

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

**December 8, 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, Gail Blackmer, Galen Vorland, Chuck Botzet,

Members attending via on line connection: Bob Gibbons, Travis Mangan, Cole Gregorich

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

**Treasurer's report** – Vaughn had sent a Treasurer's report listing account balances in the various funds as of 12/08/25:

DLWA General Checking Account - \$2,520.88

DLWA Continuous Flow Fund - \$6,184.54

DLWA Water Protection Fund - \$1,188.63

Total in all DLWA accounts - \$9,894.05

CCC Camp Historical Preservation Fund - \$596.97

It was noted that the General Checking Account had expenditures of \$1125.00 for water testing at RMB Labs, an insurance premium payment, and \$417.68 to renew the web site for three years. No income received in the past two months. Andy moved to accept the treasurer's report for filing, seconded by Galen.

**Secretary's report** – Gail had sent minutes from the October regular meeting for review. Minutes were accepted as sent on a motion by Sara, seconded by Chuck.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**AIS** – Continue to keep discussion on Aquatic Invasive Species on the agenda, as it remains a potential threat to DLWA, surrounding watersheds, and specific lakes. Lakes both to the north and south of us have been determined to be infected. Sara has been researching informational messages that we can communicate through our regular methods, such as newsletters and meeting discussions. Basically the practice of cleaning, draining, drying watercraft and equipment needs to continue to be reinforced. One idea was to add another banner to our roadside sign on CR533 with wording to the effect of " Our lakes are clean, Keep it that way!" Bruce discussed some grant opportunities through MLR for AIS prevention; Gail reviewed efforts being done through the ICOLA organization and that there may be CAP grant funding for signage or decontamination tools that other lake associations are placing at lake access areas.

**Newsletter** – Discussion on the annual newsletter to be prepared this winter - some ideas for articles could include the Bigfork River Watershed Plan which is in process of being prepared,

more AIS information, or results of the water sampling and testing that was done this past summer. We would like to get an article from most board members on a topic of interest, Sara will coordinate the composition of the newsletter. Suggested dates are to get pieces to Sara by January 15.

**Welcome Committee** – We remain interested in getting a packet of information on DLWA to introduce new residents to the area and to the mission of our watershed association. The Itasca County land parcel information site has names of landowners that are publicly available as a resource to approach new residents. The Lake Steward Program is another topic to include in a welcome packet. We will continue discussing ways to include new people to the organization.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Filing with Secretary of State** – Gail reported that the required annual status filing of any business or organization within the State of Minnesota has been completed.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m. on a motion by Sara , seconded by Andy. Next meeting is set for February 2, 2026.

Minutes submitted by Gail Blackmer, Secretary