

Minutes
Ida Lake Association
General/Annual Meeting
Ida Township Hall
May 28, 2022

President Lee Gustafson called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
Lee introduced himself and the Officers introduced themselves.

Lee reminded everyone that as we go through the items, they should keep in mind if there's something that interests them, we could use volunteers. Some things only take a day; others more time. Volunteers don't need to be a director to help.

Meeting Agenda Mary Glaseman moved to approve the agenda. Dan Sandiger seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Secretary's Report Pamela noted that the August 28, 2021 minutes were approved by the Directors last fall at their September meeting. They are posted on the website.

Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2022.

Mike Kleve noted for the membership that the checking account went down \$9,000 because of expenditures. The investment account went up 8% because of safe investments. We had outside investors look at ILA's investment accounts and they said we're doing the right thing. We will end up paying about \$16,000 for Curly Leaf Pondweed treatment. Through grants and county matching, ILA will end up with about 75% of the cost covered and reimbursed.

The general fund went down. ILA made a \$25,000 donation to the Water Quality Legacy Fund (WQLF). They get corporate and other donors. WQLF leveraged \$175,000 for to pay the matching portion of ILA's cost for fixing Ditch 23.

A Financial Records audit was done and the finances are adequately represented.

Old Business

Ditch 23 (Lee Gustafson): Construction did not happen last year. It will occur this winter after freeze. All of the planning and permitting is being done now.

Construction Winter 2022/2023

At the August 28th Annual Meeting there will be a presentation by Jerry Hagenmiller of the Douglas County Soil & Water Commission. DCS&WC requires a public forum prior to the construction starting, so our meeting will serve to inform our membership, but will also be posted as the public forum for this project. Permits will have been obtained.

Project information about Ditch 23 on the website under projects (<https://www.lakeidamn.org/ila-projects.html>). Lee explained the process – they will build a wall or berm – Ditch 23 won't go into the wetland anymore and scoop up phosphorus. So it won't pull the phosphorus from the wetlands into the lake anymore.

Fish Stocking (Mike Kleve): A contract has been approved by the directors for a 3 year walleye stocking program. Donations are still welcome.

Fishing Committee volunteers needed – don't have to live here – if someone is passionate about fishing, you are welcome to join.

AIS Report (David Geddes):

The state and county are both increasing their investment in identifying and treating Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). The DNR is increasing grant money. The Douglas County Grant will match 3/4 of what we spend in treatment. They are also conducting a meander survey to keep an eye on new AIS. They have funds available to go in and treat for any identified.

CLP treatment will begin soon. We are waiting on the DNR for water temperature. We will treat the same areas as last year, plus another acre off Little Ida Beach Road. The ILA website has survey results from every year (<https://www.lakeidamn.org/aquatic-invasive-species.html>). We treat about 5 zones. David went over the budget, grants, and ILA output.

We hired a new survey company after interviewing 4 different providers. We do a delineation survey, required by the DNR before treatment. A delineation survey targets very specifically where the problem areas are. They also sample around the edges so we know if it is expanding or contracting. We are mostly containing it. We are not putting in something like Roundup or it would kill everything. We are putting something to keep CLP contained. CLP has probably been in the lake for a really long time and is likely growing where it can, generally in water 12-15' deep. It grows early when the water is cold, gets a lot of light, and before the native plant species overtake them. We should all think to thank the DNR and County Commissioners for their support.

David also presented a case study on CLP management in Lake Ida to the University of Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC). That presentation is also on the ILA website at the link above.

Volunteers for AIS committee – don't have to be directors or residents.

Douglas County Lake Association (DCLA) Report (Dian Lopez): Dian noted that this group represents all lakes in the area. DCS&WC is having a nitrate clinic. You can take your household or well water sample to them on June 2nd from 10-2 to have your water tested. There is an Annual meeting on September 7th at Legacy of the Lakes. They also have committees that deal with all the lakes in the area – fishing, communication, etc. They are on KXRA at 9:00 a.m. on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

They are having a traveling exhibit going all over MN and it will be at the Legacy of the Lakes from June 23 – August 15 (Tuesdays and Saturdays). They need people who can go and be trained and be able to talk about lakes.

