

## Lake Washington Improvement Association Board Meeting April 4, 2023

Board Members Present: Mike Wosmek, Lyle Walker, Pat Hanson, Ron Bubany, Bonni Halverson, Steve Grotbo, Steve Ullom, David Rathe, Laurie Johnson, Mark Johnson, Ray Brueggenmeier

**Treasurer Report:** Invasive Species Fund \$53,139.23                      General Fund \$69,896.93

### **Paid Memberships:**

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

2) **Secretary's March Board Meeting Report** – approved for publication on website.

3) **Treasurer's March Financial Report** – Lyle W. reported Income: \$100 Ads, \$4.37 Interest. Expenses: Rain gauge \$44.25. Total Funds \$123,036.16. Board approved the March report and retaining Piehl, Hanson, Beckman to do the April 30 year-end financial review and report preparation.

Board approved paying yearly membership of \$200.00 to MN Lakes and Rivers

4) **Culvert replacement** – Steve G. had several people ask about the status at Rod 'n Gun club fish fry. One key item was whether road has to be closed and if so, for how long. Something to get clarified for the summer newsletter.

5) **Lake Steward** - Steve G received the following from Jeff Forester (MN Lakes and Rivers) and Steve G plans to attend April 13<sup>th</sup> launch meeting.

The sun is higher in the sky every day, the snow is melting and there is open water along the edges of the lakes in the cities. It will not be long until open water now.

That means it is time to launch Lake Steward for 2023.

**The meeting will be via Zoom, Thursday April 13th, 11:00. Here is the**

**link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88679378103?pwd=cGNrd05FbkxvZjdzS3dYcXczM0RMZz09>**

Thank you for all you do for Minnesota's lakes. It is an honor to work with you. Together we will continue to expand Lake Steward and build toward a new norm of sound shoreline management.

Best to you all,

Jeff

We wanted to get your feedback on outcomes from last year's Lake Steward, what worked, what could work better, how to improve the program. We have a few changes on our end we want to share with you, and get your input on a few gaps that we need to close.

6) **MN Climatology Office Looking For Rainfall Volunteers** – Dave R sent email on this and Ron volunteered. Also requested for more people via Newsletter and Facebook. There are 2 other people in Meeker County signed up for this. Ron described the rain gauge: a large about 4 inch tube with a smaller tube inside that one uses to measure the rainfall. Everyone uses the same type of gauge. They also track hail, snowfall and depth of snow.

7) **AIS Detectors Core Course** – Pat H forwarded an email on March 28<sup>th</sup> for the “AIS Detectors Core Course” offered by U of M MAISRC. Four different dates are available, with one of the options being virtual.

Involves 8 hours self-paced course followed by full day class. Cost is \$150, LWIA will pay this.

More information at: <https://maisrc.umn.edu/detectors-core>

Mark J was an AIS Detector and is looking at getting certified again, maybe next year.

### **8) Committee Reports:**

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

**A. Water Quality Testing** – Will begin sampling in May and do 5 during the course of the summer. There are plans to do up to 6 inlet sites this year, provided we get ample rainfall events (more than 2 inches in 24 hours). Dave is still waiting for the test kit.

**B. Vegetation Survey** – Mark J will be scheduling Limnopro to do AIS surveys this summer, probably in July. The cost will be about \$2500.00

**C. I-LIDS/Watercraft Inspection** – Dave R. received the I-LIDS estimate from Eric. Cost for the monthly video capture, review, etc. is \$30.00 per month higher than last year. Cellular cost are the same as last year. Inflation strikes again (9% total cost). Our total cost (\$2287.09) compared to last year is less, due to no repair work needed this year. Board approved this expense, Dave will sign the contract.

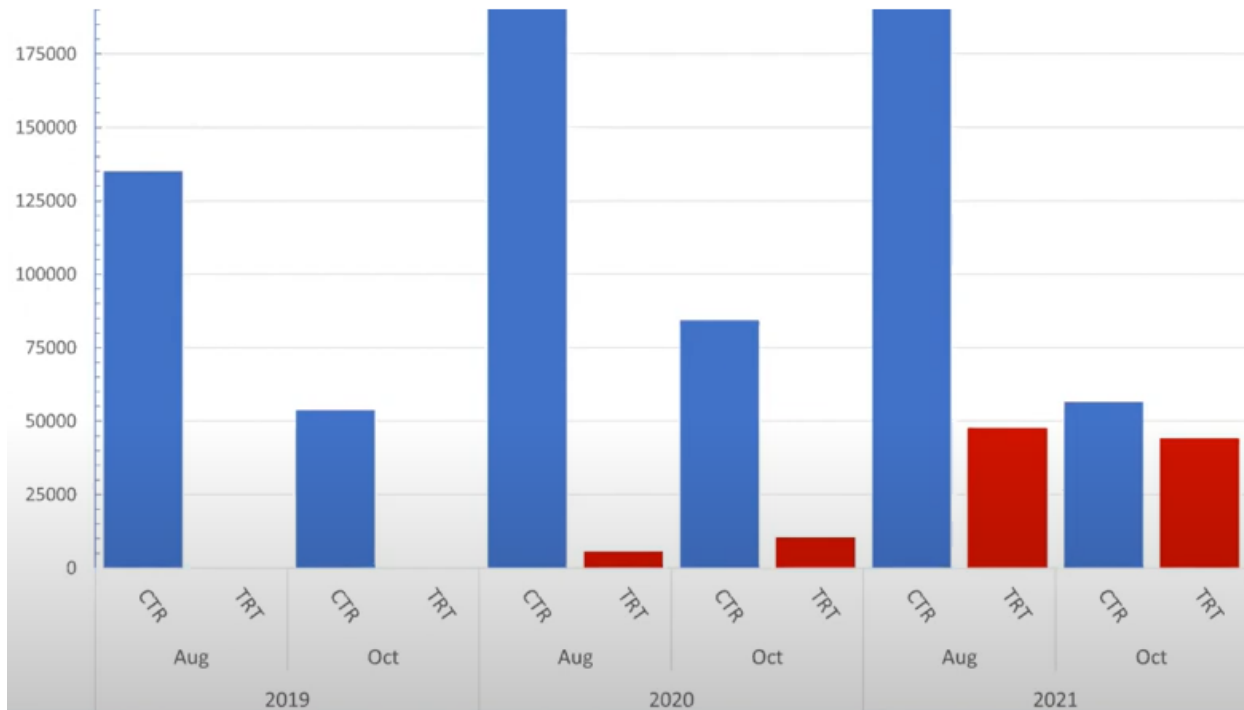
**D. Cormorants & Pelicans** – No cormorants or pelicans have been seen at this time.

