

**LIDA LAKES IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Saturday, January 13, 2024
Lida Township Hall/Teams Online**

Members Present: In Person: David Hilber, Brian Graftaas, Mike Spangler. Teams Online: David Braton, Zach Herrmann.

Members Absent: Memsy Weckwerth and Sheldon Poss

Lake Coordinator Present: Moriya Rufer

Guests: DeeDee Stephenson and Roger Sundby

Agenda Item I. Call to order David Hilber, 9:00 AM

Agenda Item II. Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair David Hilber.

Agenda Item III. Introductions and Announcements. Chair Hilber introduced Board Members, Lake Coordinator, and guests.

Agenda Item IV. Approval of Agenda.

Motion to approve agenda by Graftaas, seconded by Spangler. Carried.

Agenda Item V. Approval of October 21,2023 Board of Directors Minutes.

Motion to Approve Minutes of October 21,2023 by Herrmann, seconded by Graftaas. Carried

Agenda Item VI. Director Mimsy Weckwerth Resignation and Board Appointment

Hilber reviewed communication with Weckwerth regarding family health issues and her desire to resign from her board position. Due to these health issues, Weckwerth officially resigned her board position.

Motion to accept Weckwerth's resignation by Braton, seconded by Herrmann. Carried

Hilber introduced DeeDee Stephenson and reviewed the Executive Committee's recommendation to have Stephenson fill the remainder of Weckwerth's term ending August 2024. Stephenson provided the board with her personal background. Stephenson is a year-round resident of North Lida. She is an attorney and has a keen interest in the betterment of Lake Lida.

Motion to appoint DeeDee Stephenson as interim board member for the remainder of Weckwerth's term by Graftaas, seconded by Spangler. Carried.

Agenda Item VII. Assignment of Officers.

Hilber reviewed the requirement for the board to annually review and vote in officers.

Motion to appoint the following 2024 officers: Hilber Chair, Graftaas Vice Chair, Herrmann Treasurer, and Braton Secretary made by Stephenson, seconded by Spangler. Carried.

Braton provided contact information for Board and Committee members and requested corrections or changes. This contact information is for Board purposes with an abbreviated version on the website.

Agenda Item VIII. Committee Assignments

The Board reviewed the committee assignments for Executive, Fishing, Lake Management and Communications. Hilber will Chair the Executive Committee, Graftaas will Chair the Lake Management Committee, Spangler will Chair the Fishing Committee and Katie Gall will Chair the Communications Committee. Following a review of committee members, Stephenson, Herrmann, and Lake Coordinator Rufer will be added to the Lake Management Committee. The Fishing Committee will review committee membership as we have property owners Roger Sundby, Wade Johnson and Darrin Rude interested in serving on the Committee. Braton will distribute an updated contact list of Board and Committee members.

Agenda Item IX. Board Liability Insurance

Braton reviewed our Board Liability Insurance and provided two quotes for 2024 coverage. MCIT provided a renewal in the amount of \$1604. MCIT is a trust of Minnesota Counties and their affiliates. A second bid for coverage was submitted by Bell Insurance in the amount of \$850. Braton distributed a comparison summary which has filed with the minutes of this meeting. The board reviewed the options and comparisons. Pelican Lake LID recently switched from Bell to MCIT since the coverage was better and premiums less.

Motion to continue Officers and Directors Insurance coverage with MCIT at a cost of \$1604 for 2024 by Spangler, seconded by Stephenson. Carried.

Agenda Item X. Annual Meeting

Hilber reviewed the annual meeting schedule and agenda. Our By-laws require the review and approval of the LLID annual budget and election of officers at the annual meeting. Herrmann reminded the board that we are required by Minnesota state statute to mail materials eight weeks prior to the annual meeting to property owners regarding the budget and elections. To be on the ballot we would need nominations for the board prior to our April meeting. The March newsletter is used to promote interest in serving on the board or committees.

Agenda Item XI. Treasurer's Report

Herrmann presented the January 12, 2024 Treasurer Report. LLID Balance of funds total is \$70,640.36. Posted expenses \$27,33.51. Bills to be paid include Pelican Press \$22.00; Victor Lundeen Co. (posters) \$20; David Braton (materials for Keep It Clean vinyl signage and sign frames) \$215.83; Star Tribune (Geofencing-Keep It Clean) \$500.00 and Lida Township (Town Hall Rental/Year \$250.00. Funds Available in Checking \$43,051.85 (includes \$250 rent of Township Hall not posted on Treasurer's Report but discussed during meeting).

