



LAKE MILTONA ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING

Date & Location:

June 1, 2024. 9:00 am, Miltona City Hall

Officers in Attendance:

President – Steve DeSutter

Vice President – Shannan Burgad

Treasurer – Chad Koebnick

Secretary – Janet Guinn

Area Directors in Attendance:

Section	Name
1	Mark Neidenfuer
2A	John Fair
2B	Janet Zastrow
2C	John Fay
3A	Jeff Anderson
3A	Shelly Anderson
3B	Vern Suhr
3C	Gene Rose
4	Steve Herth
5	Heath Hinsch
7	Bob Streasick
8	Gary Fuchs

Section	Name
9 / 10	Jay Sieling
12	Mike Wrobel
12	Warren Davis
13	Ted Boehne
13	Tom Brauer
13	Cheryl Brauer
14	Tom Struthers
15	Brad Roberts
16	Steve Labatt
17	Tim Kaatz
18	Randy Hansen
19	Don Henning

Call to Order/Welcome/Verification of Quorum:

Steve DeSutter 9:02 am

AGENDA

Approval of 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes:

Randy Hansen made motion to approve the minutes for the 2023 Annual Meeting without changes, Chad Koebnick seconded, all in favor, minutes approved.

Election of Directors:

John Fay made a motion to seat Janet Zastrow as the Director of area 2B, and to make Shannon Burgad the permanent LMS Vice President. Shannon seconded the motion, all in favor, election of new director and VP passed. NOTE: We are still missing a director to replace Pat Fergusson and represent area 11.



Speaker:

Jay Sieling, Douglas County Lakes Association (DCLA) President

Mission of DCLA – support members and other lake associations to coordinate, advocate, and educate regarding regulations, promoting stewardship, etc. Goal of today's presentation is to talk about getting us all active on being good stewards, via strong lake stewardship programs.

- Provided info about 'FBI' score, which is a Fish Biological Integrity score the DNR uses to access and classify lakes as being exceptional, fully supporting, vulnerable, not sustainable (impaired), or inconclusive. Of concern were lakes in our county that have changed (ex. Winona, Mill, Henry, Agnus etc.) to not sustainable. Although it was recommended Lake Miltona continue to be classified as exceptional, it scored a 'B' or ~65 out of 100. (See the DNR Lake Finder website for more information.) Worth noting, the advanced level of development (493 docks, 18 docks/mile) counted against us. Therefore, diligent lake stewardship in a highly developed lake will play a key role in keeping it healthy.
- Curly Leaf Pond Weed (CLPW) has been found in both Lake Irene and Lake Ida. The Lake Irene association has spent over \$310K combating it thus far. Moving forward, it will be important to conduct lake surveys regularly for this and other aquatic invasive species (AIS). Early detection is a key advantage in combating AIS. All association members need to be on the lookout for CLPW and other AIS. Please see DNR website on how to identify it and where to report suspected AIS.

Treasurers report: (Chad Koebnick)

- **Income Sources:**

We have 3 sources of funding: Dues, Donations, and the Annual Fundraiser

- **Annual Spending:**

Annual spending includes: Walleye Stocking, AIS surveys at the landings, Special Projects (such as the Dittberner Creek Project), and General Operations.

- **Walleye Stocking Fund**

- Natural walleye reproduction and DNR stocking does not keep up with the fishing pressure on our lake. Since zebra mussels arrived on Miltona, our LMA has made an effort to increase the stocking levels to help increase walleye counts.
- We stock fingerlings (45-50K walleyes per 1500#) instead of fry, because there is less food for the fry to survive on (due to zebra mussels). We can already see these efforts have made a difference, as reported sizes have increased. Last year we stocker 1,500 pounds of fingerlings.
- We spend what we take into the walleye stocking fund. Walleye stocking funding comes from membership donations and donations made by our local Sportsman's clubs (Leaf Valley, Parker's Prairie, Carlos). These donations will not sustain our previous stocking level. This year we are going back to 1000#.

- **AIS Fund**

- We use this funding, which primarily come from membership donations, to pay for boat surveying at each boat launch site.
- If we were to have a new AIS invasion, we would be sorely short of funds to combat the problem. As Jay mentioned in his presentation, please stay diligent and continue to look for AIS in our lake. Early detection may save use a lot of money to battle the problem.



OLD BUSINESS

- **New Website (Gene Rose)**

The new website will be launched in a couple of weeks. It will feature PayPal as a means of paying your dues online and making donations.

- **4th of July Parade (Thursday, July 4, 2024)**

Randy and Julie Hansen graciously agreed to once again organize the parade project. Register at the North Shore. If you're registered, prizes will be given for best boat, ponton and jet ski.

- **Annual Fundraiser (Saturday, August 10, 2024)**

The annual fundraiser will be held at the Leaf Valley Town Hall, 5:00pm-10:00pm. It will once again be catered by the Clarissa Ballroom, which provides an excellent dinner. Tickets are \$20 per adult and can be purchased from your area director over the next couple of months.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Open Forum and Q&A**

Dam:

Q: Can we get an update on the Dam? Can we petition the DNR to repair or raise the dam

A: It's on the DNR's radar to repair the dam. However, it's not a current priority and not expected to be addressed in the near or foreseeable future. The DNR did confirm the height of the dam has not changed and is accurate, based on current watershed goals.

Lake Nelson:

Q: Is Ottertail County still considering directing the Lake Nelson runoff towards Dittberner's creek?

A: No. This is a non-event. Dry weather and Ottertail County road work has lowered the lake 2 feet.

LMA Information Dissemination:

Q: Association members said they did not know prior to today more funding was needed for Walleye stocking (if we want to keep up with targeted stocking levels). Where is the best place to find out about this and other LMA issues in a timely manner?

A: Once our new website is launched, you can check there for updates. You will be able to read and download the latest newsletters, pay dues and make donations, and view the announcement page. The new website is the best place to go for up-to-date LMA information.

Q: I didn't receive a newsletter. Who do I talk to about making sure you have my correct mailing address and I am on the list to receive the newsletter.

A: Once our new website is launched, you can provide address updates there. In the meantime, you can send an email to the LMA secretary, or to jfair1981@yahoo.com. You can also view and download the newsletter from the new website.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn by made by Jay, seconded by Gene, all in favor. Adjourned 10:30 am