

**LIDA LAKES IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Saturday, October 29 10 AM

Lida Township Hall

Members Present: David Hilber, Robert Nielsen, Zachary Herrmann, Sheldon Poss, David Braton, Brian Graftaas, Mimsi Weckwerth (virtual), Lake Coordinator Steve Henry (virtual).

Guests: Shane and Courtney Peterson, Mike Spangler, David Swang, Daren Berube, Twyla Nielsen.

Agenda Item I: Call to order David Hilber, 10:15 AM.

Agenda Item II: Pledge of Allegiance led by David Hilber.

Agenda Item III: Introductions and Announcements.

Agenda Item IV: Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve Agenda by Herrmann, seconded by Graftaas. Carried

Agenda Item V: Director Robert Nielsen Resignation

Chair Hilber read Robert Nielsen's letter of resignation dated September 1, 2022 (Copy on file).

The Board thanked Nielsen for his service.

Motion to regretfully accept Robert Nielsen's resignation by Braton, seconded by Graftaas. Carried.

Agenda Item VI: Appointment of Interim Director

Chair Hilber introduced Mike Spangler as a potential Interim Director to fulfill Nielsen's resident term.

Braton stated Spangler was one of the County's recommendations and that he has served Lake Lida for years doing water sampling and active with the Fish Committee.

Motion to appoint Mike Spangler as Interim Director by Braton, seconded by Poss. Carried.

Comments by Nielsen supported Spangler as a person with great knowledge of the lake and is happy to have Spangler as Interim Director to fulfill his term.

Agenda Item VII. Reorganization of the Board

Braton reviewed duties as outlined in the Bylaws of Officers and Directors of the LLID. Now that have experienced one year as an organization, Braton reviewed a number of duties of the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer beyond what is listed in the Bylaws. Braton provided a list of potential Director assignments. Additional duties to be considered include being a liaison with various organizations the LLID has relationships. Braton reviewed a list of individuals and organizations the LLID works with and the Board added a number of additional individuals and organizations. Braton discussed Hilber was willing to continue as Chair, Herrmann was willing to continue as Treasurer and Braton was willing to continue as Secretary. Hilber discussed Graftaas as Vice Chair. Brian has had a strong interest with LLID and prior to that the Lake Association.

Motion to appoint Brian Graftaas as Vice Chair by Hilber, seconded by Poss. Carried

Motion to approve Hilber Chair, Graftaas Vice Chair, Herrmann Treasurer and Braton Secretary by Graftaas and seconded by Poss. Carried

Braton reviewed potential Director assignments to Committees and liaisons to various organizations. Lake Management would be led by Graftaas and Board Members Herrmann, Weckwerth and Spangler could be a part of this Committee. Braton recommended Poss be our liaison with the State Park, MNDOT, and Communications Committee. Braton recommended we review these assignments at this time. Herrmann recommended that Braton send out the Board duties and assignments to Directors and have Committees meet and make recommendations. Nielsen spoke for the need for good communications and reach out to property owners in various way.

Agenda Item VIII. Approval of August 20, 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve August 20, 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes by Herrmann, seconded by Spangler. Carried

Agenda Item IX. Treasurer's Report

Herrmann presented financials with Cash-on-hand of \$23,701.46. Estimated Accrual Balance is \$86,985.57.

Motion to approve the August 20, 2022 Treasurer's Report made by Graftaas, seconded by Weckwerth. Carried

Motion to Approve bills to be paid in the amount of \$1,190.00 (Otter Tail County COLA 2022 Dues, \$740.00; MN Lakes and Rivers 2022 Dues, \$300; 2022 Water Testing by Volunteers Robert Nielson and Mike Spangler, \$75.00 each). Motion by Braton, seconded by Graftaas. Carried.

The Board discussed giving the Treasurer authority to pay bills that have been budgeted but would not be paid until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Since we have quarterly meetings, this may have several weeks/months of lag time. In order for the LLID to retain prompt payment of services we discussed giving the Treasurer approval to pay bills under \$1000.00 prior to Board approval at a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting.

