

**Minutes**  
**Ida Lake Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Ida Township Hall**  
**September 28, 2024**

**Members Present**

President – Lee Gustafson	Vice President –
Treasurer – Julie Speck via phone	Secretary – Jana Berndt
District 1 – Jerry McClure, Wesley Smith	District 10 – Frank Steen, Deb Oleson
District 2 –	District 11 – Bob Reed, Dave Murphy
District 3 –	District 12 –
District 4 – Robert Everson	District 13 –
District 5 –	District 14 –
District 6 – Mike Kleve	District 15 –Roger Schultz
District 7 –	District 16 –
District 8 – Lee Katzmarek	District 17 – Brian Kargar
District 9 – Andy and Dian Lopez, Lynette Dempsey	District 18 – Matt Gunlogson
Past President – Elaine Greer	

President Lee Gustafson called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**Meeting Agenda** Roger Schultz moved to approve the agenda. Lee Katzmarek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Secretary Report** Motion by Dave Murphy, second by Matt Gunlogson. Motion carried for 8/24/24 Director Meeting Minutes and 8/24/24 Annual Meeting Minutes. Meeting minutes will be posted on the website for general review.

**Treasurer Report** Motion by Frank Steen, second by Brian Kargar. Motion carried to approve treasurers report for August.

We reviewed proposed 2025 Budget – Lee presented proposed budget. Motion by Brian Kargar, second by Matt Gunlogson to approved 2025 budget. Motion carried.

Motion by Matt Gunlogson , second by Elaine Greer to amend the 2024 budget to include up to \$15,000 to clean out the AMA Wetland. Motion carried.

## Old Business

**Walleye Stocking update** – In the next 2 weeks will should be receiving a donation from Leaf Valley to cover the rest of 2024 expenses. There are currently no plans for 2025. We will take a year off and build funds for 2026-2028, the next phase of stocking.

**Invasive species update (AIS)** – budget for 2025 was reviewed. Also reviewed next steps for the committee to work on. Focus and work continues on the AIS management.

**Lake Charley Cemetery Plaque** – Township requested new plaques or they will remove old ones. It was suggested that Lee notify the Township board to keep the current plaque in place.

**Pilgrim Point Update** – There was a large tree that went down in one of the summer the storms. The county does not have plans to replace. Concerns have been expressed for the point and possible erosion. We have received property owner emails of concern.

Motion by Dian Lopez, second by Mike Kleve to have Ida Lake Association get involved with others to help preserve the point. We would like to partner with Douglas County and other interested parties in taking action for the point. Motion carried.

Pilgrim Point usage has increased with the new county park, which is good. There is concern about the lake shore with boaters versus those that drive to the park with their lawn chairs.

Motion by Elaine, second by Lee to contact the county to let them know of our safety concerns. We would like to recommend to Douglas County that they assign a swimming area with ropes, similar to other lake parks with designated spots for parking boats and swimming area.

Deb provided a park equipment update. ADA requirements and budget are being reviewed and continue to be discussed.

## **Lake Water Quality update**

**Ditch 23** - Upstream is moving forward. Low bid was \$390,922. The Soil and Water Board tentatively approved the bid, with the Legacy Fund contributing the 25% for the pond fix and 25% for the engineering so far. Waiting to hear back from WQLF members. Construction will begin this fall and completed by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Letters to DCLA, Water Quality Legacy Fund to thank them for the work and funding.

**AMA Wetland Ditch Cleaning** - DNR has responded to the County ditch cleaning request.

Project approval summary: The work constitutes repair of the original 1920 ditch system. DNR acknowledges County's right to maintain the original ditch system.

The excavated soil must not create an upland area within the wetland, and as such, it must be spread thinly. County staff taking project to County Board of Commissioners for direction on October 1.

Cost estimated \$25-50,000. Douglas County is looking for funding assistance, to include: ILA funding, BWSR grant, Douglas County SWCD participation, Douglas County Water Quality Legacy Fund and Option to increase SWCD funding.

