't drain into the ditch which would carry phosphorus into the lake. They will get a big swamp drill rig in there next week to take soil borings deep into the peat material where the berm will be placed. They need to ensure the soil is good and stable so they don't pile weight on bad soil. Soil borings will reveal if they can build the berm out of soil or if they will have to bring sheet pile in to build the berm. They will likely have those answer within 30 days. They still need the permits, which is just a formality since all the projects have been vetted. Actual construction will be next winter. DCSW likes to have a public meeting with the association and others prior to construction to explain what they are doing. The DCSW website has a lot of good information about this project under grants, including a great project summary graphic.

Action Item: Pamela - put the graphic on the website and send a link out to the Directors.

Action Item: Lee – invite Danielle to be the speaker for the August ILA Annual meeting to provide a project update and to serve as the open public meeting.

Fish Stocking Update: Mike Kleve – Need more volunteers for the committee. Mike would like Jeff Johnson to lead it. ILA did not stock in 2021 because of funding issues. ILA has received \$9,230 in 15 months earmarked for fish stocking. ILA gets no donations from outside associations if ILA does not stock (Leaf Valley and Viking Sportsman have donated to ILA in the past). ILA received a quote from Klug for \$17.50 per pound of fingerlings for 2022 and 2023, an increase in cost from the past. ILA usually orders 1,000 pounds. Klug said they could provide a rider for a third year with an additional price increase.

ILA had a shortfall to pay for the stocking in 2019 and 2020, even with outside donations. ILA can expect a shortfall of \$2,000 in 2023 with current income. Options: purchase 750 pounds for 2 years, do do nothing for another year and look at other suppliers, or just go with a 1-year commitment for this fall. A decision needs to be made by May 31st for Klug.

Mike will try to get the committee to meet to discuss and propose options for a vote at the next Director's meeting.

There was some open discussion and opinions shared about pros/cons/benefits of stocking. Elaine Greer suggested talking to REA for obtain money from Project Round-up for fish stocking.

Lee noted that it would be helpful to have a full committee and not just limit it to residents on the lake, but maybe include people who live across the block who are passionate about fishing Lake Ida. Look at it more wholistically. Maybe someone Leaf Valley. Think outside the box. Have Christopherson or someone come speak about fishing?

Action Item: Lee – add to agenda for the front end of the May General meeting to explain that committee members are needed for a few things and it's not necessary to be a District Director to serve on a committee. Request Committee volunteers at the back end of General meeting. Specifically committees needing volunteers are the fish stocking committee and the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) committee – members will give recommendations to the Directors.

Pilgrim Point Park Update: Lee noted there is not much information available right now. Several members noted from "word of mouth" reporting that most home sites are sold, one is building already, and another 3-4 lots are cleaned off and staked out. There are apparently only 2-4 left to sell, and one is next to the park. The contractor is paving the roads in the home site area. The county currently doesn't have money to pave the road to the park.

AIS Report: Bob Reed reported that the CLP delineation survey and treatment will be done toward the end of May when water between 55-65 degrees. (Mike Kleve noted that he did not receive any replies to the notification letters that were sent out objecting to the treatment.) Native plants won't be emerging yet – invasive species emerge ahead of the native plants. The treatment area will be roughly the same as in 2021, with additional areas in the southwest corner of Little Ida. The total cost for survey and treatment is estimated to be \$18,872 (see Treasurer's report above), to be offset by the matching grant of 75% of the treatment cost from Douglas County for \$12,551.10 and the MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for \$2,850 – which leaves ILA responsible for \$3,510.50.

ILA has contracted with a new survey company - Freshwater Scientific Services. PLM will still do the treatment.

Bob also reported that the County has commissioned an early warning meandering survey on 8 lakes including Ida to detect other AIS, such as milfoil and Starry Stonewort. There is no cost to ILA.

Action Item: David Geddes, Bob Reed, and Lee – develop a standing AIS committee. Develop and submit a more formal process for annual approval of the treatment plan and the budget to bring to the Directors for approval.

