

Bob has also completed paperwork on grants for 2025. Bob will attend the Healthy Lakes Meeting on Thursday to discuss the results of the Stantec Alum Feasibility Study and our next steps forward. We all agreed that the large carp population should be addressed first.

Vice Chair - Doug mentioned he'd like to learn more about the rising costs of surveys and if they are all necessary as brought up by Nancy. As we look forward to budgeting to prepare for the annual meeting in August we will take a closer look at what surveys are needed.

Secretary - nothing to report.

Treasurer - Barb A mentioned that the names attached to our bank account have been updated. Currently Barb A, Bob and Scott are on the account.

Old Business:

Watershed Plan 2024: Scott reported there will be a final public hearing at 11 am at the Sherburne county history center in Becker on Thursday December 5th. Scott will be attending.

Alum Feasibility Study: Healthy Lakes hosted a review of the Stantec report last month. Briggs had the highest level of phosphorus release, this is in the deepest areas of the lake. Stantec recommends treating the 122 acres of the lake that are 20 feet or deeper with an alum treatment that would bind the phosphorus and make it unavailable to algae.

Carp Study - anything over 89 lbs per acre is above the ecological threshold for common carp. Our lakes have 4-5 times that number, with Julia and Rush having the highest load.

Stantec recommends to treat Briggs with Alum and remove/manage carp in all three lakes, especially Julia and Rush. We should continue watershed reduction actions for all three lakes and seek grant funding to cover cost.

New Business:

James Johnson Zoom Meeting: James Johnson joined us over zoom to go over the most recent Point Intercept Survey for Lake Julia and to also show some comparisons to the one that was done 5 years ago in 2019. A point intercept survey is like physical exam of a lake. The survey of Lake Julia incorporated assessments at a total of 106 sample points arranged in a uniform grid. At each designated sample location, they collected plants using a double-sided rake on a rope. Retrieved plants were piled on top of a rake head and assigned density scores from 1 to 4 based upon rake head coverage. The data is then compiled and a summary of findings was created. Chara (muskgrass) is the dominant plant in Lake Julia. This hasn't changed significantly in five years. The only invasive non-native weed found was Curly-pondweed. James also does delineation surveys of all three lakes in the early spring which is required by the DNR for

spraying of curly-pondweed. Curly-pondweed is treated early to protect native plants. Briggs Lake point intercept survey is scheduled for 2025 then we'll have two years off until the five year cycle repeats. Having this data alerts us to any significant changes in the lakes. We talked with James a bit about his opinion on the Stantec report and the impact of the large amount of carp in our lakes and also the use of Alum in Briggs. James thought that the removal of carp could make a difference in the water clarity in both of the shallow lakes (Julia and Rush). He reminded us of the fact that if we clear up the water too much in these two shallow lakes they native weeds will flourish and could take over the whole lake. Using Alum on Briggs will be a huge expense and we should make sure we are controlling the phosphorus loading to lengthen the life of the alum treatments. Doug questioned if Alum treatments are working, James responded that dosing has changed in the last 20 year so that treatments have become very successful if the conditions are right. We certainly thank James for his sharing his vast knowledge and for the time he took with us explaining the survey results and answering our many questions.

New Board Member Candidates: At this point we have no candidates for our open position. We will all keep working on asking TLID members who might be interested to consider joining the board.

Review of BLCA and TLID responsibilities : Bob sent out an updated list which was review. We all agreed that this format was much easier to read.

Representatives for the Township Meeting: Barb A mentioned that we should have a rep. at all Palmer Township meetings. Nancy and Barb A agreed to take this on, one of them will be there to report on TLID activities.

Other: nothing.

We adjourned at 7:20 PM