Motion by Matt Gunlogson, second by Elaine Greer to have Ida Lake Association contribute up to \$15,000 with the understanding that this keep the project moving forward. All other funding options will be utilized first. Motion carried. Lee will contact county Monday a.m.

**Little Ida drainage issue** – Lee had a meeting with Ross, TSA engineer on September 27. Discussion was held on how to improve the water quality from the farmland run off. He agreed to look at what more can be done by next April. Lee will keep in contact with Soil and Water District and TSA Engineer to report back to ILA in April 2025.

**Little Ida Beach Road** – The land owner is now proposing to pipe water from the north side of the road directly to the lake. County staff met with the landowner with the pond. The current pond is full of sediment and every time it rains the sediment in the pond is stirred up and makes it way to the lake. What is now being proposed by this landowner is a dry pond that will hold the water back in a vegetative swale to deposit the sediment in the grassed area before it makes it to the lake. The county required the landowner to work with an engineer to design the dry pond. This should lessen the current problem. County SWCD indicated Lake Ida grant money still available for projects. Also, funding is available every 2 years via Long Prairie WSD

**Future water quality improvement identification:** Motion by Lee Gustafson, second by Brian Kargar that all district directors review their respective lake areas between now and next May. Document any water quality issues (erosion or other issues affecting water quality). Make note of the address, include photos to document issues. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

**Newsletter articles** - Due by October 4. Plans to send out mid-October.

Proposing for 2025 Newsletter: Only one, send out before July 1. A May postcard will be sent out as a reminder for membership, meetings and getting involved. Utilize a link for our website for AIS newsletter and other useful information.

**IdaWild Association** - requesting \$4,000 in funding from ILA. Brian Engstrom was at the meeting to answer questions about the project. Past ILA approved donations include: Rob Auel – CR 34 improvements and channel erosion protection - August 2020 - ILA approved funding \$2,500. ILA funding was eventually not needed. Gary Dormanen – Terracing project on north end - Little Ida Beach Road - 2023 – ILA approved funding \$1,000. Payment is being made in September 2024.

Board discussed a process to handle these type of requests. Percentage of the project was discussed. It was also suggested to Include a line item in the budget for planning purposes.

Motion by Dave Murphy, second Frank Steen for a current guideline for these type of requests. We will consider requests for 5% of the project with a cap of \$2,500 per project. Motion carried.

Motion by Dian Lopez, second Robert Reed to donate \$2,000 to the IdaWild Association based on our current approved guidelines. Motion carried.

**Water Quality Testing** – Not completed since 2023. Reasons to consider water testing: Water quality base line / changes, prioritizes projects, grant writing, PCA can use samples, PCA report every 10 years.

Previous in-lake sampling: Ida volunteers through 2021, State testing in 2022, DCSWCD testing in 2023.

Motion by Dave Murphy, second by Robert Everson recommended Ida Lake Sampling program in 2025: In-lake – similar to old one, pre-2021, Ditch 23: in and out of AMA, Miltona to Ida channel, Miltona outlet and Ida inlet. Utilize Danielle Anderson DCSWCD – oversee program, set up sampling program for Spring 2025, train ILA volunteers and she has equipment ILA can use. Motion carried.

We will reach out to the Peterson's, who have done it in the past, to consider assisting in 2025.

**Water Quality Information on Web Site** – we discussed having a separate tab to make our lake water quality more obvious, testing data, reports and links. Lee will ask Pamela to work with a marketing piece on lake quality for Lake Ida and a separate tab on the website. This can be included on the website and also available to print out for grants or people that ask for more information.

Discussed having a link on our website for Lake Ida merchandise. Sweatshirts, T-shirts, and other items. Dave Murphy will check into this option and report back in the spring.

**Adjournment** – Motion by Dian Lopez, second by Frank Steen to adjourn. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned 11:34 a.m.