

Big Eagle Lake Improvement Association Minutes for September 22, 2022
Orrock Town Hall - 26401 180th St NW, Big Lake, MN 55309

Present: Paul Ellinger, George Wallin, Dan Boyle, Mike Donnelly, Craig (CJ) Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Gordy Westerlind, Lori Andreen.

Meeting called to order at 6:37 PM by Gordy Westerlind, President.

Motion to approve minutes of August 25, 2022, BELIA Board meeting made by Jeff, seconded by CJ. Motion carried.

Motion to approve agenda made by Dan, seconded by Paul. Motion carried.

Reports

- Treasurer Report August 2022

Checking Account Balance as of the beginning of August 2022	\$21,742.62
Deposits – \$6,851.30, Membership dues/donations, Porkfest Income	
Checks – \$2,169.05, Porkfest Expenses	
Checking Account Balance as of the end of August 2022	\$26,424.87
Uncleared Transactions – \$391.34	
Balance as of 9/6/2022 - \$26,103.67	

There were 93 *paid-up* members at the end of August 2022

There were 84 *paid-up* members at the end of August 2021

There were \$7,457.71 in “extra” contributions collected through August 2022

There were \$5,572.99 in “extra” contributions made through August 2021

The 2021 Minnesota Attorney General annual report filed August 24th, 2022

The 2021 990 Federal Tax return was filed on February 7th, 2022

The 2022 renewal with the Secretary of State was filed February 7th, 2022

The 2021 Minnesota Sales Tax Return submitted January 11th, 2022

Respectfully submitted by,

Jeff Johnson

Treasurer

- Treasurer’s Update for today’s meeting:
 - Checking account balance \$26,467.99 at present
 - Five new members in September
 - Most ever membership of 114 in 2015
 - 89% of people have been giving donations above membership.
- Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report made by George seconded by Mike. Motion carried.

- Audit Committee - Tabled

- Lake Quality Committee:
 - o Current fish fence ('trap') at the outlet has been repaired and reinforced and is functioning to keep carp from entering our lake. Cost \$100.
 - o 'Trap': Decision has been made to maintain the fence and to keep the gate in the closed position to prevent carp from entering the lake.
 - o Proposed constructing a bar grading/fencing at three (3) inlet areas in May 2023 to prevent carp from going upstream to spawn. Cost estimate is \$200.
 - o Bryan has prepared structural drawings to be given to Dan Cibulka of the SWCD to present to the DNR.
 - o It is understood that any grants for construction of additional bar gradings would not be available until 2024.
 - o Request Bryan to provide an estimate of time and costs to document expenditures.

- LID Committee - Tabled

- COLA – Mike Donnelly reporting on Minnesota COLA meeting 9/20/22:

SHORELINE EROSION

- Shoreline erosion continues to be a problem all over the MN and other states. Individual states, and individual lakes (Minnetonka) have established no wake zones varying in distance from 300 - 500 ft from shore. Enforcement is an issue. Who does it ? Who has legal authority? DNR has often been a hindrance in trying to enforce no wake rules.
- MN COLA continues to contribute to on-going studies of wake action impacting shorelines. Good progress is being made via U of M research, primarily at the St. Anthony Lab on Mississippi. It is believed that scientific research results are the only way to convince legislators to take action. The Boating Industry continues to fight legislation. Results to date have been blocked from even getting legislative hearings. Wake Boats are the primary concern everywhere in the state.
- Local DNR staff are often under pressure from private sector, legislators, and department managers.
- Despite challenges, MN lake associations and county entities continue to be very active and committed to water and shoreline initiatives.

DRONES

- A couple of companies in Michigan are using drones, primarily with infrared technology, to monitor septic systems, drain fields, and elevations in and around lakes. The drones are also mapping AIS in lakes and assisting with chemical weed control applications.
- AIS drone assessments also require coordination with 'on lake' resources. Boats are still needed to confirm drone results, as well as application of chemicals. However, the drone mapping can be very precise and prevent wasteful use of expensive chemicals. Drone usage is at an early stage but has tremendous

potential to help in water quality management. We were provided the names/numbers of a couple of Water Quality Drone companies in Michigan.

- Chamber – Tabled
- Events:
 - o Beer and Wine Event: It has been difficult to get vendors, but we will serve wine, beer, and spirit samples. The Buff will provide a bar within the area so that patrons can purchase additional beverages. We may need to supply servers for the sampling.

Other Business

- Membership drive:
 - o Motion to authorize expenditure of up to \$350 for new membership drive printed materials made by George, seconded by Jeff. Motion carried.
 - o These materials will be delivered door-to-door by Board members and mailed to non-residents.
- Go Fund Me – we now have an account, but it is not ready to launch.
- Next Board Meeting: Thursday, December 1, 2022, at 6:30 PM Orrock Town Hall

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM

Respectfully submitted
Lori Andreen
BELIA Secretary