**E. Zebra Mussels** –

Steve G did reach out and the MAISRC showcase from last September is available. It was opened up 2 months ago. The videos can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/c/maisrc>

The “Refining copper-based treatment to suppress zebra mussel populations” (43 minutes) is at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRM5ISJgqtI>. Some points I got out of this include:

- Results from project on Pelican is still coming in. This was focused on the tiny zebra mussels (veliger). Trying different concentrations of copper to determine effects on zebra mussels along with fish.
- Lake Minnetonka phase 1 project that did treatment in 2019 shows that Oct 2021 the zebra mussels in control (CTR) bay were basically the same as in the treated (TRT) bay. Results for 2022 are still coming in. So really one and done treatment is not going to solve issue.



- Lake Minnetonka phase 2 project started in 2021 and involves a bay twice the size compared to phase 1 project. This time it is lower doses of copper but annual treatments from what I could gather. No results yet.
- Interesting question is where does the copper go? Apparently it sinks to the bottom and attaches to whatever is there and stays around forever. Not sure how good that is?

Steve G watched the 40 minute video of the Minnetonka and Pelican Bay testing process. Seems year after testing results showed zebra mussels return to the same density as prior to the testing.

**F. Watershed** – Mike W reported: Lynn Schmidt (the property owner on the east side of the road) did not like the first plan presented by the County. Joe Norman came back with a second plan that had rock instead of tile for the water coming out of the culvert to flow over. and Lynn approved this plan. Meeker County will be hiring someone to do this project soon.

The west side of the road is a different plan that will be worked on. Looks like there will need to be some type of holding pond and filtration plan. This will be happening at a later date and Warren Nelson (property owner) will be involved with the plan and needs his approval. Mike W did talk with Warren Nelson about the need for

some type of mitigation needed to slow the water flow from the fields into this culvert. Warren is willing to work with the County and will have a say in what the project looks like. For these projects the property owners are going to have to pay something towards these projects. Joe Norman thought the county would be willing to pick up 50-70% of the costs.

**Membership / Shoreline Captains** – Laurie has scheduled a Shoreline Captains meeting for May 20 10 AM at the Dassel Rod ‘n Gun Club. Laurie has 6 new Shoreline Captains that means all the areas are covered. She will update the Shoreline map. Laurie designed a new membership card to better gather and organize information we are asking for, Board gave it their ok. She is also looking at getting door hangers that can be left if people are not home when we stop, this can have contact information.

There was a discussion about what it means when we say email copies of the Newsletter will be sent out to those choosing this option. Actually, Ron B sends out an email with a link to the Newsletter.

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

**A. Spring Newsletters** – Ron B reported the Newsletter is ready to go.

Steve G commented “Great content.” All the advertisers were okay with the increased cost.

Will want 20 additional membership cards and envelopes for Shore Line Captains. Also additional copies of the Spring Newsletter will be sent to Shoreline Captains, Ron has this information and will pass it on so copies will be sent out.

### **B. Website, Facebook, and Email Activity**

Rod and Gun fish fry was promoted three times on our Facebook. Total of 650 people showed up.

Steve G will have an email notice for pork chop dinner sent out.

There was some discussion about paying to send out notices, but the Board thought this meeting is intended for those on Lake Washington.

Bonni H volunteered to make up flyers Shoreline Captains could pass out or to share information about an event or activity we are sponsoring. Laurie also is able to make up flyers.

**Social Committee** – Sandy/Mike W reports plans are in place for the Pork Chop Dinner/Annual Membership Meeting on May 6. Mike W inventoried the cabinets and reported there are plenty of utensils and other supplies. Steve G will contact Jeff Forester and send him a copy of our Newsletter. The meeting agenda will be: 6:30 Elections, Laurie will introduce Shoreline Captains, announce up coming events: 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, Twine Ball parade, 6:45 Questions and Answer period, 7:00 Jeff will present for 10-20 minutes, after that drawings for Meat Trays. Mike will be getting the pork chops from Benny’s Meat Market. Board approved getting 3 meat trays to raffle off, Mike will get these. Mike will check with B & B to see if they are willing to pay for the pork chops.

Sue S has agreed to organize the Fourth of July boat parade again this year.

**Financial – Grants** – Sharon D not here Tabled until next meeting.

**MCAL - Representatives/meeting dates** Pat H reported next meeting is April 20 at 7 PM in Litchfield.

**9) Open Discussion** – Steve G will work on ordering the garbage can for the Ellsworth Landing.

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