Motion to allow the Executive Committee to approve expenditures for budgeted services up to \$1000.00 between quarterly board meetings. Motion by Graftaas, seconded by Weckwerth. Carried.

Agenda Item X: Funding Request: East Otter Tail SWCD

Herrmann reviewed the drainage issue into Moonlight Bay and efforts by the Soil and Water Conservation District to correct the issue. The Board did approve a line item in the budget for such projects. Aaron Larson from SWCD had informed the LID that the State will pay 75% of the project and the remaining 25% is to be paid by local entities. Larson requested that the 25% be split equally by the land owner, Maplewood Township and Lida LID. The estimated portion charged to Lida LID was \$3000.00. Since our last meeting the farm land in question has been sold. Weckwerth reviewed the changes in ownership. The former owner, Mr. Hiby, sold the farm land to Bill and Carol Lewis (property owners on Moonlight Bay) along with two parcels on the lake. The Lewis's have sold the farm land in question to another party. The project is in the design stage. The LLID expense would be \$3000.00 of the \$36,000 project. Graftaas reviewed the landowner of the farm land should be responsible no mater

who owns it. Weckwerth was not sure if the responsibility by the land owner has shifted to the new owner. Hilber recommended we move forward to fund our portion and allow SWCD to determine land owner funding issue.

Motion to approve 1/3 of the local funding up to \$3000.00 that will sunset in 18 months for the Moonlight Bay improvement project by Herrmann and seconded by Graftaas. Weckwerth abstained from the vote. Carried

Agenda Item XI: Board Priorities Discussion

- I. Administration (Covered earlier in meeting)
- II. Clean Water. Discussed buoys and low water issues. Hilber discussed development of a Lake Management Plan. Herrmann reviewed contact with Dr. Daniel McEwen with Limnopro Aquatic Science, Inc., St. Cloud, Minnesota. They provide lake management plan services. Herrmann will have more detail for our January meeting. Hilber requested the Lake Management Committee to review with Herrmann taking the lead. Hilber reminded the Board that we will need at least 2-3 bids for services such as a lake management plan.

Herrmann discussed that Mud Lake has an extremely high load of phosphorous. Mud Lake is part of the watershed feeding into Lida Herrmann recommended we work with the County through One Watershed-One Plan to manage the runoff. Herrmann volunteered to reach out to Aaron Nelson. Both Weckwerth and Poss volunteered to assist. The matter was passed on to the Lake Management Committee.

- III. Recreation. Navigation was discussed. Hilber questioned areas in need of buoys where there is concern. Board would like input from Property Owners. State Park area and toward the end of Rothsey Bar. Graftaas shared that Pelican hires to place buoys on their lake. Braton reminded the board that buoys have to be permitted through the County Sheriff's office. Braton also provided an update on MN DOT upgrades to Highway 108 regarding the channel between North and South Lida, crosswalk indicators at Ohana Beach. The board has noticed two new speed signs likely installed by the Ohana land owner. Regarding speed signs the previous lake association paid for new batteries. Braton asked to find out who is now responsible for signs and will check with County and Township. Hilber suggested forming a plan to address buoys and referred the issue to the Lake Management Committee.

A question came up regarding the upcoming ice fishing season. The discussion centered around the garbage, human waste and other debris left behind. A question came up regarding the Ice Hole Bar and who regulates having a bar and responsibility. Braton agreed to check out regulation and Hillbillies plans for having the Ice Hole Bar. It was also stated the Conservation Officer has responsibilities to check the lake during ice fishing season.

