

## Douglas County Lakes Association Annual Meeting

September 9, 2015

### Public Works Building

The meeting was called to order by Jan Beliveau at 4:30 p.m. The following were in attendance: Jan Beliveau - Mary, Jim Peterson - Ida, Linda Dokken-McFann - Mary, Gene Rose - Miltona, Gerald Johnson - Douglas County Commissioner, Don Stallman - Irene, Steve Henry - SWDC, Lynn Glesne - Miltona, Vern Lorsung - Latoka, Mike Cleary - Stowe, H. Dan Ness - Vermont, Stephen G. Henry - L'Homme Dieu, Chris Risbrudt - Stowe, Keith Wilson - Darling, Sue Engstrom - Darling, Dian Lopez - Ida, Bud Nielsen - Ida, Amy Lopez - Ida, Jerry McClure - Ida, Dave Rush - Douglas County Land & Resource Director. A quorum was present.

Added ALASD update and Dan Ness to the agenda. Agenda was approved by voice vote.

September 10, 2014 DCLA annual minutes were approved as read by voice vote.

August 12, 2015 DCLA minutes were approved as written by voice vote with one correction that Delmar DeBilzan represents Lake Victoria.

Dan Ness requested that DCLA consider some type of memorial for Dick Kuehn to recognize his many years of service to DCLA and to the Lake Miltona Association. Please forward your ideas to Dan Ness at [nesshd@gctel.net](mailto:nesshd@gctel.net).

Per Stephen G. Henry, the Citizen Advisory Committee will meet next Wednesday to look at options for the ALASD with regards to the TMDL findings on Lake Winona. Currently it is being reviewed by the EPA. The TMDL findings should be open for public comment later this year. Nothing is going to be cheap or easy to remedy the problem with the chloride amounts going into the lake.

Per Jan Beliveau, MN COLA wants DCLA to join. COLA is hosting a day long workshop on September 17, 2015 at the Thumper Pond in Ottertail County from 10 - 3 p.m. Jan Beliveau plans to attend.

Per Jim Peterson, DCLA Treasurer. The balance in the checking account is 14,116.85. The following bills submitted for payment: 213.49 Pizza Ranch, 946.00 R&B Labs, 924.00 R&B Labs, 37.50 Info Link, 82.00 PO Box annual fee and 59.00 for flowers for Dick Kuehn's service. Vern Lorsung moved, seconded by Dian Lopez to pay the bills. Motion carried.

Per Jan Beliveau, Lake Miltona is withholding its membership fees until it meets with DCLA reps. Their next meeting is October 10, 2015 which Jan Beliveau will attend.

Gerald Johnson, Douglas County Commissioner was this year's guest speaker.

General discussion was held on the holding pond on Lake Latoka needing to be cleaned. Per Vern Lorsung the township is not interested in taking on this responsibility. The County required the developer to put in a storm water holding pond, which was done. However, the County did not clarify who was to maintain it and this pond sits on private property. Per Vern Lorsung, the current owner is willing to give an easement to any public entity. Per Steve Henry, SWDC there are funds available to have it cleaned. It was agreed by G. Johnson and S. Henry to request Public Works complete the work and be reimbursed.

General discussion on vacation rentals. At present there is no ordinance prohibiting a property owner from this practice nor do they need to be licensed. Dave Rush, DC Land & Resource Director, he did not get a consensus

from DCLA when he brought the issue up earlier this year. Mr. Rush has set up meetings with property owners and neighbors to address concerns. He has also met with Public Health regarding possible licensure requirements.

General discussion held on why the Long Prairie River Watershed does not have a watershed district to oversee clean water projects. Gerald Johnson agreed to talk to other counties about a joint authority agreement.

Don Stallman - Lake Irene - questioned the proposed commercial storage building in shoreland district area. Dave Rush, DC Land & Resource Director clarified that the County is legally obligated to review any application submitted. It is zoned Rural Residential/ Shoreland District. The property owner submitted a Conditional Use Permit application. The process outlined: it is reviewed by the DC Planning Commission which makes a recommendation to the DC Commissioners. An onsite visit is this Friday and a public hearing is scheduled for September 22, 2015 for anyone to voice their concerns. The DC Planning Commission's recommendation is forward to the DC Commissioner Board for final approval/denial.

General discussion was held on the perceived lack of support or vehicle in place for the County to support clean water projects. Steve Henry, SWDC requested that the County send one employee to watershed protection meetings to see what other counties are doing to address clean water concerns. Several lake associations have clean water project ideas but lack the support of a governmental agency to partner with to apply for funds. Our local SWDC has one employee that has committed the rest of his time to lakes that already received funding through SWDC to complete their projects. The remainder lakes are on their own or until additional staff are hired or the County becomes more proactive. Several lake associations requested that the County appoint one employee to handle concerns and offer general direction on projects. Per Gerald Johnson, the County views the SWDC Conservation District as the water planners and the County is the regulatory portion/ditch authority. It was agreed that clean water projects has not been a priority for the County. There was an overwhelming consensus that the County be more active. It was suggested that DCLA members attend the next SWDC Board meeting this coming Monday night at 8 p.m. to express their concerns.

The following individuals volunteered to serve on the *Executive Committee*: Sue Engstrom, Chris Risbrudt, Linda Dokken-McFann, Stephen G. Henry, Jan Beliveau, Jim Peterson and Mike Cleary. The nominations were accepted and with unanimous vote are as follows; Jan Beliveau - President, Mike Cleary - Vice President, Jim Peterson - Treasurer and Linda Dokken-McFann - Secretary.

With no further business, Stephen G. Henry moved, seconded by Linda Dokken-McFann to adjourn the annual meeting at 6:40 p.m. Dinner catered by Pizza Ranch. Thank you Jan Beliveau for organizing the meal and guest speaker arrangements.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Linda Dokken-McFann, DCLA Secretary