

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 26,2024 Lida Township Hall

Members Present: David Hilber, Zach Herrmann, Sheldon Poss, Mike Spangler, Dee Dee Stephenson, Daivd Braton.

Members Excused Absence: Brian Graftaas

Guests: None

Agenda Item I. Call to Order. David Hilber, 9:04 AM.

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

Agenda Item III. Introductions and Announcements.
Chair David Hilber introduced Board Members present.

Agenda Item IV. Approval of Agenda. **(Board Action)**
Motion to approve agenda as presented made by Braton, seconded by Stephenson. Carried.

Agenda Item V. Approval of August 17, 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes **(Board Action)**
Motion to approve August 17, 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes made by Stephenson, seconded by Spangler. Carried.

Agenda Item VI. Election of Officers **(Board Action)**
Motion to elect David Hilber Chair, Brian Graftaas Vice Chair, David Braton Secretary, Zach Herrmann Treasurer, for the 2024-2025 LLID Fiscal Year made by Spangler, seconded by Stephenson. Carried.

Agenda Item VII. Treasurer's Report. **(Board Action)**
Treasurer Zach Herrmann presented the October 24, 2024 Treasurer's Report. On Hand Checking balance is \$47,157.96. Herrmann estimates the second half 2024 Tax Income (Received in November) from the County to be \$17,700. LLID Finances are tracking as planned as we finalize 2024 and move into 2025. The only outstanding bill to be paid is for the October 11, 2024 Fish Stocking. Klug's Fish Farm was contracted to provide walleye stocking in the amount of \$15,504.
Motion to approve the October 24, 2024 Treasurer's Report and payment to Klug's Fish Farm in the amount of \$15,504 made by Braton, seconded by Stephenson. Carried.

Agenda Item VIII. Lake Coordinator Report
In absence of Lake Coordinator Moriya Rufer, Stephenson reviewed Rufer's submitted October 2024 Lake Coordinator Report. Stephenson also reviewed the Houston Engineering contract for

Lake Coordinator Moriya Rufer. Questions were raised regarding surveying, water sampling, and annual report. Stephenson will review with Graftaas. Graftaas will be asked to review specific Board question with the Lake Coordinator and have a Board recommendation at the January Board meeting.

Rufer had provided information on mapping recommended wake boat areas for Lida. Research has been done by the St. Anthony Falls Lab at the University of Minnesota that found wakes from wake surfing watercraft in surf mode (ballast tank full, 11 mph speed) must travel 600 feet to begin to have the same characteristics as the wake from a 20 foot runabout. Below water disturbances from prop thrust can have impacts up to 20 feet deep. Big Fish Lake is trying a new approach on mapping. LLID board decided not to do wake boat mapping but is interested in education to boaters and will ask Rufer to provide information for our newsletter and website. Specifics would include advisable distances from shorelines and details of the University report.

Stephenson provided detail on Pelican Lakes LID's request for data on septic tank information. Data collection is only done at the time of sale, a permit application or a variance application in Ottertail County. Data regarding septic tanks may be part of the documentation in a Lake Study. This will be reviewed by the Lake Management Committee.

Rufer reported she had attended the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Center Research Showcase in October. Research has found low doses copper treatment suppresses Zebra mussels. Treatment would be a maintenance program similar to treatment of Curley-leaf pondweed. The U of MN is also testing the use of e-DNA testing to find AIS in lakes. Research has also found Starry stonewort is on the spread in Minnesota but no reports yet on Becker or Ottertail Counties. Finally, the AIS Explorer Dashboard has been updated to include the effectiveness of boat access inspections. Data is available on each lake, including Lida on the site (<https://www.aisexplorer.umn.edu/>)

Stephenson reviewed a grant opportunity that is available for a Comprehensive Lakeshed Assessment. This grant could be the cornerstone of the budgeted Lida Lakes Management Plan. The grant is through the Board of Water and Soil Resources and is due January 7, 2025. The grant would require a 10% match. Rufer recommends we apply for a \$50,000 grant. Rufer estimates the cost of the grant application to be \$1500 to LLID. Details of the proposal are included in the October 2024 Lake Coordinator Report.

Motion by Stephenson, seconded by Spangler to approve \$1500 for Lake Coordinator Moriya Ruffer to write the grant application and match up to \$10,000 for the study to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a Comprehensive Lakeshed Assessment. Carried.

Agenda Item IX. Lake Management Committee Report

Stephenson reviewed the Committee's report regarding the Moonlight Bay Project. The contractor selected has yet to start the project. A preconstruction meeting was held but no progress has been made to start or complete the project by the contractor. Aaron Larsen from West Ottertail Soil and Water Conservation District stated he could be at our January meeting to provide an update on the project.

