

# Lake Washington Improvement Association Board Meeting September 5, 2024

Board Members Present: Lyle Walker, Pat Hanson, Ron Bubany, Dan Komarek, Steve Ullom, David Rathe, Pam Boorsma, Sharon Daniels, Laurie Johnson, Mark Johnson, Brett Rasmussen,

**Treasurer Report:** Invasive Species Fund \$64,864.22

General Fund \$77,684.50

## **Paid Memberships: 185**

1) **Call Meeting to Order 7 PM** – President Dave Rathe

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

3) **Treasurer's August Financial Report** – Lyle W reported:

Income: 10 memberships \$500.00; Donations to Invasive Species \$60.00 and DFD \$45.00; August interest \$5.89; \$50.00 for 2025 membership – Total Income for August \$660.89

Expenses: H2O sample \$18.08; Admin. (name tags) \$19.03; Pot Luck RR Foods \$102.39; Door hangers \$170.89 – Total Expenses for August \$310.39. Total Funds \$142,548.72

Dave R asked Lyle to send him copies of our Liability Insurance Policy and a copy of the most recent bank statement.

Sharon D asked Lyle to send her a copy of the Year End Financial Summary Report.

4) **Committee Assignments** – Steve U sent out copies of most current 2024-2025 Committees and Project Group Assignments with leads and backups. Everyone at the meeting agreed with their assignment.

## **5) Committee Reports:**

**A. Water Quality Testing** – Dave R and Brett R reported seechi disk reading of 3.5-4.5 feet and temperature of 72 degrees from sampling completed on 9/5/24. Had not yet been able to calculate the flow from Stella, but the water was about 30 inches deep.

**B. Vegetation Survey** – Mark J shared the Limnopro lake survey. They checked 26 waypoint sites and found no EWM. They did find zebra mussels on vegetation throughout the lake, but not many on structures in the water. Mark reported he and Mike did survey about 300 sites this year and found no EWM at these places. Dave asked, but no one knew if Stella treated EWM this year. Mark shared there are 11 lakes within a 35 mile radius of Lake Washington that have Starry Stonewort. Laurie has made up a sign to post at the landing letting people know of the incidents of AIS in surrounding lakes. She will have it laminated and posted at Ellsworth Landing. This is something we can easily update.

**C. I-LIDS/Watercraft Inspection**- Dave is meeting with Dan to go through the operation of the unit. Brett viewed about 200 videos from August. He saw nothing to report.

**D. Zebra Mussels** – Mike pulled the Hotels on Labor Day. They took pictures and cleaned up the plates. Mostly small young immature mussels on the plates. The density of mussels on the plates is noticeably more near the culvert with Stella. We did lose one Hotel this year, Mike searched but did not find it, maybe it will appear in the spring with the ice coming ashore. There maybe a need to purchase/build more hotels in the near future, the ones we have are showing wear. Dave did contact MAISRC about our zebra mussel data collected over the years and Gretchen Hansen showed an interest and asked for all of our information. Dave's wife did volunteer to do some RNA analysis but haven't heard back.

**E. Watershed** – Dave R reported Meeker County Soil and Water Conservation did some erosion control measures at site 302. The culvert from the pond to the lake was about 15 feet short and added a, 24 inch, 15-20 foot extension with 16 tons of field stone to eliminate shoreline erosion. The Meeker County SWCD asked LWIA to pay ½ of the total cost for this project. The LWIA share amounted to \$754.73 and the Board approved paying this. Dave is going to let Lyle know who to send the check to. Lyle has the paperwork for this project. This site also needs a boot added to interface the smaller tile pipe to larger culvert pipe. Dave R reported on Inlet #306: Mike W is working on correcting the problems created when a farm vertical drain pipe was added to the underground tile pipe. Mike is working with Joe Norman on getting this corrected.

**6) Membership / Shoreline Captains** – Laurie J shared she has been looking at a membership plaque and presented doing something like a car bumper sticker made out of vinyl, with date, that could be updated each year. She shared a model decal that she was working with (4x4 inch model) She will create a design and send out to the Board for approval. Looks like the cost would be about \$500 for 500 stickers. It was talked about maybe ordering 2 for each membership each year. This discussion will continue through the winter.

**Shoreline Captains** – Laurie is working on using Smart Sheet a data sharing program for Shoreline Captains, that they could update as new information came in. She has done something like this in the past. Dan K and Pam B. volunteered to work with Laurie getting this program up and working. This is something that would be worked on over the winter. Laurie is working on getting pricing for this project.

## **7) Education & Public Relations:**

- A. Newsletters – Ron would like all articles for the Fall Newsletter to be to him by Monday Sept. 23.  
Articles will be Vegetation Mark J; Water Quality – Dave R; Watershed- Dave R, Mike W;  
Pat’s Corner – Pat Hanson; End of the Dock – Ron B; Water World – Ron B; Grants- Sharon D;  
Financial – Lyle W; Dan K – Watercraft/ I-LIDS

Ron reported in July there were 623 views of our website, primarily looking at the Newsletter.

Bon B shared the following information

Website - Here are some usage figures for our web site during 365 days ending 8/16/24:

1019 Total Views

178 were Newsletters page

167 were Board Members page

128 were Our Goals page

120 were Membership page

91 were Water Quality Management page

89 were Aquatic Invasive Species page

72 were Contact Us page

51 were Education and Communication page

47 were Lake Waters Charts and Graphs page

45 were Administration page

38 were Board Meetings page

35 were Shoreline and Watershed Management page

35 were Wildlife Management page

31 were Events page

And then there were small accesses to various other pages

Accesses to [LWIAONLINE.COM](http://LWIAONLINE.COM) by country:

2248 United States

30 China

24 Canada

22 Germany

7 India

3 Nigeria

2 Singapore

2 Portugal

10 Other countries

Of interest were over 2000 blocked brute force attacks during lwiaonline lifetime.

**Facebook** – Pam Boorsma reported she updates or adds something every few weeks.

**Email Activity** – Pat Hanson reported we get very few and she passes on most to the Board or provides answers to questions that might be asked.

**Social Committee** – tabled for next meeting

**Financial – Grants** – Sharon D reminded everyone to please send her any hours that you spend doing something connected with the lake (In-Kind hours). Also any mileage that you have for working on lake business. She can use these hours for reimbursement when making grant requests to the different agencies. She will be including some of these hours when asking for reimbursement from MCAL and the DNR grants. She has shared these hours in the past and MCAL and DNR are impressed with the time LWIA puts in supporting our lake community. So far this year 624 hours have been sent to Sharon. The deadline for submitting 2024 volunteer (In-kind) hours to Sharon is September 28. MCAL Grant application for 2025 are due October 10<sup>th</sup>. AIS grant applications have not been sent out yet. Sharon did view the County Commissioners meeting and they noted the 2024 AIS proposed grants were \$309,382.00.

**MCAL** - Pat Hanson shared next meeting date is October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. .

**8) Open Discussion** – Mark Wood passed away, he was a Board member in the 1990's into the early 2000's. Pat Hanson will send flowers from LWIA.

Board discussion about doing an updated directory and what it might look like. Some ideas were setting it up on the website with links to information, articles, and other data presently in the Directory. This would probably not involve advertisers. The history was the part most Board members felt needed updating on a regular basis. This was tabled for further discussion.

The Board decided meetings for 2025 will be on the first Tuesday of the month February through October. If necessary, the Board can decide on changing dates as needed.

**Next Board Meeting Scheduled for October 1 at Dassel Rod 'n Gun Club.**