

Douglas County Lake Association (DCLA)
May 10 2017, 4:30 p.m.
County Administration Building
Alexandria MN

The meeting was called to order at 430 p.m. by President Jan Beliveau.

Present: Dick Sudmeier - Ida, Gene Rose - Miltona, Don Stallman - Irene, Mike Cleary - Stowe, Vern Lorsung-Latoka, Bill Rustad - Victoria, Stephen Henry - L'Homme Dieu, Jeanne Johnson - Brophy, Don Clausen - Rachel, Jan Beliveau - Mary, Linda Dokken-McFann - Mary, Dave Rush - DC Land & Resource Director, Justin Swart - DC Land & Resource AIS/Shoreland Tech., Bruce Leuhmann - Latoka, and Judy Rose.

I. Agenda Changes: Jeanne Johnson asked to present the 2017 Lake Brophy Action Plan. Linda Dokken-McFann moved to accept the agenda with the addition, seconded by Stephen Henry. Motion carried. Judy Rose volunteered to record and prepare the minutes.

II. April Minutes: Dick Sudmeier moved, seconded by Jeanne Johnson, to approve the April 2017 DCLA meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report: The report was distributed. No financial report given this month.

IV. Committee Reports: Steve Henry announced that he was resigning from the DCLA Public Relations Committee. He will be staying on the DCLA Water Quality Committee. Jan Beliveau volunteered to take over the KXRA open line project. A suggested topic was the Miltona Association to feature the history of Smokey Timbers and their new matching grant opportunity. Other lake associations' annual meeting topics might also be worth featuring.

V. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS): Justin Swart reported that a training session for AIS Detectors/Trackers was held in Alexandria. Members of the DC Sheriff's Water Division also attended. More eyes the better. He explained funding of projects and showed the handouts for bait shops and a new recreation map. There was also a spectacular AIS Identification Handbook handed out to each lake association. He also showcased a new contraption, a zebra mussel sampler which people could easily use to check for mussels. Gene Rose wondered if it could be a data collecting tool to monitor changes in the zebra mussel population in the lake. Justin reported that veliger sampling is being continued in area lakes.

VI. Vacation Rentals: Dave Rush from Douglas County Land and Resources asked if anyone had noticed the editorial in the paper featuring reactions to any regulation of vacation rentals around the lakes. A good bit of discussion followed reviewing efforts of state government to address this, what kind of ordinances there were in Crow Wing County, and ordinances for accessory buildings. No action took place. Dave Rush indicated that he will be putting together a task force to address this issue.

VII. Lake Mina: Stephen Henry asked Dave Rush what happened on Lake Mina in regard to opening a resort. Apparently the issues there boiled down to whether the applicant would do an Environmental Impact Review (EAW) or not. The project seemed to be "floating."

Wake Control: Dave Rush reported that no wake control regulations have been set this spring. Several lakes are high right now.

VIII. Lake Latoka: General discussion was held on the sediment pond clean out. Dave Rush explained that the county would not pay for the project and that he had limited discretion over county funds. His limit was \$5,000. Over his limit, people would have to convince the County Board of Commissioners to pay for the project. Other than that, lake dwellers, lake associations or the DCLA would need to pay for the pond. A discussion then followed on concerns that the County's budget and its components and proportions and the lack of spending on water quality projects, which is the "very blood of their life".

IX. Dave Rush reported that the alexarealakes.org website was up and running. This website was created from the AIS funds Douglas County receives from the State. Please visit this website and provide any feedback. Also billboards on the freeway are also set to go up.

X. Douglas County Soil and Water Conservation Service (DCSWCS): Mike Cleary reported that SWCD just finished the interviews with potential applicants for the AIS Education person today.

XI. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL): Jan Beliveau reported that actions on the issue for Lake Winona and the Long Prairie Watershed are "dead in the water" at this time. She will keep the members posted if any new developments occur.

XII. Water Quality Presentation: Gene Rose presented the water quality talk and slide presentation that the Public Relations Committee designed. Critiques and discussion followed about how and where to present this. General consensus was Douglas County Board of Commissioners can't avoid action on clean water projects if grassroots efforts are effective. County ditches should also be a part of the conversation.

Lake Brophy Action Plan: Tabled due to lack of time. Jeanne Johnson will present this plan at next month's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. this date.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Judith S. Rose, volunteer