

BLCA BOARD MINUTES MARCH 9, 2024

Present Tom Nordin, Vice-President:

Robin Uchanski, Treasurer

Adele Munsterman, Secretary

Bre Bauerley

Brad Kipp

Lynn Miller

Roger Miller

Absent: Shelly Alger-Peyton, Margy

McCauley, Brad Thom, Ruth Thom

Dave Maiers

Rosalie Musachio

Guests: Tim Becker, Richard Kruse, Cheryl Minichilli, Walt Munsterman, Scott Ruitter

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M. by BLCA Vice-President Tom Nordin. Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

A reminder was given that only Board members may make or second a motion, and vote during a meeting. Anyone in attendance may add to the discussion of agenda items.

Motion to approve the minutes from the February, 2024 meeting:

Rosalie Musachio, Second: Roger Miller; Motion passed

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer Robin Uchanski presented the March financial report.

A motion was made by Brad Kipp for the BLCA to send a \$200 membership donation to MN Lakes and Rivers, as was done last year. Second: Rosalie Musachio; Motion passed.

Motion to accept the financial report, as submitted: Roger Miller; Second: Rosalie Musachio; Motion passed

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: BLCA membership payments are coming in. They may be mailed, along with a check. There is also a new on-line form for membership renewal for 2024 (PayPal) that may be found at:

blca@briggslakechainassociation.com

Social Media: Facebook – No report; Web site: Bre Bauerly continues to update it.

Communications: Brad Kipp is experimenting with a new format for the BLCA newsletter. He shared the idea of compiling some of the “Remember when . . . “ stories into a book that could be published and sold. No action taken.

Palmer Directory: Roger Miller reported that all previous advertisers had been contacted, and that they had been given a March 24 deadline to renew/submit their ads.

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

TLID: There was discussion of using a weed skimmer on our lakes, possibly for a trial period during the summer of 2024 or 2025, with funding/sponsorship from the BLCA’s AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) monies . Bre Bauerly reported that the price would be \$4500 for a one-mile stretch. No action taken.

COLA: Scott Ruiter is awaiting the approval of a grant application sent to the SWCD (Sherburne County Soil & Water Conservation District).

The COLA will donate \$200 to help defray the cost of the educational program scheduled after the April 13th BLCA meeting. Steve McComas & PLM Lake Management, will make presentations about invasive water species (AIS). Refreshments will be served.

Brad Kipp was able to preview the report recently sent out by PLM Lake Management.

Shelly Alger-Peyton will pick up the new “Trash Rules on the Lakes” signs this coming week.

Healthy Lakes: Bre Bauerly, Naomi Kimball and Ruth Thom will oversee the applications that come in for the MN Lakes and Rivers Lake Stewardship Program.

An order for 50 Best Practices booklets (30 pages, \$5 each) was approved and has been placed. Once received, they will be made available to paid BLCA members on a first-come, first-served basis.

The first 50 current BLCA members who request a free tree and shrub will be eligible to receive one of each, on or after May 4. The BLCA Plant Bank fund will pay the \$225 cost of the project.

Water Testing: Walt Munsterman announced that water testing on the 4 lakes would begin in May.

Big Elk Park: Rosalie Musachio attended the most recent meeting of the Two Inlets Park committee, held at the Sherburne County Government Center in Elk River. She shared some details of the discussion: There will be hard-surface hiking and biking trails. Application will be made to designate the area as a Heritage Site. Work is being done on the logo and signage. There will be prairie, oak savannah and wetlands areas.

OLD BUSINESS:

Highway 25 clean up was done by a group of volunteer BLCA members on Superbowl Sunday, who completed the task in only 90 minutes.

An application has been submitted to secure a date for the annual McDonald’s Pork Chop/Brat Sale. A chairperson will be needed to coordinate several shifts and volunteers for each.

Shelly Alger-Peyton is assembling Welcome Walker packets for new area residents. These will need to be distributed by Board members.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was discussion of putting garbage cans or dumpsters at all 4 lakes' boat landings. Presently, Rush and Elk lakes do not have either, due to previous misuse/abuse. Dave Maiers volunteered to follow-up with Shelly, the DNR and Palmer Township regarding rules and possibilities.

Brad Kipp will send Email notifications to lake residents to inform them of High-Water Alerts. Steve Demeules will continue to do water level measuring, when needed. Scott Ruiter will post and remove High-Water signs, as necessary.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 12: Palmer Township Board Election

April 13: Presentations by Steve McComas and PLM Lake Management, Palmer Town Hall, 10:00 A.M.

May 9-12: BLCA Spring Garage Sales (Thursday - Sunday)

May 11: Minnesota Fishing Opener

May 18: Annual Palmer Clean-up Day, 7:00 A.M. - Noon

This is the time to get rid of old junk!

July 6: Annual BLCA Boat Parade, Noon

Line up at 11:30 A.M. on Briggs and Elk lakes.

July 6: Independence Day Fireworks Display, 9:00 P.M. (Dusk)

Briggs Lake

August 5: National Night Out, Neighborhood Watch Picnics

September 7: Palmer Day

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

March 11, 7:00 P.M., Palmer Township Board, (Town Hall)

March 19, 7:00 P.M., Clear Lake Township Board

April 1, 6:00 P.M., Lake LID Meeting

April 4, 6:30 P.M., Healthy Lakes

April 13, 8:30 A.M., BLCA Board Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adele Munsterman, BLCA Secretary