- IV. Aquatic Invasive Species. Hilber and Steve Henry reviewed lake surveys of the past and recommendations for the next season. He suggested concentrate on surveying in areas the board sees as a concern and possibly go back and survey the areas we initially surveyed five years. That was most of South Lida. Steve sent the Board a proposal to cover South Lida at a cost of under \$3000.00. Hilber recommends doing the entire lake again not just the treated areas of South Lida. No decision is necessary at this time. Graftaas discussed North Lida surveying. The board indicated surveying all South Lida and treatment of Bagley Bay on

North Lida. The issue was deferred to the Lake Management Committee for recommendation. Henry feels we have a solid mapping of the needed area of treatment of Bagley Bay. Hilber stated to goal is to have a recommendation by the Lake Management Committee.

Hilber asked Henry to discuss alternative methods to control invasive species. Cutting seems to spread growth through mechanical harvesting. Another option is scuba divers which is expensive and hasn't been used for Curley Leaf Pond. Henry recommends the LLID to continue looking at alternatives but chemical treatment still is recommended treatment. Hilber stated our vendor Clarke, uses GPS controlled application and a weighted liquid method of treatment to limit drift. They also run a 3D imaging scan while doing treatment for date collection.

Henry discussed zebra mussels. It seems Lida had a greater number of zebra mussels this year but they appear to be small. He reviewed what the DNR is looking at to control zebra mussel. He stated it appears the impact of zebra mussel has stabilized. He added they looked at low dose copper sulfate treatment. White Fish and Minnetonka Lakes are under study using copper sulfate for zebra mussel control.

Henry brought up the growth of toy sheds that are being built near the lakes and how much water absorption is being removed and runoff created.

Mike Spangler discussed stocking fingerlings. He has discussed fall stocking with Jim Wolters of the DNR. The fingerlings he discussed were 6-inch walleyes if available.

Motion moved forward with the expenditure of \$5000.00 for stocking fingerlings as recommended by the Fish Committee. Herrmann made the motion, Poss seconded. Vote was 6-1 in favor with Weckwerth against. Motion Carried

Braton made the motion and Spangler seconded approval to pay supplier of fingerlings of up to \$5000 upon competition of stocking. Vote was 6-1 with Weckwerth

Agenda Item XII: Lake Management

Henry's report is attached to the minutes.

Agenda Item XIII: Communications

Discussed others interested in Communications Committee. Katie Gaul (Bultman) was recommended and will be contacted. Zach reviewed mailings to property owners. Hilber reviewed requirement of mailing for annual meeting and doing a mailing after the first of the year to communicate to owners. A second mailing will be done after the January meeting reviewing issues and asking property owners to consider serving on the board or on committees. Discussed survey and ways to communicate to members to fill out survey. Hilber discussed building an email database. The board discussed having a tool on the website to gather email addresses but reviewed security matters. Braton will develop an email that beach captains can use to fill out survey and forward it to their beach property owners. Graftaas will look into technology options to gather information. Most beaches use emails as a means

to contact property owners. The Communications will review the matter and have a recommendation at the next meeting. Bob Nielson recommended pushing people to use the web page through the mailing and build audience.

Agenda Item XIV: Committee Assignments

Graftaas reviewed his assignment as Vice Chair and need to have someone else take the lead on Communications. Poss and Braton will stay with Communications and Graftaas will assist in transition. Neilson volunteered to serve on the Lake Management Committee. Twyla Neilson volunteered to serve on Communications Committee. Herrmann, Graftaas and Weckwerth are Board Members assigned to the Lake Management Committee. A separate committee for Survey and Treatment Committee was discussed. Herrmann recommended following our budget categories to develop committees. Hilber and Spangler will be on the Survey and Treatment Committee. Further details on Committee assignments will be discussed at the January meeting.

Other Announcements

Braton reviewed the bike trail costs and timeline. The County received an estimated \$9 million from State grants. The County is expected to have a cost of \$3-\$4 million for the new trails. Braton indicated snowmobiles may be allowed to use those trails. The County should be announcing details in the near future.

XV. Next Meeting Date

- January Board Meeting: Saturday, January 21, 2023 9 AM (note time change)
- April Board Meeting: Saturday, April 22, 2023 9 AM

XVI. Adjournment: 12:50 PM