Douglas County Lake Association (DCLA) Report: Dian Lopez – DCLA is just getting started with its first meeting. The Water Quality Legacy Fund (WQLF) paid for the things they said they were going to pay for with Ditch 23 – the 25% matching funds were completely covered. (Dian suggested that ILA look at giving another donation to the WQLF this year to keep their good efforts going forward since this big one has benefited our lake.) DCSW reported on all the things they are going to be working on. The big problem with runoff and flooding in Ottertail County is pretty much over. But some water going into Miltona still comes into Lake Ida. Dian questioned whether we should test for phosphorus coming into Lake Ida from there? County AIS survey was already discussed. The County is done hiring AIS inspectors for boat launches for the summer. DCLA bought one more testing station – not being deployed on Ida.

Elaine noted that the County will send ILA information on inspections, and at that time requests for additional hours should be submitted. Elke Richards agreed to work with the County on that once the Directors have decided on extra hours. It was mentioned that some boats are not being inspected before they go in the lake. ILA members should report back to the County when that is noted so they can talk to the inspectors.

Lee Katzmerek works for the County and is willing to talk at a general meeting about the process for hiring inspectors and how it works.

Action Item: Lee – add WQLF to the agenda for the general meeting to inform the membership how ILA's large donation last year benefitted ILA. Add to a Director's meeting agenda in the future, discussion of an additional donation to WQLF.

New Business

Newsletter: Pamela Phillips – All articles need to be in by May 8th, if not sooner. Have received an article from outgoing President Elaine Greer and an item from Dave Murphy on not using lead fishing gear.

Action Items:

Lee - need an incoming intro article as new President, as well as a short article requesting volunteers and explaining they don't have to be a Director.

Pamela – will put something in about boating rules (distance from shoreline, PWC times, etc.)

Jim Conn - to prepare a short item about applying for appropriate permits before any shoreline modifications (bluff zones, etc.) as suggested by Jim Conn.

David Geddes – need a short item on the plan for CLP treatment.

For the Fall Newsletter – reminder about informing landscaping/fall cleanup crews not blowing yard debris into the lake. Jim Conn also mentioned

Meeting Dates: In agenda.

Speaker for May General Meeting: Discussion about who to have. It was suggested that perhaps 2-3 speakers with short presentations to interest a broader range of people to attend. Someone to talk about fishing? Maybe someone like Dave Rush about proper shoreline management (rip-rap, hill trimming, etc.)? Lee Katzmarek on boat inspection process? Lee agreed to speak.

Action Item: Lee and Mike Shaughnessy – Mike will contact Christopherson's about presenting on fishing and Lee will contact Dave Rush to speak on permit process for shoreline modification.

4th of July Boat Parade: Jim Conn agreed to lead but would like to give someone else the opportunity. Dick Sudmeier will speak to someone else who has a wooden boat. The parade will cover the south end of the lake this year. It was decided that the rain date will be July 3rd if the forecast is bad. Notices will go out by email and be posted on the web page.

Spring Clean Up: May 7 was chosen as the clean up date, weather permitting. Pamela will be out of town but can provide the poker sticks to whoever wants to coordinate this year.

Other Business: Elke Richards noted the need to look at district divisions – some are disconnected and not congruent with the entire district. With the addition of homes on Pilgrim Point, those properties need to be included somewhere. Three volunteers (Roger Schults, Elke, and Jim Conn) agreed to form a Redistricting Committee to look at what makes sense and come up with a proposal. They will report periodically and bring it to the Directors for a vote by the fall. That give the winter to institute and update the Access database, email databases, redo any maps, update the website, etc..

Reminder to Directors to get out and meet new property owners in their district and encourage them to join the association.

Roger Schults noted how much he appreciates the exchange of information and ideas at the ILA meetings.

Action Item: Pamela and David – Lee would like an AIS summary on the website. There is an AIS tab already. Pamela will work with David to clean it up and add more information.

Adjourn Tom Eystad moved to adjourn the meeting. Roger Schultz seconded the motion. Motion passed, meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

(Next Directors Board Meeting: Saturday May 28, 8:00 a.m., followed by the spring General meeting at 9:00 a.m.)

Respectively submitted,

Pamela Phillips, ILA Secretary