

Lake Washington Improvement Association Board Meeting October 5, 2021

Board Members Present: Mike & Sandy Wosmek, Lyle Walker, Pat Hanson, Ron Bubany, Steve Grotbo, Steve Ullom, David Rathe, Sharon Daniels, Brett Rasmussen,

Board members please let someone know if you are unable to attend.

Treasurer Report: Invasive Species Fund \$42,598.38 General Fund \$74,049.31

Paid Memberships: 207

1) Call Meeting to Order 7 PM – by President Steve G

2) Secretary's September Board Meeting Report – Board approved for publication on our website.

3) Treasurer's September Financial Report – Lyle W. reported Income: \$50 Membership and \$4.23 interest for the month. Expenses: \$32.99 Info System (hosting our website), \$45.70 attending conferences, \$1299.00 West Bend Liability Insurance, \$1280, Limnopro AIS survey in August. Total Funds \$116,647.69. Approved by the Board. So far this year \$1835.00 was donated for the Dassel Fire Dept. Lyle will get this to them in October.

4) New Board Member – Steve G reported Ray Brueggemeier was willing to join the LWIA Board. Others interested in joining the Board were made aware of this opportunity in an invite in the Fall newsletter.

5) Lake Survey – Tabled at this time, as Laurie J was not at the meeting.

6) Culvert replacement – Nothing new at this time.

7) Ellsworth landing parking lot striping – Bonni H reported: Kristy Rice sent the following on September 9th:

I wanted to give you an update on the parking lot. We are having a difficult time getting paint. For whatever reason there is a serious backorder on it at both the paint store and online. We have never had this problem in the past. We have our name on a list to get some when it becomes available. If you have any questions feel free to contact me.

8) Results of U of M MAISRC Research and Management Showcase – The online event was on September 22nd. A follow up for AIS detectors was held just prior to this meeting (5 PM to 6:30 PM) called “Shore-to-Shore Aquatic Invasive Species Workshop”.

Dave R reported with regards to testing zebra mussel control, they can't grow mussels in the lab, so are using a novel RNA research method. Looking at developing an algae for the mussels to eat that will alter their DNA.

Their idea about watercraft inspections was to get counties to work together by sharing dollars.

Ron B shared they are working on developing a multibeam sonar to detect zebra mussels as part of their research.

Ron also reported there is an AIS species of cattails that grow quite tall (8 feet) and is very dense. So thick that bait fish can not live in them. These cattails can be controlled by cutting them off below the water line. U-M is studying ways to control this species.

9) Committee Reports:

Aquatic Invasive Species:

A. Water Quality Testing – Dave R. recently took the last sample for this year, seechi disk readings were 3 ½ to 4 feet. Dave shared there has been some issues with Speed Dee delivery picking up the sample and getting it to RMB within 48 hours. At least 3 times this year he has had to drive the sample because they did not pick it up. Next year, he is going to look at driving the sample to Speed Dee offices in St Cloud to see if this works better.

B. Vegetation Survey – Invasive cattails are becoming more prevalent in Minnesota lakes (this species has been added to the State Invasive Species Guide) and something Ron B and Mark J will be looking for next year. Limnopro completed an AIS survey on Aug. 23, 2021, a copy of this report is on our website. Of note, this survey did not find any EWM in Lake Washington at the 20 sites surveyed.

C. I-LIDS/Watercraft Inspection – Dave R reported the I-LIDS unit quit working and is being repaired. We will need to renew the Special Use Permit next year and has been applied for. Dave believes the I-LIDS unit may not find lots of offenders, but in his opinion works well as a deterrent. Also, the camera has been updated and produces much better video. We need to find someone to view the video, now that Cindy H is no longer on the Board.

Steve G volunteered to help Dave with Excel data recording.

D. Cormorants & Pelicans – Steve G provided update in the Fall Newsletter. We will have to wait until next year and see if they present a problem before we develop our plan of actions.

E. Zebra Mussels – Mike W removed the “Hotels” on Labor Day and found one mussel on all the inspection plates. There was some discussions about the possible low numbers this year. Mike W asked about numbers on Stella and Dave R reported they had many more Zebra Mussels this year. Steve G reported In a U of M September 25th presentation to Big Lake Community Lakes Association, a chart was presented with eleven different factors that affect zebra mussel population. It was also noted that it could just be cyclical thing as well. See Below

