

WATERVILLE LAKES ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

SATURDAY, April 29, 2023, at 9:00

Waterville Event Center

MINUTES

Meeting opened at 9:33am

- Meeting was put on hold at 10:00am to be finished after the WLA Annual Meeting

Old Business

- Vacant board member positions - Secretary
 - Deon Ford will assume Secretary, but since she lives out of town, Chrissy will assist in managing the mail
 - Tim Labs will assume board member at-large
 - Motion to accept was made and seconded, motion carried
- Comedy Night
 - Very successful event, net profit was \$1,485
 - Net was \$720 more than last year, probably due to price increase
 - Merch sales \$550, cost was \$713
 - Still need \$163 to break even
- 2023 WLA Membership Letter
 - Letters were sent out earlier this year
 - Board liked how events were listed on the letter
- Donation Envelopes
 - Donation envelopes are now made to accept donations at Bingo
 - Chrissy will talk to Lions Club staff so they know where to give donations
 - Will have donation envelopes at all events to accept donations
- Pontoberfest 2023
 - Waterville Public Beach
 - Saturday, August 19th, 2:00pm-6:00pm
 - Still need to confirm with City Council
 - Alcohol is not allowed at public parks, so we need to self-monitor.
- Lions Club Donation for Weed Control
 - 50 acres - \$9,000
 - We need to delineate to spend \$500
 - Eric got 3 bids for this year's Grant funding
 - Lakescapes (Corey) is lowest price at \$260/acre
 - This is up from last year's price of \$240
 - Cost for 50 acres is \$13,000
 - Motion to accept was made and seconded, motion carried
- Boat inspector
 - County will contract to provide same amount of inspectors as in the past
 - City does not have running water to clean boats with

- DNR has portable decontamination units but water must be 120 degrees and include pads to catch water – Not a viable option for us at this time
- Pete will try to provide Tim (City Council) info on outdoor wash bays if he has it

Treasurer's Report –

- Expenses
 - Chamber of Commerce dues:
 - COLA (Coalition of Lakes Association) dues: \$50
 - Eric will send out info on COLA's next meeting
 - Minnesota Waters: \$200
 - Minnesota Lakes and Rivers dues: \$150
 - Post office annual fee: \$70
 - Bullhead Days: \$100
 - Motion to pay all was made and seconded, motion carried

New Business

- Bingo Coordinator - Deon Ford
- Bids for weed treatment
 - We have 3 bids for this year's Grant funding
 - Lakescapes (Corey) is lowest price at \$260/acre
 - This is up from last year's price of \$240
- City of Waterville Lake Management Planning Committee
 - Not discussed
- Speakers for Spring meeting
 - Austin Bachman Le Sueur County Sheriff's Water Patrol Officer
 - Mike Shultz Le Sueur County Soil & Water Conservation District Director
 - Logan Sendal owner of Lakeshore Potential
- Information table Waterville summer events
 - Bullhead days does not provide much value to WLA
 - Hot Summer Nights
 - Adrea, Jeanne and Deon volunteered to staff table
 - Will include WLA merchandise and Bingo volunteers sign-up
- Comedy Show
 - See Treasurer's Report for income information
 - Next year we should sell tickets for dessert as people enter the door
- Committee to create boat landing billboard
 - Not discussed
- Donation envelopes
 - See update under old business
- Send membership letters to new lakeshore owners
 - Jeff from LeSeuer County can print out every owner on the lake
 - Next year send mailing to existing members plus all residents of Waterville
 - We will evaluate cost of mailing to see if it is worth the money
 - Is there a way we can get new owner's information
 - Perhaps from a realtor's group?
 - Advertising
 - Roy will talk to Jay to get information to newspaper as things come up
 - Email events and information to Roy
 - Partnerships
 - Is there history or interest in building relationships
 - Sportman's Club

- The Fish Hatchery
- Website/Facebook
 - Would like to add website links to videos from Clean River Partners, Rice County Soil & Water Conservation District, etc
- Jeanne maintains our website
- Andrea maintains Facebook
 - We have around 500 followers, 323 are new
- The Future of Southern Minnesota Lakes 2023 Conference
 - Saturday, April 22, 2023
 - Email was sent out to WLA members
 - Eric attended
- Weed removal
 - Does anyone know of any farmers who will take our lake weeds
 - Tim will talk to the County to see if there is any help they can give us
 - We as a board should set priorities for what we can do for our lakeshore owners
 - Brainstorm Ideas
 - Lakeshore Potential – Logan Sendle may know of options
 - Perhaps pay his company to haul away weeds
 - A dumpster
 - Can the City Council or County Commissioner ask other areas what they do with their weeds
 - Tim and Roy will follow-up
- Non-profit status
 - Jeanne got non-profit mailing so we send to all residents on Sakata and Tetonka and all businesses in this area. This should help improve memberships.
- American Solutions for Businesses \$435.95 – Frandsen Bank donated printouts