The DCLS also does water testing. They are buying a flow meter and will test 5 or 6 lakes this year to find out what is coming in from other sources, mainly to determine what phosphorus is coming in and the flow rate.

New Business:

Special Matters

Lake Ida Fishing Info (Mike Shaughnessy) – Mike provided observations and opinions from Josh Hagelmeister, MN Fishing Guides Service. He noted that 90% of tourists want to catch and eat a Minnesota walleye. Zebra mussels have changed the habitat of the fish – they create more clarity which creates more weeds and cover for the fish. The fish never have to leave the weed area. So the best bet is to fish in the weeds and at night. The fry get eaten by other fish (which is why ILA stocks with fingerlings). The bite is more light oriented. The fish are more sensitive to boating activity. Walleyes fare better in less clear water. They like dingy water. They don't need humps or classic structures anymore. They will get buried in the weeds.

Mike also shared an Echo Press article interesting and timely. We will get the article posted to the website.

Boat Inspection Update (Lee Katzmarek): Boat inspections are done at the two Pilgrim Point landings. The county sponsors the inspectors with these summer jobs. Level 1 – checking your boats and trailers and hopefully doing education as you arrive and depart. \$15.15/hour. They try to rehire people who've done it before with \$.50/hour increase on returnees. Level 2 – does all of Level 1 but also does decontamination. In 2022 they have 10 people starting. Inspectors have a tablet that has a State program with survey questions. Justin Swart from the county says they try to get everyone's water craft inspected. But, they are not stationed all day 7 days a week. They are moved around trying to hit prime times. Of the 10 current inspectors, 7 are Level 1 inspectors; the other 3 are Level 2. The county needs 5 more inspectors. All inspectors are trained on protocols and procedures. They are authorized to deny someone to launch a boat as a last resort, though it hardly ever happens – if it has plants or AIS attached, plug still in and water in the boat compartments, etc. They conduct interior and exterior inspections. All inspectors are doing the same thing throughout the state.

County Shoreline Info (Lee Gustafson): Lee and David talked with Dave Rush about shoreline changes. Permits are required. There are brochures on rip rap and shoreline buffer zones available.

Legacy of the Lakes Museum on the "We Are Water MN" (Lee Gustafson)

Traveling exhibit from June 23 to August 15

Guides needed – training provided

<https://www.mnhum.org/we-are-water-mn/>

Guest speakers at general meetings (Lee Gustafson): In August we will have Jerry Hagenmiller from the County speak on Ditch 23 (and it will be the public forum) and possibly Dave Rush from the County. If people have ideas for topics or speakers please let Lee know.

Monthly Email Concept (Lee Gustafson) – are people interested in monthly updates? There was no comment about this suggestion.

4th of July Boat Parade (Pamela Phillips)

The parade will start from Pilgrim Point and cover the south end of the lake. The parade will be on July 4th at 9:00, weather permitting. If the forecast is bad for the 4th, the parade will be on July 3rd, and an email will be sent out.

Jim Conn has led the parade in past years and is looking for a volunteer to take over for him. He will do it again this year if there is not a volunteer, but we definitely need a volunteer on or before the next decade (2030) when his boat (Clairandria) will be 100 years old.

May 7 Spring Clean-up update (Lee Gustafson)

We had a good turnout – another example of volunteer opportunities that don't have a long time commitment.

Volunteering – don't need to be a director

Fish stocking

AIS

Spring Clean-up

Boat parade leader

Water Quality

Grant writing

Directors/Officers

Mike Shaughnessy counted attendees and noted that approximately 50 people were in attendance.

Next Annual Membership Meeting: Saturday August 27, 2022, 9:00am.

Voting for VP, Treasurer, and even-numbered district directors

Adjourn Bill Hnath moved to adjourn the meeting. Jim Detterman seconded the motion. Motion passed, and meeting was adjourned at 10:23.

Respectively submitted,
Pamela Phillips, ILA Secretary