

Lake Minnewawa Lake Improvement District (LMLID)

Board of Directors' Meeting

May 19, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Minnewawa Sportsmen's Club

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by LMLID Vice President, Jim Bradley. A quorum was confirmed.

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

Meeting Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was presented by Jim Bradley. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Bradley and seconded by Pat Rath. The agenda was approved unanimously.

1. Upcoming Annual Meeting Dates

- **Change of August 2021 Annual Meeting Date**

The 2021 annual meeting of the LMLID membership was previously planned for August 21, but the McGregor Community Center is unavailable on that date. It is necessary to move the annual meeting date for 2021 to August 28.

- **Adjustment of Annual Meeting Location for 2022 and Beyond**

In discussion with Sheila Hoover of the McGregor Community Center, Dora Potts learned that, beginning in 2022, the LMLID will no longer be able to reserve the center for only a Saturday morning event. Hoover said that the community center is needed often for big, total weekend events that book for Friday through Sunday and these events pay around \$450 which is important revenue for the center.

LMLID board members considered several possible alternatives:

- Holding the annual meetings on weekdays (Monday-Thursday) and remaining at the community center. [This option is not possible due to LMLID bylaws which state that the annual meeting will be held on a Saturday.]
- Holding the annual meetings at the Minnewawa Sportsmen's Club. [This option was considered the most viable by the board members present.]
- Holding the annual meetings at the Shamrock Town Hall. [This option was suggested by Steve Olson as a possibility.]

A motion was made by Pat Rath to approve the date change for 2021 and to investigate the availability of the Sportsmen's Club for annual meetings in 2022 and beyond. The motion was seconded by Bruce Patterson and passed unanimously.

Sue Westberg of the LMA also asked that the LMLID plan its annual meetings in at least 2022 and 2023 for the *fourth* Saturday in August to avoid conflict with the annual LMA barbecue and the board agreed to do this.

2. Approval of Voyageur Press as the LMLID Newspaper of Record

The board members reviewed the 2021 agreement for the prior announcement of all LMLID meetings (as required by law) in the Voyageur Press. It was noted that the LMLID had investigated other local publication options last year and found none as suitable.

Rath made a motion to approve the Voyageur Press as the LMLID newspaper of record and it was seconded by Olson. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Reaffirmation of the LMLID Funding Request Form and Organization Guidelines and By-Laws

It was agreed by members that there was no need for changes to any of these documents at this time.

Rath made a motion to retain the current funding request form as well as the current guidelines and by-laws. It was seconded by Olson. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Designation of Grand Timber Bank as the Organization's Financial Institution

Olson moved to designate Grand Timber Bank as the LMLID's financial institution. Rath seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5. Election of Officers

Rath made a motion to retain the same LMLID officers as those who served in 2020. Olson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

LMLID Board of Directors officers for 2021 are:

President: Cathy Larson
Vice-President: Jim Bradley
Treasurer: Pat Rath
Secretary: Dan Westberg

6. Financial Report

Pat Rath, treasurer, presented the financial report .

- **End of 2020** (Oct., Nov., and Dec.):

Beginning balance	\$23,821.40
<u>Credits</u>	
Deposit from Aitkin County	14,316.99
<u>Debits</u>	
Variety of administrative expenses	
Purchase of CD (AIS future expenses)	<u>10,000.00</u>
End of year balance	\$27,003.19

- **Beginning of 2021** (Jan. through April):

Beginning balance	\$27,003.19
<u>Credits</u>	
Deposit from Aitkin County	<u>1,461.00</u>
Balance	\$28,464.58

7. Approval of Funding Request

The LMLID received a funding request from the LMA in November 2020. Since its receipt was after the last LMLID board meeting of 2020, the request was moved forward to the first meeting of 2021.

This funding request for approximately \$19,000, plus the previous LMA funding request of about \$10,000 from July 2020 combine to form an amount that exceeds the \$15,000 that was budgeted for the LMA in 2020.

The majority of line items in the LMA request involved lake improvement, such as operation expenses of the weed harvester. However, included in the \$19,535.45 request were reimbursements for LMA website services and LMA facility lawn care. The LMLID board agreed that these two items do not meet the mission, goals, and guidelines of the LMLID. After deleting these two expenses from the request and the website services and lawn care costs from the July 2020 reimbursement, the board considered the approval of the remaining amount of reimbursement: \$14,509.45.

Bruce Patterson moved to approve the adjusted request and Steve Olson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

This brings the total of 2020 funding to the LMA to \$23,172.21.

8. Open Discussion

- **Lake Data Monitoring**

- Patterson suggested that the lake vegetation survey (previously performed by the LMLID) be repeated periodically.
- Sue Westberg offered water clarity results from the LMA for LMLID use.
- The operator of the harvester keeps track of load amounts and these totals could be used to track the weed content of the lake over time.

- **LMA News from Sue Westberg**

There have been hydraulic problems noted with the weed harvester which will need to be resolved in 2021. The board asked Westberg to be sure to let the LMLID know about anticipated extra expenses before the LMLID meets in July 2021 to prepare the 2022 LMLID budget. Westberg agreed that an LMA representative would be present at the June 2021 LMLID meeting to do this.

- **Weirs Dam Progress**

According to Sue Westberg, grants and permits are in place and work could start this coming fall. An effort will be made to avoid disturbance of the property during access (saving the cost of refurbishment), thus delaying the process until the ground freezes.

- **LMLID CD Purchases**

It was noted that the purpose of the three CDs purchased by the LMLID is to fund any future Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) invasions, which could happen at any time. Response to AIS is very expensive and AIS expansion can be very quick if not dealt with immediately upon discovery. The LMLID feels that preparation for any such event is in the absolute best interests of the lake.

- **Walleye Stocking**

Jim Bradley asked about the possibility of the LMLID stocking the lake with walleye fingerlings. Sue Westberg provided information about the current timeline followed by the DNR in walleye stocking. Despite delays due to the pandemic, the DNR is following a schedule that includes the monitoring of both introduced and native walleye reproduction in the lake to inform their stocking practices. This schedule is important to consider if we want the DNR to continue to participate in this venture. Initiating any sort of alternative stocking could remove Lake Minnewawa from the DNR stocking program and cost local organizations additional money. The DNR did not stock last year and will

electrofish this year. Sue Westberg will send a report about this to Cathy Larson to distribute to the LMLID.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Jim Bradley and seconded by Bruce Patterson. The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Submitted by Dora Potts, as recording secretary
May 23, 2021

Approved by Dan Westberg, LMLID Secretary
May 23, 2021

Approved by Cathy Larson, LMLID President
May 23, 2021