

**BMLA Minutes**  
**June 9, 2022**  
**9:00 a.m., BMCC**

President Rich Halvorsen called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. He welcomed all the visitors and members present.

Board members present: Barb Fischer, Linda Zawacki, Brian Livingston, Rich Halvorsen, Julie Mickelberg

There were approximately 24 additional attendees.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Secretary Julie Mickelberg asked if there were any changes or questions. Minutes are posted on the website.

Motion to approve: Cindy Hemingway

2<sup>nd</sup>: Vicki Miller

Motion passed

**Treasurer's Report:**

Linda Zawacki thanked members for paying their dues for the 2022 calendar year. Asked that they remind other members, neighbors, friends and family that dues are due before June 1.

Linda reported that the General Fund/Loon Fund has a balance of \$14,744 with \$6,283 allocated as Loon Fund. Our AIS Fund has a balance of \$32,292. Our Cash in the bank is \$53,319 (includes a carryover of funds of \$21,027).

Also of interest is that 62 land owners have contributed to AIS, we have 32 paid BMLA members and approximately a total of 150 parcels on the lake with approximately 120 land owners.

Linda shared that we have a couple of fundraisers available. We are selling welcome flags, aprons, Harold Rice prints. Please take a look and if you are interested in any items, please contact Linda.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: Julie Mickelberg

2<sup>nd</sup>: Barb Fischer

Motion passed

**Committee Reports**

**AIS:** Brian Livingston is our AIS coordinator and handles coordinating funding for the public access inspector. Much of our AIS funding goes to supplement state and township funding for inspectors. At our launch, we have 10 hours of coverage every day from fishing opener to October 31<sup>st</sup>. The rate is \$22/hour. Inspectors check boats, trailers and watercraft for weeds,

plugs, and on-board water reservoirs. They also strive to educate boaters about the importance of keeping our water free from AIS.

57% of the boats entering BML are coming from infected lakes. It is essential to have inspectors but our AIS funding also serves to mitigate any issues that pop up. While Hubbard County and the DNR do have emergency response, our funding and availability of funding is KEY.

Additional things residents can do to help:

- Contribute to AIS BMLA fund
- Regulate lake toys, used docks, visitor boats, canoes, KAYAKS, etc.
- Encourage neighbors to become BMLA members
- Do NOT allow launches from private properties
- Inform VRBO neighbors to monitor all objects renters put in the water
- Inform BMLA of known VRBO or “renter” cabins (even when friends use properties)

BMLA and COLA have packets for resorts and VRBO type properties attempting to educate and inform owners on how to protect the lake.

Inspectors found one small, contained area with plants near the public access. Divers removed the plants and will recheck in late summer/early fall. Fall '19 was the first Eurasian Milfoil finding off the dock at the boat launch. One square mile was treated. Spring '21, not found. Fall '21, was discovered. DNR said hand pulling is effective and maybe best to have dive team go and pull from the bottom as long as it remains a small area.

EYES ON THE WATER is another key component in identifying issues early. Residents can snap a picture and send to Brian or Rich. They will send to Nicole at DNR/County Extension and get the photo identified.

**Welcome/New Resident Committee:** Linda showed the “Welcome Packets” we have for new residents and also showed the packets for resorts/rentals. All packets have AIS information in them. Hubbard County is working diligently on regulations and ordinances for VRBO/rentals.

**Flotilla:** The date for the 2022 Flotilla is **Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00**. We will be sending out more information closer to the event. Last year was a fun gathering and people are excited to decorate again this year! Watch your emails for details!

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Board Membership:** New board members were nominated and voted upon. Welcome to the board Craig Narr (nominated by Jason Livingston, 2<sup>nd</sup> Julie Mickelberg) and Andy Baldwin (nominated by Barb Fischer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Scott Persellin)! Both passed unanimously.

**Public Landing Hours:** 10 hours/day from fishing opening until October 31<sup>st</sup>

**BMLA Flag Fundraiser:** Addressed in Treasurer Report, for sale through Linda Z

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**COLA:** Burney Fischer is our COLA representative and shared that COLA meetings have moved to a hybrid version using in person and Zoom format. 31 lake associations participate and the new member associations seem to be lakes experiencing problems and issues. The COLA has two purposes. The first is facilitating cross communication and collaboration. The second is public outreach and education. They continue to support Restore the Shore with three large watershed projects. It will be about a year for their final report.

All members are welcome to attend the meetings and each meeting begins with an educational program starting at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are recorded and available on the website.

Burney is also our water clarity monitor. Lake clarity is late this year due to late ice out. As a lake, we have extensive data that shows our water clarity is getting BETTER! Reasons for this include changes in the septic regulations.

AIS shares information with COLA and they track and analyze new information and then communicates that data to all lake associations.

Leech Lake is the biggest lake to watch and the biggest threat to BML because of the fishing traffic between the two lakes.

**Annual Social Meeting:** Date is set for August 20. Watch for further details. If anyone is interested in hosting, please contact Julie Mickelberg

**Lake Safety:** If anyone has concerns about unsafe activity on the lake, the best course of action is to get license # and description. Call the DNR or Sherriff. Please share awareness of alcohol on the water and talk to guests and neighbors about being good stewards.

Meeting attendees introduced themselves and shared how long they have been on the lake and where they live on the lake and when they are not here! It was a great way to get to know your neighbors.

Rich Halvorsen reminded people to check our website often for valuable information. He also reminded people of our private Big Mantrap Lake Facebook Page. He also shared final plea to contribute to AIS and to renew memberships.

Motion to adjourn: Linda Zawacki  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Sue Ryan

Meeting adjourned