

**Big Kandiyohi Lake Association
Directors Meeting Minutes
Max's Grill – Fireplace room
Wednesday, April 16th, 2025 @ 5:30 pm**

Present: Dave Peterson, Jerry Brustuen, Jerry Neubauer, John Neubauer, John B., Greg Erickson, Pat Schmoll, Paul Wallert, and Janet Wallert. Association member Bruce Brakemeier.

Agenda Approval

Motion made by John B. and 2nd by Greg E. Carried.

Minutes Approval

- Motion made by Jerry B. and 2nd by Jerry N. to approve the March 20th mtg. minutes.
- All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

- Checking account balance: \$20,377 (with two outstanding checks: \$30 to Pat Schmoll and a check to Dale Tonsfeldt that hasn't been cashed).
- Jerry N. met with Kelly from Saunders regarding the 5013C report.
- The report is ready for signing.
- There will likely be a fee for the report preparation.
- If there isn't a large donation, a longer form will not be required next year.
- Motion to approve the financial reports was made by Janet W., seconded by Jerry B., and passed.

AIS/I-LIDS report

- The Als task force did not meet.
- Dave will update the "I-lids report" to "AIS task force" or "AIS in general".
- AIS refers to Aquatic Invasive Species like curly leaf pondweed and zebra mussels.
- The county AIS committee, which Jerry B. and another member are on, hasn't met since January.

CLP Harvester Discussion

- John B. is responsible for the harvester.
- Request to include a curly leaf pondweed update from PLM.
- PLM is contracted for chemical treatment areas.
- The contract is worth \$20,000.
- John B. should check with PLM on how many individuals took them up on the offer to have their properties treated.
- DNR will conduct the delineation survey soon.
- There are concerns that curly leaf pondweed may be more invasive this year due to clear ice.
- John B. hasn't contacted Dallenbach regarding interest in the harvester.
- Weed harvester use is restricted to those who have paid their dues.
- Members can contact Jerry N. to determine who has paid their dues.
- There is \$7,500 in grant money from the AIS task force.
- The group discusses matching funds for harvest, chemicals, and harvesters, clarifying that hours spent equate to dollars, at a rate of approximately \$100 per hour.

- Someone offers to contribute additional hours if needed to secure funding.
- The group discusses the logistics of harvesting, including potential dumping locations.
- One member offered their island lot for dumping through the channel.
- They acknowledge the challenges faced last year due to high winds, especially when pulling the raft across the lake.

Inlet needs: new structure update

- Commissioner Anderson contacted Margaret Johnson regarding the inlet structure.
- Margaret Johnson stated that the State determines elevations on the basin and they have zero jurisdiction.
- The group wants a carp barrier to prevent carp from entering Johnson Slough to lay eggs.
- The group is waiting for the results of the hydrological study.
- A member has been trying to contact Margaret Johnson but has only reached her voicemail.
- The group discusses the importance of reminding Margaret Johnson that their main concern is a carp barrier on the inlet, not just water levels or other study findings.
- They consider contacting Dwayne, who sits on Margaret Johnson's board, for assistance.
- The group will give Margaret Johnson a chance to respond.
- The group discusses plans for carp management this year, assuming the inlet structure project will take another year.
- They discuss contacting Jason George to potentially come out and help with carp management.
- The group needs to contact Jason George to see if he is interested in coming out.
- A fisherman lost his catch due to a hole in his net, motivating the need for a secure structure to contain the fish.
- The plan is to build a permanent structure to make it easier to convince him to trap carp.
- The structure at the inlet would ideally hold the fish back, with nets across the lake opening.
- The outlet already has a gate for control.
- Last year, 30-40,000 pounds were taken out, including buffalo fish, which are more profitable.
- Buffalo fish were 56 cents a pound, while carp were 18 cents last year.
- The fish need to be shipped live, usually to the East Coast (Boston or New York).
- The carp pricing fluctuates, and other lake associations have had to subsidize carp removal due to low prices.
- Jason George may return for trapping if allowed by new land owner, depending on access to the inlet.
- The person who bought the end spot owns part of the road now.
- If access through that property falls through, they would have to access from the lake.

New Business

May 24th Annual Informational Meeting

- Janet and Paul are thanked for handling the mailings.
- A notice regarding chemical treatment needs to be emailed to everyone and published on the website. Janet will send email.
- Landowners can opt out if they don't want treatment within 500ft of their property.
- The website is being updated, and the notice should be added to the old website ASAP.
- It was thought to be published by May 1st.

- It needs to be published before the chemical treatment.

