

LAKE JOHN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 18, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Van Metre, Paul Fliegel, Kirk Lindholm, Peter MacMillan, Steve Benzschawel, Mark Goessl, Alan Isaacson Adrienne Owens, Dave Owens. **MEMBERS ABSENT:** None. A quorum of the Board was established.

LJID Property owners present: Kelly Kosloski, Lake John Association liaison.

There were no others present.

The meeting of the Lake John Improvement District Board of Directors ("Board") was called to order at 6:29 p.m., by Chairman Steve Benzschawel at the Southside Township Hall.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: The minutes of the June 20, 2024 regular meeting as proposed by the Secretary were reviewed. M/S/P to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2024 regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Communications – Dave has been in contact with Rachel Construction. They inquired as to bog removal plans. Dave advised them that the bog removal is the work of the Lake John Association and that he did not know that a volunteer effort to do that was currently arranged or being discussed. Disposal of the bog material was proving to be a difficult problem. The bog material can be dried and then transported. Kelly reported that the lake association had been advised by the DNR that they want the removal of the bog material to happen through the DNR landing. Whether Rachle has a place to dispose of the bog material is unclear. Website still needs to be updated. Doug will reach out to Dan Ventrelli to see what needs to be done for that to happen.

Finance – Written report submitted. Received a tax disbursement of \$17,057.55 from Wright County. Current bank balance \$69,609.08, of which \$17,567.23 comprises the new invasive species treatment account. Adrienne and Doug are still working on getting the savings account opened at Huntington Bank.

Resource Management – Lake water samples from before and after the fireworks over the 4th of July weekend have been obtained and submitted for analysis. We are one of over 500 lakes participating in this study nationwide. No information as to the expected release of the testing results. Eurasian water milfoil treatment is arranged with Aquatic Solutions. They are awaiting receipt of the permit from the DNR. As we are treating areas different that last year a new permit is required.

Administration – Secretary’s minutes from the June 22, 2024 Annual Meeting have been distributed and reviewed by the board. M/S/P to approve the secretary’s minutes as submitted. The minutes will be submitted to the LID members for approval at the next Annual Meeting. There was a discussion as to expanding direct communication with the LID members to keep them apprised of what is happening with the LID and the efforts of the board. Discussions will be had with the lake association to determine whether we should do this jointly.

OLD BUSINESS:

I-lids equipment installation – Batteries have to be installed.

Cleaning Station at landing – We are on the Wright County Soil & Water list for a cleaning station when they have more available. Adrienne will talk with the City of Annandale to see if they would agree to have us install one on the canoe landing on the east side on their outlot.

EWM, CLP and Starry Stonewort treatment/assessment update – See Resource Management report, above.

Liability Insurance Renewal – Renewal is the end of July.

Bog update – No information other that related in Communications report, above.

Wake Boat Restrictions – No new information. Noting will be done on this until next year.

Annual meeting review – See Administration report, above.

NEW BUSINESS:

Payment from Wright County – See Finance report above.

Committee assignments for coming year – Communications – Adrienne. Administration – Peter. Finance - Adrienne and Doug. Resource Management – Steve, Dave, Paul, Alan, Mark and Kirk.

Officer election – M/S/P unanimous vote for slate of President - Steve Benzschawel; Vice-President – Dave Owens; Treasurer - Adrienne Owens; Secretary - Peter MacMillan.

Meeting schedule for coming year – M/S/P to continue with current schedule – 3rd Thursday of each month, March through September, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Southside Township Hall.

Jameson land on north side of Kiehn’s Bay. Steve reported that at the last meeting of the Southside Township board some issues regarding the proposed improvement of the Jameson property along the north side of the far west end of Kiehn’s Bay was addressed. The available information was understood to be that the land remains in an agricultural zone, and has one building entitlement. The county and township have required that the roadway be upgraded to

township compliant conditions before any steps to accept maintenance and upkeep would be considered by the county or the township.

New Boating licensure coming – A series of important requirements and provisions are designed to enhance boater safety and education – effective July 1, 2025. These rules apply to personal watercraft and boats with motors rated above 25 horsepower. Some of the key aspects of the legislation are:

Gradual Implementation: A phased-in approach to boater education will use a “born after date.” Individuals born after the dates below are now required to take a boater education course and receive their watercraft operator’s permit before operating a watercraft on Minnesota waters.

1. Effective July 1, 2025, born on or after July 1, 2004;
2. Effective July 1, 2026, born on or after July 1, 2000;
3. Effective July 1, 2027, born on or after July 1, 1996; and
4. Effective July 1, 2028, born on or after July 1, 1987.

National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) approved Boater Education Course: The legislation mandates that the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources must create a water-safety course that is NASBLA approved and available online. This ensures that Minnesota’s course will be similar to other states and allow reciprocity with other States who also have a NASBLA approved course.

Renters Required to Obtain Temporary Certificate: Beginning July 1, 2025, visitors and residents who wish to rent a boat for use in Minnesota must now take a short online examination. After passing the test, it will remain valid for 180 days.

Operating Exemptions: Exemptions include anyone who possesses a valid license issued by the United States Coast Guard, is not a resident of the state and temporarily using the waters of the state for a period of less than 60 days, and most importantly for MRAA members, anyone operating under a dealer license.

Minnesota now aligns with 36 other states that also require some form of mandatory boater education.

Adjournment: There being no other business - M/S/P to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter MacMillan
Board Secretary

NEXT MEETING: At the Southside Township Hall, Thursday, August 15, 2024, beginning at 6:30 p.m.