

Lake Minnewawa Lake Improvement District (LMLID)

Annual Membership Meeting

August 26, 2017 10:00 a.m.

McGregor Community Center

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Pat Rath.

A quorum was confirmed.

Board members present were: Pat Rath, James Bradley, David Warner, Bob Bass, Cathy Larson, Steve Olson, and Sue Woodard. Also present was recording secretary, Dora Potts.

Additional attendees included numerous LMLID members and spouses. Total attendance represented 24 properties on Lake Minnewawa and several interested parties owning property on Big Sandy and Horseshoe Lakes. Bill Pratt, Aitkin County Commissioner, was also in attendance.

Welcome

Rath welcomed the attendees and announced the purposes of the meeting:

- To review the LMLID financial report for the end of 2016 and the financial activity thus far in 2017
- To approve any planned expenditures greater than \$5000
- To approve the proposed LMLID budget for 2018
- To elect LMLID board members to fill two open positions
- To provide a status report on current/ongoing LMLID-funded activities

Rath then presented the current members of the LMLID board of directors:

- Patrick Rath, chairman
- Jim Bradley, treasurer
- Bob Bass
- Cathy Larson
- Steve Olson
- David Warner
- Sue Woodard

He also introduced Dora Potts who serves the LMLID as recording secretary.

Financial Report

Jim Bradley presented a detailed record of income and expenditures for the years 2016 and 2017, to date.

Total budget expenditures for 2016 were projected at \$33,670.00.

Actual spending for that year totaled \$31,274.99.

For 2017, the amount budgeted was \$33,800.00.

To date, actual expenditures have totaled \$3,740.76 as of the end of July 2017.

There was a question from the membership about the unspent funds remaining in the LMLID account. Bradley stated that the bulk of LMLID expenditures occur during the months between August and December, the end of the LMLID calendar year, so the bulk of the remaining funds have been previously obligated.

Revenue received from Aitkin County by the LMLID during 2016 totaled \$33466.85, which, when added to the balance carried over from 2015, provided total funds of \$39,575.65.

At the end of 2016, a fund balance of \$8300.66 was carried over and has been combined with county funding (so far received) of \$19,555.92. After receiving the remainder of county funds and paying budgeted 2017 items, the LMLID expects to have a fund balance of \$8,300.66 to carry over to 2018.

Nancy Karjalahti questioned the purpose of carrying over such a fund balance. Bradley stated that it was prudent carry a substantial balance to avoid a shortage of funds in the case of early-year project proposals as well as unforeseen emergency expenses necessary to maintain the quality of the lake.

Bob Bass moved to approve the financial report. Sue Woodard seconded and the report was approved unanimously.

2018 LMLID Budget

Pat Rath presented the proposed LMLID budget, which had been previously approved by the LMLID board.

This budget is as follows:

Revenue: \$33,800 (520 property owners @ \$65 each)

Planned expenses:

- \$3,000 LMLID Administration
- 4,000 Review/Analysis of Lake Mapping (possible)
- 15,000 Vegetation Management
- 10,000 (New) AIS Contingency Fund (for future AIS discovery remedies)
- 1,800 Miscellaneous Contingency Fund (to cover overruns, unbudgeted items)

Note: The 2018 Budget also includes a line item stating that unused District funds up to \$10,000 can be applied to the AIS Contingency fund.

Greg Pfeifer questioned whether applications for LMLID funding could be made during the annual meeting. Rath responded that the LMLID would address those at regular meetings during the year.

Greg Pfeifer moved that the 2018 LMLID budget be approved. Jerry Bass seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Board Member Election

David Warner presided over the election of 2 members of the LMLID board to fill vacant seats.

Candidates were incumbents Cathy Larson and Jim Bradley, as well as newcomer and property owner, Robb Warner. Each candidate was invited to tell the membership about himself/herself, after which a vote was held.

The votes were tabulated by Nancy Karjalahti and Sue Reinhart and the results returned the two incumbents to the board. Pat Rath thanked Robb Warner for his interest in the position.

Status of LMLID Activities

- Pat Rath thanked the Lake Minnewawa Association (LMA) for their efforts in weed harvesting. A monthly record of harvesting activity has been distributed by the LMA this year.

- The loan for the LMA harvester was acquired at \$180,000 when it was purchased by the LMA three years ago. This loan has been reduced significantly by LMLID contributions and will be paid off by this time next year.
- Maps produced as a result of the vegetation-mapping project are available to any organization that might want to pursue a fund-raising or other promotion using them. A finished sample of a depth map produced with data from this project was on display at this meeting.

Open Discussion

- Nancy Karjalahti said that there had been many changes to the lake, specifically noting an abundance of dogfish in the lake area near her property.
 - Greg Pfeifer suggested that members with lake concerns regarding fish should attend the LMA meeting on September 9 at which a DNR representative would be available to answer questions and give information on this subject.
 - Jim Bradley added that, perhaps, consideration should be given to rough fish netting.
- Two men who own property in Melquist Bay raised the question of adequate lake coverage by the harvester. They were assured by Dale Kratochwill (LMA president) that careful records had been kept this year and that the harvester had operated within DNR guidelines and restrictions imposed by the weather. Members were referred to the harvester report produced by the LMA for further details on harvesting operations during 2017.
- Greg Pfeifer addressed the membership and board with two suggestions:
 - to consider another evaluation of the lake for aquatic invasive species in the near future
 - to consider the necessity of repairs to the Portage boat landing that had been damaged by ice

Several members contributed that Shamrock Township is in the process of dealing with this repair and that this was not the only landing incurring damage as a result of ice.

Bob Bass motioned to adjourn the meeting and Cathy Larson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25.

Submitted by Dora Potts, as recording secretary
August 27, 2017

Approved by Robert Bass, LMLID Secretary
August 28, 2017