The committee is recommending we continue our efforts with "Keep It Clean Minnesota" ice fishing initiative. We plan to place the Keep Lida Clean signs at the North Lida public access and the South Lida private public access. Spangler will contact the owner of Erv's Landing for his approval to place signage on his property. The committee has recommended we not do geofencing but agrees we should have posters at area bait shops, grocery stores, c-stores and other key locations. Braton will check with the Ice Hole Bar owner on signage and discuss with Spangler posters for the winter ice fishing season. Braton will also check with MCIT regarding insurance coverage for signage on the lake. The board discussed other opportunities to educate ice fishers on the importance and need to keep Lida clean. Graftaas indicated he plans to assist Keep It Clean MN at their booth during the St. Paul Ice Fishing Event in early December.

Discussion moved to the weed growth near Highway 108 at Erv's Landing. Braton mentioned this area has some of the best views of Lida Lakes and isn't positive for the image of the lake with extensive weed growth. Spangler stated this was Coontail that is native to Minnesota. The lack of snow last year and weather conditions this summer contributed to more weed growth. The area will be continued to be monitored.

Agenda Item X. Fish Committee Report

Spangler provided information on the October 11, 2024 walleye stocking. Fingerlings, 4-6 inches in size, were purchased from Klug Fish Farm. An estimated total of 24,480 fingerlings were distributed with 70% (17,136) in North Lida and 30% (7,344) in South Lida. Spangler also reported the DNR will likely add walleye fingerlings next week as they have extra stock available. The DNR will also be reviewing their Lida Lakes management plan as net count and shocking surveys continue to be low.

Spangler reviewed DNR's plan to reconstruct the North Lida public access. The project has moved to 2026. Both Spangler and Stephenson discussed with DNR officials on placing a light at the access. There may not be a public meeting for comments on the project therefore we need to make our requests known directly to the DNR. The question came up regarding the time of year they plan to reconstruct the boat access. The targeting timeline for reconstruction was after Memorial Day for approximately 6 weeks. Concern was raised that lake access would be limited during a high usage period. Herrmann commented we should ask the DNR to review the time of year it will be closed for reconstruction and use LLID as a communication conduit to property owners.

Spangler closed his report with concerns on the lack of DNR enforcement on Lida Lakes this past summer. Apparently the DNR has an open position that is to be filled in the near future.

Agenda Item XI. Communications Committee Report

Braton reviewed three items that were brought up at the annual meeting by property owners.

1. Use of LLID Logo. Stephenson reviewed the process and expense to trademark the LLID logo. It was recommended to the board to not trademark the logo at this time and understand the risk of it being used in full or partial form.
2. Lake Level Markings on the culvert. The water level marking on the culvert between North and South Lida apparently are worn. Braton is waiting to hear back from MN DOT on replacing the markings and potentially covering the graffiti.
3. LLID Directory. A visitor at our annual meeting from Lake Lizzie asked if we had a directory. Lida property owners shared they would like this to be reviewed by the LLID board. Braton shared information and distributed two Lake Lizzie directories. Much of the information is available through the county except for phone numbers. Lizzie gathers their information through their beach captains. The last year Lida had a directory was 2017. Lizzie contracts the Barnesville Record and receives \$500 from the Record. The Barnesville Record sells all advertising and covers all costs. The Lake Lizzie Association is responsible for providing all information including name, address, phone numbers and map locators. Braton has contacted Pelican Press as to their ability to assist us in developing a directory. Braton asked the board if they want to pursue the concept of a new directory, and if so, is it a revenue stream for the Association. Herrmann indicated it may be a revenue steam and worthy of discussion yet phone directories aren't as popular today as information is available from other sources. The Communication Committee will take the Board's comments under advisement and provide a revenue/expense report along with concepts at the January meeting. Braton indicated we should also look at how we can provide an easier to use search of property on our website, possibly using the Otter Tail County GIS.

Agenda Item XII. Future Committee Meetings

Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 4:30 PM Teams Call

Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 4:30 PM Teams Call

April Board Meeting: Saturday, April 26, 2025 9 AM Lida Township Hall

Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 4:30 PM Teams Call

June Board Meeting: Saturday, June 14, 2025 9 AM Lida Township Hall

Executive Committee Meeting: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 4:30 PM Teams Call

2025 Annual Meeting: Saturday, August 16, 2025 9 AM Lida Township Hall

Agenda Item XIII. Adjournment at 11:10 AM