

**Deer Lake Watershed Association
Board of Directors Meeting**

**February 3, 2025 6:00 p.m.
Carpenter Town Hall, Togo MN**

Our Mission: *"To protect, maintain and improve the natural resources of the Deer Lake Watershed for current and future generations"*

Board members attending in person: Bruce Steege, Andy Gregorich, Sara Gregorich, Vaughn Duitsman, Gail Blackmer.

Attending through on-line connection: Bob Gibbons, Travis Mangan

Absent with notification: Galen Vorland

President Bruce S. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The agenda was reviewed and approved on a motion by Vaughn, seconded by Andy.

Treasurer's report – Vaughn provided Treasurer's report listing account balances in the various funds as of 2/3/2025:

DLWA General Checking Account - \$4,457.38

DLWA Continuous Flow Fund - \$7,364.32

DLWA Water Protection Fund - \$971.14

Total in all DLWA accounts - \$12,792.84

CCC Camp Historical Preservation Fund - \$570.66

Vaughn noted activity since December 2 of income from 6 membership renewals and donations of \$120 to the general fund. Gail moved to accept the treasurer's report for filing, seconded by Andy.

Secretary's report – Gail had sent minutes from the December 2nd regular meeting to board members and a copy was available at this meeting. Upon review, Sara moved, Vaughn seconded to approve the minutes as corrected for filing.

OLD BUSINESS

Newsletter – Discussion - Sara is collecting submissions for a newsletter, she needs more articles to include. Discussion on topics and how best to transmit to Sara.

Conditions at Deer Lake outlet – Streams and creeks are iced over so there was no report of flowage observations. Andy reports that there is plenty of ice on the lakes he has fished, with the south end of Deer measuring 30+ inches of ice.

Lake Stewards – Galen had sent a brief update of thoughts on the Lake Stewardship program which several watershed associations throughout the state have embarked on. Basically the program involves landowners taking care to keep their shorelines natural or restore shorelines to a condition that allows habitat for fish and wildlife, and measures to prevent runoff of

phosphorus and other pollutants into the water. We recognize that implementing a program requires buy-in from most landowners and maybe changing concepts of what people want their shorelines to look like. This will continue to be an agenda item.

Apparel – Discussion on logo apparel and what it would take to make available for members to purchase, possibilities discussed included on-line store, shipping costs, payment methods, etc. As there has been interest shown and the board has approved an amount to be spent on sample clothing, this will continue to be an agenda item.

Highway clean-up – Scheduled for May 3, 2025, depending on weather conditions at that time. Volunteers will be needed to pick up litter on Highway #1.

Other

- The membership forms and letters soliciting membership renewal were reviewed, and updates were suggested. Bruce will send the forms to Sara to update.
- “Ice out” contest discussed – this popular activity was discussed, a coordinator would be needed, Bruce will check if Mark is willing to do this again.
- Discussion held on maintaining the property and interest in the historical CCC Camp which is a separately funded community project, but appreciated by many, including visitors. Bruce has voluntarily been mowing some trails and roadside within the area. Photos with descriptions need regular maintenance or replacement. Board members expressed appreciation and support towards renewed effort to keep the history and public use available.

Adjourn – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m. on a motion by Sara, seconded by Andy.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, **April 7, 2025**

Minutes submitted by Gail Blackmer, Secretary