Meeting adjourned at 11:59am



Waterville Lakes Association

Saturday, April 29, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Waterville Event Center

Public Meeting

MINUTES

Meeting opened at 10:02am

Guest Speakers

- **Le Sueur County Sheriff's Water Patrol Officer – Jim Staupé**
 - In charge of water patrol on larger lakes in the county
 - On water Thurs – Sun plus holidays until 9pm
 - Hunting is allowed a certain distance allowed from dwellings per state statute
 - Wake boats - personal watercraft must stay 50' feet from shore, nothing specific to wake boats, or is it 200' from shore? Ballasts should be drained before leaving lakes.
 - Call Sheriff's office to report violations
 - Phone number (507) 357-4440
 - Sheriff's goal is to keep the lakes safe
 - Notifications of no wake or other info put out by the Sheriff's office are on the WLA Facebook page
 - Jet ski hours of operations
 - 9:00am – sunset
 - Can signs be put up at the ramp posting hours?
 - All buoys are out on lake
 - Currently working on making buoys sit better in the water
 - Addressed trees and other hazards on lakes that need to be addressed

- **Le Sueur County Soil & Water Conservation District Director - Mike Shultz**
 - Highlighted some of the water quality improvement projects that the County has done and areas where projects could be done in our watershed
 - Waterville Flood Study (funded with federal \$\$)
 - 2 years ago received grant to address flooding in the city and the "One Watershed, One Plan" project process
 - Doing a study of the Cannon River for to address peak flows and water storage
 - Last year was informed the project was approved for two years, but the Grant was only for one year (\$500k)
 - The bill to extend did not get passed last year and will probably not pass this year
 - Our watershed is 130,000 acres, about 100 times the norm
 - Currently are looking for storage areas for water
 - Most grants from state are funded 75%/25%, we fund 25%
 - County board is looking for options to fund our part of the grants
 - Several projects are currently tabled pending ways to find funding partners
 - Still looking for projects in the watershed, but biggest issue is water storage.

- Le Suer County Drinking Water Testing
 - May 11, 2023
 - Cost is \$17
- Our watershed flush rate is 2 weeks
 - Larger watershed causes more water quality issues
 - Will take lots of work to improve our water quality, need land owners to build relationships for water storage
 - One project won't make a difference, but many projects will
 - We don't have any public ditches feeding lake directly, but they do via the Cannon River.
- There is a 50' Water Buffers on public waters
 - Not every site has one, there are lots of exemptions
 - The State rules public water, the County rules drainage ditches
 - All land owners have been notified and can be taxed if they are not in compliance
 - County board meeting minutes has this information
 - Ditches coming into the lake is a big focus of Soil & water projects.
- Projects take time and patience to make happen with land-owners
 - This job is based on relationship-building with land-owners
 - We have land-owner meetings that includes education & outreach
 - This helps, but is not enough, we need to keep moving forward
 - We now have funds coming through this region, this will help
- Joint work is done with other Counties in our Watershed
 - Meeting is the 1st Wednesday of every month
- What does our region cover?
 - Full cannon river watershed, from Redwing to this direction
 - Map can be found on website
- Currently working on developing a new website
- **Lakeshore Potential - Logan Sendal**
 - Lakeweed removal without chemicals
 - Can do up to 2,500 square feet
 - No harvester, manually cut the weeds with metal rakes and remove them
 - Cost is situational, about \$400 to \$750
 - Website: www.lakeshorepotential.com
 - Phone: (507) 384-8005
 - Normally start at the end of May or early June
 - Some customers request do it multiple times throughout the year
 - Lead time
 - Prefer to know as soon as possible for the year that you will want their service at some point
 - Permits are not required as long as weeds are not emergent
 - Also does landscaping

Report WLA Updates

- Weeds
 - Many members are frustrated with lack of place to put weeds
 - Board is looking at options
 - Board will look for farmers who will take weeds

- Merchandise
 - Mugs and decals
 - For sale at back of room and at events
 - Brady will personalize cups upon request
- Events
 - See membership letter for details
- Bingo Sign-up Genius
 - Every Wednesday at the Corner Bar
 - Emails will be sent every couple of weeks soliciting volunteers
 - Lions club donates \$75 per volunteer, three per night
 - Corner Bar donates one meal and two drinks per volunteer per night
- Thanks to new members, dues are \$30/year
- Pontoberfest
 - Aug 19th, 2-6pm
 - Will be a fun day at the Public Beach
 - Please help pass this information to those who may not be on social media
- Looking for members to be active on committees
- Partnerships
 - Sportsman's Club
 - Great spot to hold a party
 - See Facebook Page: Waterville Sportsman's Club
 - Call (507) 661-0004

Meeting adjourned at 11:13am

