

**Deer Lake Watershed Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
June 3, 2023**

The meeting was held at the Carpenter Town Hall. Prior to the business meeting a potluck dinner was enjoyed by board members and guests. Board members attending: Vaughn Duitsman, Todd Reynolds, Jim Clarke, Bruce Steege, Gail Blackmer, Travis Mangan, and alternate members Jim Kush and Bob Gibbons.

Guests present : Cheryl Steege, Joyce Clarke, Lisa and TJ Mangan, Gloria Kush, Marilyn Gibbons, and Nadya Duitsman.

President Bruce S. called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. The agenda was approved on a motion by Jim C. and seconded by Todd.

**Treasurer's** report given by Vaughn Duitsman. Vaughn's prepared report included the following information:

DLWA General Checking Account \$ 6959.78	
DLWA Continuous Flow Fund \$ 5529.23	
DLWA Water Protection Fund \$ 950.10	<u>Total in all DLWA accounts \$ 13,439.11</u>
CCC Camp Historical Preservation Fund \$ 567.39	

Since the last meeting in March:

Income: has come from a \$300 grant to the Water Protection Fund, from Carpenter Township, \$370 in other donation, \$985 in membership dues, including a lifetime membership from Pat and Tammy Doyle.

The Ice-Out contest net income was \$430

Expenses: \$1590 paid out to the trappers for beaver control, \$970 was paid to West Bend Insurance.

Water Testing \$610

Newsletter Mailing \$55.77

Vaughn noted that he would be transferring eight dollars per DLWA member from the General Fund to the Continuous Flow Fund to be used for beaver control. Treasurer's report accepted on a motion by Jim C., seconded by Travis.

**Secretary's** report given by Gail Blackmer. Minutes from the March 20, 2023 meeting were approved for filing on a motion by Vaughn, seconded by Todd.

**Membership report** – Bruce has been getting renewals at the Post Office box, and cross referencing the membership list to keep it up to date. Renewal requests are being sent out.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Creek conditions** – it has been noted that water levels are going down from spring conditions, but the creek is running well at the rock dam. Members of the continuous flow committee made a trip down the creek and noted that there will be a need to go to the creek from the road on #525 to remove bog and debris. We will be seeking volunteers to help with the work involved with keeping the creek flowing throughout the summer.

**Highway #1 Clean-Up** – Gail reported that the annual event took place in May, thanks to the volunteers who came out to help.

**Flotilla** – plans for the annual fourth of July Flotilla were discussed. We decided to go ahead with buying and preparing hot dogs, beverages, and ice cream to provide to flotilla participants. All members are welcome to come to Hideaway Resort by boat or car for fellowship following the completion of the boat parade. Assignments were made for getting the refreshments ordered and ready.

**Apparel** – Bruce provided information on a possible vendor in the Duluth area for consideration if we decide to promote DLWA logo shirts or hats.

**Annual Meeting** – This will be held at the Carpenter Town Hall the first Saturday of August. We decided to return to a potluck dinner for participants prior to the business meeting, with members bringing food and the board providing beverages and utensils. Board elections were discussed, Bruce canvassed members as to their decision to seek another two-year term on the board. Board seats held by Vaughn, Travis, Gail are expiring. These members indicate they will be on a ballot for another term. Jim Clarke will be retiring from the board, Mark Smith also may choose to retire. The board can have up to nine members, per bylaws. Bruce will prepare a ballot for the annual meeting and will be making it known we are seeking nominations for board positions.

Bob Gibbons and Jim Kush are nominated to be on a ballot for alternate members. The board thanks Jim Clarke for his time and contribution to the governing board.

**Water Protection Fund** – Water Sampling – the volunteer committee performed water sample collection on May 23. Additional samples on the three lakes will continue. If Popple, Pickerel, and Five Island are done next year, that puts most sampled lakes on a two-year schedule which should be good for comparisons. We discussed that the SWCD may have plans to test some of the lakes in our watershed. Jim Kush volunteers to take Secchi disc readings on Pickerel Lake.

Discussion held on interpreting results of our testing procedures. We would like to know what the data means, comparative values, and how to document it through graphs or narrative. We need to identify resources that can help do this. It was suggested that RMB Labs might be able to return useful information to us, or Matt Gutzman from SWDC. Travis offered help with graphing of data.

#### OTHER DISCUSSION

Gail brought up concern that the currently is not a Porta Potty at the public access and sanitation issues are a problem for nearby cabin owners. DNR furnishing a toilet unit unknown.

Todd brought up a concern that the Sunfish limit is 20 in possession. He encouraged conservation as a mindset against taking too many fish as that depletes the future resource. Realizing that changes to DNR regulations take a long time and is a political process, Todd was appointed as our spokesperson to Dave Weitzel, who has management over fisheries in our area. We also considered revisiting the booklets that have been prepared for hand out to resorts and individuals with information on our lakes, AIS procedures and contaminated lakes, as well as suggestions for ethical management of our fish and environment.

There being no further business, Jim moved to adjourn, seconded by Todd, at 7:40 p.m  
Minutes by Gail Blackmer