Parameter	No sustained Infestation (Adults do not survive long-term)	Low Infestation (Uncertainty of veliger survival)	Moderate Infestation	High Infestation
Calcium (mg/L)	<8 to <10	<15	16-24	≥24
Alkalinity (mg CaCO ₃ /L)	< 30	30-55	45-100	>90
Total Hardness (mg CaCO ₃ /L)	<30	30-55	45-100	≥90
pH	<7.0 or >9.5	7.1-7.5 or 9.0-9.5	7.5-8.0 or 8.8-9.0	8.2-8.8
Mean Summer Temperature (°F)	<64	64-68 or >83	68-72 or 77-83	72-75
Dissolved Oxygen mg/L (% saturation)	<3 (25%)	5-7 (25-50%)	7-8 (50-75%)	≥8 (>75%)
Conductivity (µS/cm)	<30	<30-60	60-110	≥100
Salinity (mg/L) (ppt)	>10	8-10 (<0.01)	5-10 (0.005-0.01)	<5 (<0.005)
Secchi depth (m)	<0.1 or >8	0.1-0.2 or >2.5	0.2-0.4	0.4-2.5
Chlorophyll "a" (µ/L)	<2.5 or >25	2.0-2.5 or 20-25	8-20	2.5-8
Total phosphorous (µg/L)	<5 or >50	5-10 or 30-50	15-25	25-35

F. Watershed – Mike W reported with the lack of rainfall it has not been possible to measure water flows into the lake this summer.

Membership / Shoreline Captains – 207 members at this time. No new information to report for Shoreline Captains.

Education & Public Relations:

A. Fall Newsletter - Fall newsletter reported LIMNO results were on the website, but it did not make it until this weekend. Ron B reported the news letter mailing should go out sometime the end of this week.

B. Website, Facebook, and Email Activity

Steve U passed along some lake association history on September 3rd that will be posted on our website.

Steve G. shared Facebook stats provided for “Age & Gender” and “Top Cities”.

Winner is 35-44 year old Women from Dassel.

Social Committee – Lyle has put LWIA on the Rod ‘n Gun Club 2022 calendar : May 7 Members Pork Chop Dinner and Aug 6 Pot Luck Dinner.

Financial – Grants – Sharon D shared the following email regarding the process, and information she needs to complete the year end for 2021 and new Grants for 2022.

I am sending this email as a reference/guideline for all of us to understand the rules for applying for 2022 AIS Grant application. RFP stands for “Request for Proposals” and is a layout of the rules for the AIS grant application.

You do not need to do anything with this, but to understand what the Meeker County Advisory Committee will review, accept or reject when reviewing the grant apps.

I am working on the AIS RFP apps this week. If you have any input as to what projects for AIS you would like me to put on the grant apps, please let me know.

There are three parts to the RFP... Inspection, Treatment, Education. Each of these are a separate RFP to apply for. The inspection one I will apply for the I-LIDS for maintenance, costs to review videos, etc.

The Treatment one I will apply for Treatment as in the past, *and for the Education... I am open for thoughts. My one thought is to train new board members to help work with AIS; just not sure how or what that entails or how we will do that yet... input from you helpful ☺*.

After I do these 3 app's I will do the MCAL Grant app. If you know of any projects for 2022 around the lake let me know that as well so I can request on the grant app.

Thirdly... I am working on invoicing for expenses for AIS and for MCAL projects for 2021. If you have not turned in all your hours, receipts, and any expenses ending 9/30/2021, please do so by end of this week.

Fourth... I will do the end of year (EOY) report for AIS after I have completed all invoicing. This report is a summary of all projects and invoices requesting for payment for the year 2021.

There was a discussion by the Board about potential projects that could be included for grant projects: Education could look at some type of AIS training for board or others, purchasing some State AIS Guide Booklets (these are about \$40 each), talked about getting a booklet for each shoreline captains. Also looking at MCAL grant for some type of device that could monitor the lake temperature.

Dave R, Sharon D, and Steve U will work on updating the Five Year Action Plan used as a basis when requesting Grant monies from Meeker AIS and MCAL.

At this time Sharon has recorded 892 volunteer hours so far this year by LWIA Board members.

MCAL - Representatives/meeting dates – Pat H reported the next meeting is Oct 21.

10) Open Discussion – Steve G reported: In today's coffee break, a couple things came up that he thought would be of interest to the group. A chart (see above) that shows eleven different items that affect Zebra Mussel population. This includes the temperature and lower lake levels that Dave mentioned in our recent newsletter.

Meagan reported: As a side note regarding cattails, invasive cattails and other emergent invasives / look a-likes have been added to the AIS ID Guide in the most recent edition. <https://maisrc.umn.edu/guidebook>

Dave R noted the DNR had some nets out last week, not sure what they were doing.

Discussion about how to do water temperature readings to include with our water quality reporting. Steve G had heard of a blue tooth device that could track lake temperatures. Ron B will explore options/devices for gathering water temperatures. Mike W reported other lakes regularly throughout the year measure the depth of their lakes and was wondering if this is something we could look at doing. Ron B will look at this while looking at temperature gathering devices or processes.

Ron B did a look back at DNR Walleye Surveys from the past; dates and number of walleye counted

1957- 207	1974- 59	1979- 67	1983- 122	1988- 143	1993- 455	1999-226		
2004- 99	2009- 283	2012- 157	2016- 147	2017- 128	2018- 50	2020- 51	2021- 172	

Dave R and Steve U will look at updating Lake Washington Management Plan from 2016.

Next Board Meeting Scheduled for February 1, 2022 via Zoom.