

## **Lake Minnewawa Lake Improvement District (LMLID)**

Board of Directors' Meeting

May 29, 2020 10:00 a.m.

Minnewawa Sportsmen's Club

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m. by LMLID President, Cathy Larson. A quorum was confirmed.

Board members present were: James Bradley, Dan Westberg, Pat Rath, Steve Olson, Bruce Patterson, and Cathy Larson. Sue Woodard was absent. Also present was recording secretary, Dora Potts. One guest was in attendance, Sue Westberg, representing the LMA.

### **Meeting Agenda**

There was a request to add an item concerning the LMLID minutes approval procedure. (Dora Potts)

There was a request to add an item about AIS. (Jim Bradley)

Dan Westberg moved to approve the agenda, so amended. Pat Rath seconded and the agenda was approved unanimously.

### **Yearly LMLID Approvals**

Jim Bradley moved to approve these items from the agenda in one vote:

- Continue to use the current funding request form with no changes.
- Continue to abide by the organizational guidelines with no changes.
- Continue to abide by the organization by-laws with no recommendations for revision.
- Re-designate the Voyageur Press as the newspaper of record.
- Re-designate Grand Timber Bank as organization financial institution.

This was seconded by Dan Westberg and the motion passed unanimously.

Cathy Larson presented the proposed regular LMLID Board meeting dates for 2020 as follows:

**May 29, June 26, July 24, and October 23 at 10:00 a.m.** at the **Minnewawa Sportsmen's Club**. The **annual membership meeting** will be held at **10:00 a.m.** at the **McGregor Community Center** on **August 22**. All except the annual meeting are on Fridays.

Dan Westberg moved to approve the meeting schedule and Bruce Patterson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## Election of LMLID Board Officers

In an opening statement, President Larson reminded the members that anyone who assumes a board office needs to be prepared to respond promptly to communication sent to them.

For **president**, Pat Rath nominated Cathy Larson and Bruce Patterson seconded. Her nomination was unanimously approved.

For **vice president**, Pat Rath nominated Bruce Patterson. Patterson said, while he would be happy to serve, he felt like he needs a full year on the board before taking office.

Cathy Larson then nominated Jim Bradley for **vice president** and Pat Rath seconded. His nomination was unanimously approved.

Cathy Larson nominated Pat Rath for **treasurer** and Dan Westberg seconded. His nomination was unanimously approved.

Cathy Larson nominated Dan Westberg for **Secretary** and Bruce Patterson seconded. His nomination was unanimously approved.

LMLID Officers for 2020 are:

<b>President:</b>	<b>Cathy Larson</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Jim Bradley</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Pat Rath</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Dan Westberg</b>

### Financial Report (Jim Bradley)

(Summary)

Ending balance in the LMLID <b>checking account</b> , as of the end of 2019	\$20,137.47
Total of <b>investments</b> in the form of CDs	<u>\$20,000.00</u>
<b>Total LMLID fund balance</b>	<b>\$40,137.47</b>

### Expenses paid from checking account since beginning of 2020:

Liability Insurance	\$680.00
LMA grant (last payment of 2019)	<u>\$3385.99</u>
Total	\$4065.99

### Payments to LMLID since beginning of 2020:

Aitkin County 3rd payment	\$719.00
<b>Checking account balance as of 5/29/20:</b>	<b>\$16,791.25</b>

Bradley added a few comments looking into 2020 and beyond:

- The LMA will not be having the BBQ this year because of COVID regulations and suggestions for safety. This will impair their ability to fund lake improvement projects and they may need to request a greater level of funding from the LMLID to cover this gap.
- There needs to be an inquiry into DNR funding of AIS projects. Sue Westberg said she would check on that.

The board is planning several measures to be proactive about the above. In the first, the LMA treasurer, Robbie Danko has been asked to come to the June LMLID meeting.

Also mentioned was the probable need for the LMLID to cover the Sportsmen's Club pledge toward the Weirs Dam Project because the Sportsmen's Club has not had funding from gambling for most of 2020. The LMLID would *not* pay anything *to* the club, just cover their pledge to the dam project. The LMLID can appropriate funds up to \$5000 without approval of membership.

Dan Westberg moved for approval of the financial report, pending audit. Cathy Larson seconded and the report was approved unanimously.

### **New Reports Requested by Aitkin County**

Cathy Larson has received two requests from Aitkin County to supply additional details of LMLID operations—one additional yearly report and one additional 5-year report.

The board's response to these requests is driven by these facts:

- The LMLID is grandfathered in to the requirement to report to *only* the state LID.
- The LMLID is glad to meet the MN state statutory regulations and is doing so.

The LMLID will continue to comply with Aitkin County requests based on the LMLID requirements and guidelines.

### **Fishery Update** (Jim Bradley)

Bradley reported that, as he has noticed an abundance of snails in the lake, both alive and dead, he had done some investigating. He has found that snails *are* considered an aquatic invasive species (AIS). As a result of this finding, Bradley suggested that he be allowed to further investigate the snails in Lake Minnewawa by contacting the DNR about the snails, including why they are dying. He also asked for a \$500 budget for doing so.

Several board members offered suggestions of other sources of assistance and Sue Westberg offered to assist.

The board asked that Jim and Sue pursue different inquiries with know responsive sources before agreeing to spend any money on this. Both Sue and Jim will report back to the LMLID board about their findings.

### **LMA Update (Sue Westberg)**

- Westberg informed the board about a new LMA project: loon nesting platforms:
  - St. Cloud Tech welding students build them.
  - The platforms cost \$700 each, with the total currently planned project costing \$3000.
  - Only the platform is installed the first year and a canopy added the second.
  - The LMA is working with Mantrap Lake which has installed some and reports great success.
  - We have natural loon nest spotters now on Minnewawa, but anyone who sights natural loon nesting on our lake is encouraged to report that to Sue.
  
- Westberg also gave an update on the Weir's Dam project.
  - An \$86,000 grant for this has been approved at the state level. The approval requires the project be finished by 2023.
  - The LMA will be asked to pay \$8,600 (10% of grant) toward the dam.
  - The project is being engineered by the DNR in Duluth.
  - There is some concern about providing access to the site for the big machines necessary.

The LMLID board said that they would need more information from Westberg at the June LMLID meeting so that this can be proposed as an addition to the budget for approval at the August membership meeting.

- Westberg also thanked the LMLID board for their continued support of LMA projects and asked for feedback from the LMLID.

### **Board Member Communication (Dora Potts)**

In the interest of creating the most efficient communication system among board members, Potts asked for two things:

- confirmation of current contact information for all members
- confirmation of appropriate distribution procedure with regard to minutes' approval by the board

Both of these were established. The minutes approval procedure will include Potts sending a draft of the minutes to Westberg with a cc to Larson. When approval is received from both these people, she will forward to the other board members for approval. They will have 2 days to respond, after which Rath will publish to the LMLID website.

### **Open Discussion**

Dan Westberg asked for a confirmation at the June meeting regarding board member positions that will be open this year. The board agreed that this will be done.

Bruce Patterson asked that the board thank David Warner for his service to the LMLID.

Dan Westburg moved to adjourn. Pat Rath seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:08 a.m.

Submitted by Dora Potts, as recording secretary  
May 31, 2020

Approved by Dan Westberg, LMLID Secretary  
June 1, 2020

Approved by Cathy Larson, LMLID Chairperson  
May 31, 2020