

# Lake Washington Improvement Association Board Meeting September 1, 2022

Board Members Present: Mike & Sandy Wosmek, Lyle Walker, Pat Hanson, Ron Bubany, Steve Grotbo, Steve Ullom, David Rathe, Sharon Daniels, Laurie Johnson, Mark Johnson, Ray Brueggenmeier

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

**Treasurer Report:** Invasive Species Fund \$49,596.97 General Fund \$75,162.56

**Paid Memberships: 213**

**1) Call Meeting to Order 7 PM** – President Steve Grotbo

**2) Secretary's August Board Meeting Report** – Steve U will get updated minutes to Board, approved for publication on our website.

**3) Treasurer's August Financial Report** – Lyle W reported: Income of \$229.37 with \$200 Memberships, Donations of \$15 to Invasive Species and \$10 to DFD, interest \$4.37. Expenses of \$109.71 for \$88.33 meat for Pot Luck (EZ dock has paid LWIA for this expense), \$21.38 to Steve G for Lake Steward Guides. Contributions of \$2225.00 for the Dassel Fire Department will be sent to them in October. Total funds of \$124,759.53. Board approved this report.

**4) Dam height** report by Ethan Jenzen, DNR area hydrologist from Spicer office. The fixed crest control structure was built in 1954. The Lake Gauge reader is up stream from the dam and is read about once a week, the last reading was 7/23/22. Ethan shared, lake water levels with dams are the highest regulated things in the state, it can take up to 25 years to make a water level change. To raise the water levels of a lake (raise height change outlets for lakes with dams) there are two major factors considered. 1. Needs 100% approval of riparian land owners. 2. Manipulated lake water levels need a specific reason to raise the level and it cannot exceed the high water levels.

Ethan shared the maximum water level change on Washington is about 2 feet and a significant rainfall would add about 1 inch to the height. He noted the 1988-89 water level was nearly 1 foot lower than last years readings. The primary reason for low water levels the past 2 years has been lack of rainfall for this region because it has been abnormally dry. He did note the dam also controls the water levels on Stella. They surveyed the dam crest in 2022 and found no change. He hopes to complete an inspection yet this fall. He is working on putting together an article for our Fall Newsletter. It was suggested we send a thank you note to Ethan.

Ethan brought some reflectors to put on the old dam abutments for safety reasons, Dave R has these.

**5) Culvert replacement**

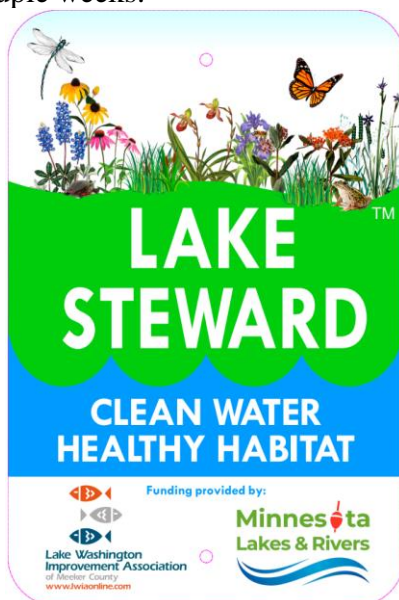
Nothing new. Will reach out to Phil for update for fall newsletter.

**6) Ellsworth landing parking lot**

Painting did take place. Assume not worth getting sealcoat at this time.

**7) Lake Steward** – Steve G reported two of the Shoreland Guide to Lake Stewardship are available.

He has ordered two signs. One for Ellsworth landing and the other for his place. Because of the mounting holes, the Lake Washington logo had to be adjusted to a vertical layout. New one on left, original on right. They should arrive in a couple weeks.



Mike W and Steve G will check out the best place to mount the sign at Ellsworth landing. Thinking it could be put on the post with our LWIA sign. Planning to promote this more in fall newsletter when we can have picture of the actual signs so people will want them. Plus with Jeff speaking at May meeting, this should help promote the program

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Aquatic Invasive Species:**

**A. Water Quality Testing** – Dave R reported latest sampling was completed with seechi reading at 5-5.5 feet, water temperature was 79 degrees. Dave is looking at updating the water quality testing data on our website.

