

Lake Washington Improvement Association Board Meeting October 3, 2023

Board Members Present: Mike Wosmek, Lyle Walker, Pat Hanson, Ron Bubany, Steve Grotbo, Steve Ullom, Sharon Daniels, Dave Broll - interested in joining board

Treasurer Report: Invasive Species Fund \$54,255.66 General Fund \$75,690.02

Paid Memberships: 205

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

2) **Secretary's September Board Meeting Report** – approved for posting on the website.

3) **Treasurer's September Financial Reports** – Lyle W reported: Income: Interest \$4.24; donation in memory of Dean Shaner \$125.00 Total \$129.24. Expenses: H2O samples \$18.08; West Bend Ins. \$1390.00 Total \$1408.08. Total funds: \$128,667.04. Lyle will be sending a check (\$2782.00) to DFD for contributions from 83 members. The Board approved this report.

There was a conversation about investing in some CD's because rates are favorable, Lyle will look into this.

4) **Culvert replacement** - Blacktop concern for ice fishing landing was brought to Phil Schmalz (Meeker County). He is not having good luck working with this paving company, so does not want to approach them about adding any additional work to this project. So it will just be blacktopped the same as it was prior to this project.

Phil did not personally talk with home owner that maintains this landing. He did say that someone did talk to the project manager on it though, so assumes that was the person.

5) **Lake Steward** – Steve G is still looking for someone to cost share shipping with Ruth.

6) **Removal of rocks that are close to surface** – Steve U and Ron B wrote an article for the Newsletter. The Meeker Co. Sheriff's Water and Boat Patrol looked at rocks on Southwest part of the lake, that home owner had marked and they determined there was a safety issue and put up a buoy. Going forward, if people have concerns with rocks doing damage to boats they should contact the Sheriff's Department to determine if there are any safety concerns. Some noted this could lead to many buoys on the lake if the Water Patrol honored all requests.

7) **Potential Ellsworth Landing Improvement** – Dave R sent out brochure (email Sept. 10) with examples from around the country of ways to manage and improve landings and encourages folks to look at this. Tabled this discussion until when Dave R is present.

8) Committee Reports:

Aquatic Invasive Species:

A. Water Quality Testing – Dave and Mike will do one more test this year. Dave R has an article in the Fall Newsletter with lots of data and details.

B. Vegetation Survey – Linnopro came back with a survey that found 2 sites of EWM (one on the southwest side and the other on the east side. The committee will focus on these spots next year.

C. I-LIDS/Watercraft Inspection – Mike W reported they will be taking it out sometime in October.

D. Cormorants & Pelicans – No final decision has been made on the Pelican Lake proposal for reducing the population. This project looked at percentage of change (decrease) in walleye population as a basis for reducing the number of cormorants in their lake. The summer fish survey for Lake Washington shows a significant reduction in walleye populations in past 2 surveys. This is a concern and could be the basis for an action plan that looks at reducing the population.

E. Zebra Mussels – Mike W shared concerns that the hotels do not seem to attract larger mussels, also one year cleaned plates with bleach. They wondered if this might have had an effect on mussel attaching so now they just scrape them off and use hot water to clean the plates.

F. Watershed – Mike W and Dave are looking at a site on the southside of the lake as a potential project to work on next year.

Membership / Shoreline Captains – tabled until Laurie is in attendance. Mike W pointed out our membership numbers have stayed pretty much the same year to year. This is with a nod to Shore Line Captains making contacts. He noted that when there have been major concerns/issues on the lake the interest and membership goes up.

Education & Public Relations:

A. Fall Newsletters – Ron B reported mailed copies will be sent out Friday 10/6. This was an awesome Newsletter, with lots of pictures that make a big difference. Ron shared, he has an Adobe software program, he has purchased for \$60 per month that is a major reason he can share so many pictures and use for formatting.

B. Website, Facebook, and Email Activity – Steve G reported on an email that asked about a rumor regarding lake water levels. The Board agreed the DNR monitors this.

Social Committee – Lyle reported May 4th Pork Chop Dinner and August 3 Pot Luck are on the Dassel Rod n Gun Club calendar for 2024. Mike reported we will be using Benny’s from Hutchinson to provide the pork chops for our Annual Membership meeting in May. Schroeder’s meats has been sold to someone no longer with a place on the lake. This was B & B’s preferred vendor as they have been paying for the chops.

Financial – Grants – Sharon D reported 994 volunteer hours have been submitted to her so far this year. She will be using these numbers when submitting requests for 2023 grant monies total of \$7826.00. She explained how Meeker AIS and MCAL grants have to be reported differently. Sharon explained how she gathers and reports the costs for each grant reimbursement.

MCAL wants a list of all volunteer hours but does not reimburse for these. She has about 45 pages to scan in for the grant application she will send to Greg Schultz.

AIS – She can only report volunteer hours she has submitted to her at the time she sends in for 2023 reimbursement. She reviewed the information and dollar amounts she is submitting for 2023 grants, to AIS and MCAL. She is submitting new grant applications for 2024 budget of \$9990.00, which we will be paid about \$4000.00.

We did not get selected by the DNR for a 2023 grant, but she will apply for 2024.

“THANK YOU” for emailing me with all your hours and receipts, photos, and paid checks for projects! It was really nice to be able to organize and bill out the invoices without trying to figure out who did what and when and asking for proof of paid 😊. Please continue to email your hours & paid receipts for Oct, Nov and Dec 2023 as I will do a 2023 summary on hours; these hours will be used for 2024 In-Kind hours and invoicing.

Just an update on the invoicing and grant processing for 2024.

1. I have completed the invoicing thus far for 2023 (will need to do another invoice request for reimbursement in December for water testing 2023).

Reimbursement requested for:

- a. MCAL = \$3,877.69
 - b. Water testing 2023 = \$102.37
 - c. AIS = \$1,740.49
2. Completed MCAL Grant app for 2024 and sent in for processing.
 3. Completed AIS Treatment Grant app for 2024 and submitted for processing
 4. AIS Watercraft app is no longer... it is included in the Treatment app.
 5. Did NOT do AIS Educational grant app due to the fact that the rules state no reimbursement if training, community social marketing or novel outreach.
 6. Please read attachments... some of the new rules are:
 - a. AIS grant app completed 10/9/2023 for 2024 is only a preliminary. New this year “A Final app” is due between Feb 18, 2024 to April 15 or May 30?? Conflicting dates on attachments. (I only sent page one of instructions as there are 9 actual pages on the 10/1/2023 RFP 😊)
 - b. DNR permit required with the final AIS grant app.
 - c. Treatment for Milfoil must be completed by Aug 2, 2024 or Aug 30, 2024... again conflicting dates on attachments.

I did an email to Ariana and she stated they are working on policy changes yet.

Let me know if you have any questions.

MCAL - Representatives/meeting dates Pat reported it will be October 19. MCAL meeting is at 7 pm. 2nd floor-old library in Aaker Auditorium complex. Go in the front main doors and go up on the elevator. You are there. Pat will attend. Sharon is unable to traveling with husband to AZ. We are allowed 2 voting members per association.

9) Open Discussion-

Next Board Meeting Scheduled for February 6th via Teams.