

Minutes
Ida Lake Association
General/Annual Meeting
Ida Township Hall
August 27, 2022

President Lee Gustafson called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Meeting Agenda Dian Lopez moved to approve the agenda. Elke Richards seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Secretary's Report Pamela noted that the May 2022 minutes were approved by the Directors at the June meeting. They are posted on the website.

Treasurer's Report as of July 31, 2022.

The investment fund is bouncing back.

We have 391 memberships for 2022 so far. Elaine Greer is in the back taking dues for anyone who wants to pay dues today.

The walleye stocking fund is a little ahead of what we predicted.

Old Business

Ditch 23 (Jerry Haggemiller – Douglas County Soil and Water Commission):

- a. Project Description – runs in on the southwest side of Lake Ida. 2018/2019 there was a feasibility study done on reducing phosphorus from this ditch. The water had higher phosphorus after it came out of the aquatic management area. Excess phosphorus is being released in the summertime from the aquatic management area. Several plans for improvement were considered. They ran models and cost estimates. The main objective for the aquatic management area is to have a diversion ditch. It will keep the clean water flow in the spring (snow melt and runoff) coming in to the lake as it is now. But in the summer when the phosphorus raises in the wetlands, a new ditch would divert the runoff from going through the wetlands and picking up the phosphorus prior to Lake Ida. The plan would retrofit the upstream retention ponds and create a diversion channel around the aquatic management area and keep it separate from the low flow periods. This would result in a reduction of 100-150 lbs per year of phosphorus. Lake Ida is sensitive to phosphorus which helped us get funding for the project. The DCS&WC already has funding in place for the project.
- b. Construction was planned for winter 2022/2023 – DCS&WC met with MN DNR this week. They said it could be up to a year to get the permit for this project. Jerry H. was not expecting this – we all felt that with the numerous studies done, and the plan and funding in place, it would be approved. (Jerry suggested people call MN State Senator Bill Ingebritson to put a bug in his ear to try to push the DNR for approval). Next Monday Jerry is meeting with board of water and soil

resources who gave the grant for this. They are hoping they can meet some of the top people in the DNR to get the process moving forward. 75% of cost is covered by a clean water grant. 25% of the cost is covered by matching funds. The original estimates were around \$300,000 for the diversion ditch. The Douglas County Water Quality Legacy Fund (DCWQLF) is going to cover the 25%. The grant is good through 2024, but we could get a 1-year extension.

Lee will work with Jerry to get more details and start to work with state officials to get movement.

- c. Project information about Ditch 23 is on the ILA website under projects (<https://www.lakeidamn.org/ila-projects.html>).

Long Prairie River Watershed Update – Jerry Haggemiller:

- a. Watershed quality management plan approval – four committees set up. Money from the state is being designated for the plans. Funds will be there to implement projects to improve water quality. With “One Watershed, One Plan” there will be more money available. The state is providing funding without chasing it.
 - i. Lake Ida is within the Long Prairie River Watershed
- b. Goals and lake prioritization
 - ii. Lake Ida – tier one

Lake Ida water quality – Lee Gustafson:

- a. Little Ida problem – Lee showed a video with farm runoff going into the lake after a heavy rain bringing brown water into Little Ida.
- b. Association initiatives – reason to partner with the watershed district to get funding to handle it. Similar issue on Maple Circle.
 - i. Identifying issues such as erosion, water quality, etc. – Lee is asking directors to identify issues around the lake and then ILA will be prioritizing them and be proactive about seeking solutions.
 - ii. ILA will be developing a plan

Rob Auel/Leaf Lane project update: There is a major runoff problem into Lake Ida off of Leaf Lane. Douglas County Soil & Water Commission is funding 75% of the cost, The DCWQLF is chipping in, and the landowner is chipping in (with ILA providing \$2500).

Fish Stocking (Mike Kleve):

- a. Fund is ahead of where we thought it would be. The Leaf Valley Game and Fish Conservation Club will donate to the stocking.

AIS Report (David Geddes):

- a. David gave a 2022 update on out Curly Leaf Pondweed treatment. The county also paid for a meander survey to look at any AIS. This survey showed that the CLP treatment works to control spread of CLP.
- b. We now have a standing AIS committee with David Geddes as chairperson and 2 additional members. They will submit a plan and a budget for approval at the September meeting. They will also address one problem area that's been a persistent problem.

The ILA website has survey results from every year (<https://www.lakeidamn.org/aquatic-invasive-species.html>).

New Business:

Elections:

- a. Vice-President and Treasurer up for election. David Geddes agreed to serve another term as VP. Dian Lopez moved to elect David as VP. Jim Conn seconded the motion. A vote was taken and David was re-elected as VP.
- b. There was no candidate offered up to replace Mike Kleve as Treasurer who will be stepping down after 2022. This is a critical position that needs to be filled.
- c. Caucuses were held with for each even-numbered district to select directors for 2023. There were two new directors chosen for D8 and D10. Those two new directors and any incumbents will be approved by the board at the September meeting.

Next General Membership Meeting: Saturday May 27, 2023, 9:00am.

Adjourn: Lee adjourned the meeting at 10:23.

Respectively submitted,
Pamela Phillips, ILA Secretary