**B. Vegetation Survey** – Steve G reported Lake Restoration must be committing to doing the residential weed control 2023 as they sent form for owners who had treatments in 2022 to sign up for next year. With that form, you are just out the \$40 for DNR permit if you move / cancel. Will include this treatment option in the Fall Newsletter with hopes this can speed up the process for Spring treatments.

**C. I-LIDS/Watercraft Inspection** – Dave R reports the unit has been working fine all year. Environmental Sentry will stop doing video reviews in September. Ray B has been learning how to do the video reviews along with Dave R. They will work on doing reviews through September.

#### **D. Cormorants & Pelicans**

Nothing new to report. Will add information from Michael Worland (DNR) for fall newsletter.

**E. Zebra Mussels** – Mike W reported hotels will be pulled on Labor Day and they will be doing inspections on Tuesday.

Steve G reported - The MAISRC has changed from their previous announcement. They have decided to go permanently to online only with it being on September 21<sup>st</sup> for a \$25 fee. Last year, Ron attended and sent out the links so we could all watch what we wanted on the event. This time, it seems everyone is welcome to watch after the fact for free. So far it is just save the date without any details.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> dates are for lab tours if you are interested. This features “genetic biocontrol of zebra mussels”. Tickets must be purchased by September 15<sup>th</sup>. <https://maisrc.umn.edu/showcase>

**F. Watershed** – Mike W reported there was some concerns about the sediment pond FY13-09 (on southwest corner of the lake) allowing black sediment to flow into the lake. He looked into this with Joe Norman, MCSWCD. They discovered a farm tile had plugged up and when it was repaired a large amount of water was released causing a large flow of water through the pond and into the lake. This lasted a couple of days, with the water flowing into the lake now is very clear. Mike reported Joe Norman says we will have to look at the feasibility of this holding pond when the contract expires in 2 years. Joe is not sure the holding pond is necessary, with the farm tiles reworked may only need a ditch or clay lined box.

Mike W and Dave R reported on culvert #312 at the Lynn Schmidt property 69669 233rd St. The Schmidt’s provided pictures of the gravel and dirt that washed through the culvert earlier this spring. Joe Norman saw the pictures of the damage and set up a survey crew after the leaves are off the trees to start a plan for this property. The trees will have to be removed from the ditch. A rock water fall would be installed with maybe a clay lined holding box filled with wood chips.

**Membership / Shoreline Captains** – Laurie J reported with 213 memberships this year we are better than 2020 and 2021 at this time. There was a discussion about Shoreline Captains. Sharon D has worked on a description/role of a Shoreline Captain. There were some ideas shared and she is going to update this. We need to update the Shoreline Captains link on the website it is from 2017.

Sandy W has been looking at getting more people signed up as Captains starting next year. The following names are people interested in becoming Shoreline Captains.

Amy & Rory Paulson, Elizabeth Walke, Ruth Lotsof, and new owner of John Fink's.

### **Education & Public Relations:**

**A. Fall Newsletters** - Articles due on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**B. Website, Facebook, and Email Activity – Steve G** responded request to regarding on water levels.

**Social Committee**

Corrine and Dave Gertsema represented Lake Washington for Twine Ball Parade. She had magnetic signs made up that will be stored at Dassel Rod and Gun. The convertible with wiener dog float was a big hit. Lots of people asked where they could get one, which is on Amazon.

Lyle W will get LWIA on the Rod n Gun Club calendar for next year May 6 – Membership Pork Chop Dinner and August 5 for Pot Luck.

**Financial – Grants** – Sharon D shared the Grant deadlines for next year are: MCAL September 30 and Meeker AIS October 20.

**She is asking everyone to please submit volunteer ours to her by September 25.**

**MCAL** - Representatives/meeting dates – Pat H. shared the next meeting is Oct. 20.

9) Open Discussion

**Next Board Meeting Scheduled for October 4<sup>th</sup> at Dassel Rod and Gun Club**