Motion to approve Treasurer Report as presented and pay outstanding bills of \$1,017.83 by Graftaas, seconded by Spangler. Carried.

Spangler requested Herrmann to fill out the non-profit tax forms to enable LLID to be exempt of sales tax.

Agenda Item XII. Lake Management Update

Chair of the Lake Management Committee, Brian Graftaas reviewed the fall fingerling walleye stocking by Klug Fisheries.

Graftaas gave a summary of our past relationship with Steve Henry as Lake Coordinator when he was with RMB Labs. Upon his resignation from RMB Labs and LLID the Board reviewed options and contracted the Lake Coordinator position with Moriya Rufer of Houston Engineering. Moriya Rufer introduced herself to the Board. Her experience included working for RMB Labs. Rufer is now a Scientist with Houston Engineering and is also Lake Coordinator for Pelican Group of Lakes LID. Rufer stated she plans to review our past work including surveys and will make recommendations at the April board meeting.

Hilber discussed an email from Steve Henry that he is available to contract for surveying LLID. Since this is in the scope of work by Rufer, Hilber will thank Henry for the offer and decline. Braton asked Rufer if she saw any conflict as Lake Coordinator with Pelican Lakes as we might compete for grants. Rufer indicated she did not think this would be an issue and Braton stated we look forward to working with Rufer and that the Pelican Lakes coordination will be an asset. Rufer thought the two lakes might be able to work together for larger grants in the future.

Spangler reported the DNR is considering increasing fry to one thousand/literal acre. Next year will be our off year for DNR stocking. Braton mentioned the public access needs resurfacing and hopes we can convince the DNR to make those improvements as well. Graftaas and Spangler indicated the DNR does fix ramps in the Spring.

Graftaas updated the Board on the Moonlight Bay Project led by West Ottertail Soil and Water Conservation District. Contracts for the work were awarded in November and the contractor hopes to complete the project this Spring. Roger Sundby asked if the increased weed density in the lake from the runoff at Moonlight Bay has been reviewed. Graftaas will discuss the issue with the DNR. Braton reminded the Board water levels has been question in the past at annual meetings and asked Rufer to be prepared address the issue in either our newsletter or at the annual meeting.

Graftaas reviewed the Keep It Clean Initiative. We are one of the first lakes in Ottertail County to join the initiative. The board has posted 4'x8' sign on the public access and Erv's Landing, have had significant press coverage and promotion to help keep Lida clean and will use geo-fencing to communicate to those on the ice. Geofencing is an ad campaign where those on the lake will receive targeted messages on their cell phones. Keep It Clean MN matches our \$500 investment for a total investment of \$1000 for 140,000 impressions. Graftaas will receive reporting on the geofencing from the Star Tribune and hopefully have it available at our next board meeting.

Spangler reviewed enforcement of the new law with our local conservation officer. They indicate this year will be more educational in the first year of enforcement.

Agenda Item XIII. Communications Update

Katie Gall will continue as Chair of the Committee. Braton shared the struggles we have had updating the LLID website. Tony Flippance is only the one that can make changes. Braton shared we are now providing more information on our website and need to have it updated and interactive. Braton indicated we need to do a redesign. Braton discussed the Committee needs to review options. Rufer plans to check with PGOLID as to who they use for website hosting and updating as they recently made a change.

Braton reviewed the articles for the March newsletter. The newsletter will be four page, 8 ½" x 11" self-mailer. Hilber shared the newsletter is a great tool to recruit board and committee members and ask property owners what concerns they have or issues we should address. Braton shared we target February 24th for delivery. The newsletter includes a president report, committee reports and a lake coordinator report. Written reports are due to Braton by February 1st to enable the newsletter to be designed and printed. Braton asked for photos and Graftaas indicated he will be at the fishing derby to take photos.

Agenda Item XIV. Next Meeting Dates

April 27,2024 9 AM Lida Town Hall

June 15,2024 9 AM Lida Town Hall

August 17,2024 9 AM Lida Town Hall

Graftaas offered to send out a Teams Meeting notice for the April 27,2024 and we will make that accessible to all Lida Lake property owner.

Agenda Item XV. Adjournment 11:10 AM