Minnesota Nonprofit Form

- A form from a bank lady in Lake Lillian indicated that the organization's nonprofit status is inactive.
- Janet was asked if she received renewal notices from the Secretary of State for the nonprofit corporation.
- The notices received stated that the corporation is inactive.
- There is a question of whether the federal 501C3 status supersedes the Secretary of State requirements.
- Kelly will be contacted to clarify if the federal status trumps the state form.

Boater Safety Permit

- A new law requires boater education for those under 21, starting July 1st.
- The age requiring the permit will increase each year, reaching age 42 and under by 2028.
- Guides about the new law were ordered to hand out at the lake association meeting.
- The DNR is expected to promote this new law.
- A webinar was watched about wake boat regulations due to the problems they cause.
- Copies of the seminar will be sent out.
- The webinar was through "MN COLA."
- Regulations for wake boats can be implemented at the township level, followed by a petition to the DNR.
- Regulations could include distance from shore (500ft) and water depth (20ft).
- The township level needs to start the process.
- There was a previous attempt to establish a no-wake zone, but the township and county were hesitant.
- The sheriff was concerned about enforcement.

Website Updates

- The website updates are covered and expected to be completed by the first of the month.
- New board members' names and pictures are needed for the updated website.
- Information about who needs to be added or removed from the website has been shared.
- There is a to-do list to update the chair listing.

Benefit for Mike Junger

- Mike Younger has a rare form of cancer with no cure.
- Chad contacted the board to ask for help with a benefit for Mike.
- The benefit will be at the Horseshoe Bar on June 21st.
- They need help with serving the meal, the silent auction, and the bake sale.
- The Lake Lillian Sportsman's Club has volunteered.
- The board discussed whether to help as a group or ask the membership for volunteers.
- Jerry N. suggested people could work in two-hour shifts.
- The board agreed to find out what specific help is needed and then decide how to proceed.

Public Time/Open Discussion

Fishing Tournament

- Melges and Dallman are having a fishing contest on Big Kandiyohi Lake on May 17th.
- The lake will be staked off with nets.
- There will be a five-fish limit.
- The board is not involved in the tournament.

Mosquito Spraying

- Two anonymous paying members want the board to consider spraying the lake for mosquitos.
- They said a lake in Willmar that is sprayed by airplane for about \$8,000.
- A board member recalls that the board previously rejected a similar proposal.
- They suggest the members who are interested should put together a presentation with cost estimates for the board.
- Someone mentions that in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area, they use pellets in open water to prevent mosquitos from hatching.

Facebook Ads

- Someone on the Diamond Lake Facebook page suggested that people who are putting ads on the page should pay the lake association.
- Another person suggested that the person with the idea should come up with a fundraiser for the lake association.

Community Septic Assessment

- The community septic assessment is two-thirds done.
- They did the island and Bonnie Beach two years ago, the northeast side last year, and hope to do Northern Lights Beach this coming year.
- The report gives three options: hooking up with Lake Lillian, doing a mound system half a mile away for everybody, or doing individual systems.
- The report found zero non-compliant septic systems that directly impact health and safety.
- The board is done with it unless they hear a groundswell from the community that wants to look at something.
- Because of the watershed, they wouldn't be able to hook up to the Blomkest sewer system.

Walking Path

- Someone asked if there has ever been any talk of a walking path on the east side.
- There has not been any talk of a walking path.
- Someone suggests trying for a Safe Routes to School grant for trails.

Park East/2 Docks

- Park 2 is getting three new docks.
- Two floating docks by the store.
- One new normal dock by the access.

Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District Project

- Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District worked with Kandiyohi public works department and

students with the Dream Academy to protect water quality on Big Kandiyohi Lake.

- The project to protect shoreline at county Park One included the planting of native vegetation by the students.
- The speaker says, "This is so minor compared to what plan is going to do."
- The speaker mentions that they were told that there weren't resources to do anything, but now things are happening.

Lake Lillian Outlet

- The lake seems to be getting a little higher.
- The outlet on Lake Lillian has about 8 yards of reed weeds plugging it.
- There is no water going out of Lake Lillian.
- It's dry on the other side of the fall.
- The county was called and was going to take care of it.
- The speaker says, "The weed that was. These are reed weeds. They go back about 8 yards and they're just packed in there."

Next meeting: No monthly meeting for May. Annual informational meeting on Saturday May 24th.

Meeting adjourned. Motioned by Paul W. 2nd by John N. Carried.

Submitted by

Janet Wallert
Big Kandiyohi Lake Association
Secretary