

## LWA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes July 27, 2024

Members present - 57

Meeting called to order at 10:05 am by President Ross Lindmeyer

### A. Old Business

- a. Introduction of LWA officers and board members
- b. Vote to approve minutes of 8/22/23 annual membership meeting – motion made by Tom Brinkman to approve minutes and seconded by Charlie McGlynn – motion carried
- c. Treasurer's Report – John Clausen shared the year-to-date financials – motion made by Ron Reich to accept treasurer's report and seconded by Dave Patterson – motion carried.

### B. Reports

- a. AIS Summary – Ross shared that Freshwater did a full lake survey on June 27<sup>th</sup> - they found 6 Eurasian Milfoil (EWM) plants in the East and North basins
  - i. We choose to have PLM pull these plants out by the roots this year (using their trained dive team) and then we will have Freshwater re-survey the area to make sure they got all the EWM plants. PLM will pull the plants in August – area is marked with a red round buoy – please stay away and out of the marked area. The cost for two lake surveys will be \$5,240 which will be paid for by grant monies and funding we receive from Cass County and Crooked Lake Township. The EWM treatment cost is \$1,500 which LWA will pay in full. There were no DNR grant funds available to us this year. Area lakes comparison for AIS: Roosevelt Lake has 40 acres of EWM to treat this year. Thunder Lake has zebra mussels and starry stonewort – no treatment available for these invasive species yet. Ruth Lake has EWM and Zebra mussels, Mary Lake has EWM and Emily Lake has EWM.
  - ii. LWA cost for inspector hours at the boat landing (estimated) \$4,275 and we anticipate CLT will cover half (\$2,137.50) for a total estimated cost to LWA of \$2,137.50. LWA approved the purchase of 150 additional inspector hours for the boat landing. – included in above estimated cost.
  - iii. A new LANDA Decontamination (decon) unit was purchased in 2024 by Cass County. This decon unit is owned by Cass County and housed and maintained by CLT. The CLT boat decon unit is on Roosevelt Lake at the public boat launch off Hwy 6 most weekends. LWA requested the decon unit to be at our boat landing the weekend of July 4<sup>th</sup> this year. Twelve boats were decontaminated while at the Campground/public boat landing.

We are working with Steve Henry at Cass County to get signage for where the decon unit is located, need to work with MN DOT also due to Hwy 6 location most weekends. The hours and locations of decontamination stations is supposed to be on the DNR website. We will also probably be working with RALALA and CLT lakes and shores committee to get signage for the decon unit.

- b. Membership Update – Glen Goodwin reports we currently have 294 members. Of those – 84 are sustaining members, 112 donated to the General Fund, 129 donated to the Ted Johnson AIS fund, and 80 donated to the Fund-a-Fish. Most members renew by March with the annual email campaign – please encourage your adult children to become members too.

C. Past Events Recap

- a. Lake Steward Lunch-n-Learn – Scott Erickson shared there were 20 participants for the first annual lunch-n-learn event featuring two guest speakers – Lily Carr from MN Lakes and Rivers and Bonnie Hiniker from Sunshine Gardens. Participants each shared their “lake” story.
- b. Youth Fishing Challenge – Ross shared there were 38 registered youth anglers, 73 pike caught, when including the volunteers and adults – there were approximately 120 people on Maranda’s property for this event. The kids each took home educational materials and a fun ‘swag bag’ in addition to any prizes won. A big thank you to Pat & Julie Maranda for hosting this event on their property.
- c. Boat Parade – Vicki Lipstreuter reports the parade did happen before the rain that day! John Harris found “Big Foot” our grand marshal for the parade and 62 watercraft participated this year.
- d. Youth Boating Safety Class taught by Cass County Sheriff Deputies Bob Landreville and Travis Collette was attended by 6 teenagers and two adults. Pat Maranda shared that a box lunch was provided by the Crooked Lake Café and the kids got to drive the Sheriff’s boat. Each attendee will receive a certificate in the mail.

D. Upcoming Activities

- a. Voting – Glen Goodwin states LWA needs more people to get involved.
  - i. Call for nominations will happen August 1-14
  - ii. Voting will occur online August 15-28
- b. County Road 48 Clean Up is scheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup> at 9 am
- c. Floating Ice Cream Social is August 31<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm - rain out date is Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> – Vicki states that LWA will be giving out free ‘swag bags’ – one for adults, one for kids, as well as ice cream treats – dogs get treats too!

E. Questions – none

- F. Fund-a-Fish April Stocking – Brent Nordstrom shared that we reached our fund goal of \$15,000 and 14,000 walleye fingerlings were stocked at the Birch Bay launch. The survival rate for fingerlings is better than for the smaller/younger fries – that is why we

choose this size to stock. Maybe in 2026 the walleye will be visible as 10-12" length in our fish survey done by the DNR. We can do fish stocking again in 3 years – let's continue to grow the fund. Gary Gable asked why LWA is paying to stock when lakes like Pelican, Gull and Woman Lake get stocked with over 12 million fry(day old hatched, not like our frylings which are bigger/older). Brent says we will still get DNR stocking every 2 years.

G. Guest Speaker – Mike Knapp - DNR Brainerd Area Fisheries Supervisor was introduced by Brent

The Fisheries is within the Fish & Wildlife Department of the DNR. You can use the DNR website for "who to call" within the DNR when you have questions or concerns. Our fishing licenses pay the fisheries staff salaries (it is user funded). State taxes and sales tax do not go into the fisheries budget/payroll. In the beginning of April, the DNR take walleye eggs from the Pine River/White Fish chain area by blocking off the Pine River for a time – you are invited to go and see this. In early August there will be a gill net on Lake Washburn for the DNR to do a gill net survey – watch out for this and stay away from this area while survey is in progress. The goal of DNR Fisheries is to protect habitat and manage habitat. Fisheries does outreach efforts such as educate kids, visit lake association meetings, and in April lets people see the walleye egg recovery in Pine River. Fisheries puts it all together by writing a lake management plan – like they did for Lake Washburn – it is a public record. They also do aquatic management habitat protection like Bear Paw Point which the DNR owns. Lake Washburn is considered a lake class 22. Mike shared gill net survey results. The DNR does gill net surveys every 3 years, trap net every 6 years and electrofish survey annually in the fall. Dave Snesrud shared that he has noticed a small mouth bass increase. They are planning to stock 748 pounds of fingerlings in Washburn this fall because frylings aren't available to the DNR this year. Charlie McGlynn asked if the DNR could/would ever stock Perch. Mike replied "no, we could never stock enough perch to buffer against predation." Perch are a major food source for walleye. How many fish survive? Fry size – 1 to 2 % survive; fryling – lower mortality rate, but still not many survive; fingerling – 50% mortality first year, 15-25% second year. Any fish caught deeper than 25 feet of water will probably not survive if you release – keep them – Crappies, walleye and bass are affected by this – but you must abide by slot limits also, sometimes have to release even though fish will not survive if you have reached your slot limit. Question about the fish kill on Washburn lately – could be caused by warm water earlier this summer, could be Tullibee/Cisco die off suddenly due to a thermocline issue – not much we can do – we can't cool the water or add more oxygen. Report it to the MPCA

Meeting adjourned at 12:06 pm

Next meeting will be July 26, 2025

Respectfully submitted,  
Janis Judd – secretary