

BLCA BOARD MINUTES February 10, 2024

Present: Shelly Alger-Peyton, President
Tom Nordin, Vice-President
Robin Uchanski, Treasurer
Adele Munsterman, Secretary

Bre Bauerly
Lynn Miller
Roger Miller
Rosalie Musachio
Brad Thom
Ruth Thom

Absent: Brad Kipp, Margy Macauley

Guests: Tim Lentner, Dave Maiers, Walt Munsterman, Scott Reuter, Dave Vokelman, Renee Vokelman, Richard Vosika

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 A.M.

Motion to adopt the agenda, as revised: Brad Thom, Motion seconded and passed

Motion to approve the minutes from the January, 2023 meeting: Roger Miller, Second: Brad Thom; Motion passed

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Robin Uchanski presented the February financial report.

Motion to accept the financial report, as submitted: Rosalie Musachio; Second: Brad Thom; Motion passed

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: There is a new on-line form for membership renewal for 2024, using PayPal. It may be found at:

blca@briggslakechainassociation.com

A BLCA Membership sign to post on your garage will be sent, once payment is received.

Social Media: 4200 people are registered on the BLCA Facebook site. Reminder: Those who wish to advertise on the BLCA site must be paid members.

Newsletter: You do not have to be a paid member to receive the monthly BLCA newsletter.

BLCA Website: Bre Bauerly has updated the events calendar. If anyone has ideas for links they would like to see on the site, please send them to President Shelly. The membership renewal form has been posted on the website.

Palmer Directory: Roger Miller reported that letters will be sent to advertisers in a few days, seeking renewal for 2024. Dave Maiers will help with the directory, and two people have volunteered to do the proofreading before it goes to print.

Sunshine Chair: Please send an email message to Adele Munsterman if a card needs to be sent to a lake resident in the case of illness or a death in the family.

TLID: Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Palmer Town Hall, and they are open to anyone to attend. A person has been found to fill Stacy's position until the end of her term.

COLA: A grant application for \$2,000 has been submitted to the Sherburne County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD).

The SWCD is offering free rain barrels this spring. Let Scott Reuter know if you would like one.

Water Testing: Walt Munsterman will present the 2023 lab results of water testing on the four lakes at the February Palmer Town Board meeting.

Healthy Lakes: On Mothers' Day weekend (May 4), the BLCA will distribute 50 free trees/shrubs to interested members, on a first-come, first-served basis. The application form will be posted on the BLCA website this spring. Funds for this will come from our Plant Bank.

Two Inlets Regional Park (Big Elk): Tom Nordin announced the Open House event scheduled for Saturday, February 24, at the new park, located at County. Road 16 and 104th Ave. A Federal grant has been received that will allow work on the park to continue over time: clearing, planting, trash removal. The goal is for there to be only natural vegetation. No horses, camping, or boat launches will be allowed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Road-side clean-up along Highway 25 has begun. Brad and Ruth Thom are heading this up. Meet by the B & J Tree Farm sign at 1:00 P.M. (before the Super Bowl) to complete the job.

Shelly Alger-Peyton has washed the reflective vests used for the highway clean-up and will label them with "BLCA."

There was discussion of weed skimmers and the cost to purchase them. No action was taken.

Keep It Clean materials will be made available to BLCA members.

Water Guards are the college students who do inspections of incoming boats at the launches, beginning Opening Fishing Weekend. The DNR pays for 200-250 hours of inspections, and the TLID pays for 200 hours. The salary for this work will be increased to \$27.75/hour in 2024. A motion was made and seconded to approve an expenditure of \$2775 from BLCA funds to pay for the additional 100 hours of inspections, to be divided equally among the four lakes. Motion passed.

New signs are up at the four boat landings, with information about the new lake littering law that is now in effect. They have a QR code and are reflective.

There was some discussion of where the Port-a-Potties at the boat landings should be located. It was clarified that the Palmer Township pays for the dumpsters at the Briggs Lake and Lake Julia accesses.

UPCOMING EVENTS;

Saturday, February 10, 2024 Ice Day on the Chain has been canceled due to the warm weather and unstable condition of the lake ice.

McDonald's Meats: The BLCA will submit a form to secure a date in the summer for this annual fund-raiser. Needed are a chairperson and volunteers to work (4 per shift) at the newly renovated site in Clear Lake. Watch for further information!

Saturday, April 13, 10:00 A.M. BLCA-sponsored speaker

Steve McComis, an expert on the topic of algae, will present information about Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Come for coffee and cookies, following the BLCA Board meeting at 8:30. The presentation will be recorded and livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person. People from the other 8 associations that are members of the Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA) will also be invited to attend this event.

PLM, the company that sprays our lakes for weeds, will also be here to talk about the new chemicals that will be used this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted, Adele Munsterman, BLCA Secretary