

Muskellunge Lake Association  
Meeting Minutes  
May 3, 2014

**Call to Order:**

Present √

President Tom Cerull	√	Director John Kurhajec	√
VP Mike Newmeister	√	Director Bob Petersen	
Treasurer Roger Johnston	√	Director Bill Raboin	√
Secretary Kathleen Pallardy	√	Director Dennis Rydzewski	
Web Master Jeff Rappold	√	Director Dennis Schumacher	

Also present were Susan and Bob Hodkiewicz.

**Meeting Minutes:** The minutes of the last board meeting held on January 25th meeting were approved via email.

**Treasurer's Fiscal Year Report (Roger Johnston):** Balances as if July 31st is as follows:

Membership stands at 84 members with 6 newsletter-only members. This represents a strong percentage of homeowner participation in the lake association of the approximately 109 properties around the lake, especially in comparison to surrounding lake associations. The highest level of membership for MLA in recently history was 91 members.

**MLA Financial Statement Q1 2014**

Lake Improvement Fund	\$239.79
Operational fund	\$1,758.44
MLA Fundraising/Socials	\$4,014.95
Savings accounts Vilas Credit Union	\$36.58
<b>Sub-Total Operational Funds</b>	<b>\$6,049.76</b>
Ripco Share Certificates-4 and 5 YR Certificates	\$2,665.18
	\$2,714.35
	\$2,738.56
	\$2,629.60
<b>Sub-Total CD's</b>	<b>\$10,747.69</b>
<b>Total All Funds/Investments</b>	<b>\$16,797.45</b>
Lake Study Fund	\$1210.40

Motion made to accept financial report. Motion carried

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## Committee Reports

**Webmaster Report (Jeff Rappold):** Jeff reported the website is still getting on average 3 activities per day with visitor spending 5 minutes on average per visit and generally viewing 3 pages. The bounce rate is about 50%. Jeff will check to make certain all the links are still working. In addition, there are about 35 followers on Facebook. Jeff paid for the annual hosting fee and will be reimbursed through the MLA.

**Boat Landing Report (John Kurhajec):** John reported that we will be getting the same reimbursement from the DNR as in 2013. There was a discussion on signage at the launch to further educate people about invasive species. John disbursed information on training opportunities for anyone who wants to be trained to conduct boat launch inspections. We have 200 hours coming from the DNR this summer. John will send out an email reminder every few weeks for launch inspection sign up. Anyone who will be doing inspections should first go through the training provided by the DNR. John will check with the DNR to see if it is possible to get a video of the training to post to the MLA website for anyone who cannot make the in person training.

<b>VILAS COUNTY 2014 CBCW WORKSHOPS</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Event Sponsor</b>
4/17	9:00 AM	Land O' Lakes Town Hall	Black Oak Lake Association
5/7	5:00 PM	St. Germain Community Center	St. Germain Lions Club
5/15	1:30 PM	Presque Isle Town Hall	Presque Isle Town Lakes Committee
5/21	2:00 PM	North Lakeland Discovery Center	North Lakeland Discovery Center
5/23	1:00 PM	<b>Trees for Tomorrow (See note below)</b>	Vilas County Land & Water Conservation
5/27	1:30 PM	Presque Isle Town Hall	Presque Isle Town Lakes Committee
6/3	9:00 AM	Lac du Flambeau Town Hall	Lac du Flambeau Town Lakes Committee
6/6	9:00 AM	Town of Hiles Fire Station B	Butternut/Kentuck Lakes Association
6/7	9:00 AM	St. Germain Community Center	St. Germain Town Lakes Committee
6/21	1:00 PM	Arbor Vitae Fire Station	Little Arbor Vitae Lake District
7/8	9:00 AM	St. Germain Community Center	St. Germain Town Lakes Committee
<b>NOTE:</b> This event is intended primarily for the 14 students provided by UW Oshkosh and the organizations who have contracted for their services. While the public is welcome to attend (as space permits), this workshop will cover more AIS basics than the "refresher" training events and will be 3 or more hours long. The other workshops should take no longer than 1.5 to 2 hours.			

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**Water Quality (Jeff Rappold):**

Jeff conducted water quality tests 4 times last year. The reports are posted on the website. The secchi disk reading was at 3 feet last time Jeff checked which was in August. Jeff reported that the phosphorus content in the lake has not fundamentally changed. Dale Robertson from the USGS did water level testing on our lake. He read the article Jeff posted on the lake. The Little St. Germaine Lake Association is still working with Dale on their lake. Dale is interested in knowing what year we put the aerator in. There was discussion that it was most likely installed in 1993. Jeff found in old pictures that it was 1993 when the shed was built. Dale is trying to draw a correlation to see if aerating is affecting the phosphorus level at all. The ground water coming into our lake has iron in it. Where ever there is iron in the water phosphorus follows. The phosphorus levels have always been high in our lake. Dale offered to keep us copied on any reports that he is working on.

Muskellunge Lake is now listed on the impaired lake list which could qualify the lake for possible grant money. There were a number of lakes in Vilas County added to the list including the entire Eagle River chain. There was a discussion about documenting the TDML (Total Daily Maximum Load) for the lake. TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards. There are about 25 lakes in Vilas County on the list. There was a discussion about the impact of septic systems around the lake. In general, septic systems have improved over time. As lake properties are sold a septic inspection is required. Holding tank style septic systems help reduce impact to the lake. There was consensus amongst the board to not actively pursue getting a TDML study done at this point. There was discussion as to whether or not we should be a lake district.

**Social Committee (Mimi Johnston):**

Roger reported for Mimi. Mimi suggested sending out a broadcast email to remind everyone about the Annual Meeting. Tom noted that Dennis Schumaker had offered to be the Chairperson for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July boat parade. However Dennis will not be available to do that this summer. Tom and Ruth along with John and his wife will again organize the boat parade and food drive. The food drive was successful last year and we plan on holding it again this summer. The theme for this summer's boat parade is "Cruising through American History". We will need judges.

**DNR Report**

Tom sent out email to Steve Gilbert asking if there was any new information. Most likely given the time of year there are no new updates. Jeff found the report from the September 16th fish stocking. They found 4 walleyes which apparently shows that walleye stocking was not that successful. There were 49 large mouth bass. The Conservation Congress passed new regulation which allows 1 line trolling (per fisherman) in Vilas County which will take effect next year. The DNR reported this was the single coldest year on record. The severity index was at 145. Anything between 80 and 100 is considered severe. 1 point is counted for any day where there is 18 or more inches of snow on the ground and/or the temperature is below zero.

**Aerator Report (Bob Hodkiewicz):**

Bob reported that the aerator went in well. The pump has made a difference as far as the aerator working more efficiently. It does not leak oil like the old one did. There is a concern about the

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oxygen levels. Bob took readings the last day of March. When it's about 50 degrees outside Bob has to shut down the aerator and then if the temperature drops needs to determine whether or not to restart it. Bob took readings and determined they were the lowest ever. As the readings were taken up higher they were at about 3 or 4. At the bottom the reading was around 2. So Bob restarted the aerator again. Bob did this three times this winter. Roger suggested that the heavy snow at the time might have impacted the oxygen levels. Bob will contact everyone when it is time to remove the aerator. 4 or 5 volunteers will be needed to load everything up. John suggested it might be a good idea to put a procedural manual together which including parts and steps to putting the aerator in, operating it and taking it back out. Bob suggests having someone else become familiar with the process from a backup perspective.

## **Old Business**

**Newsletter articles:** Send your submissions in as soon as possible.

Mike researched supplies for a "MLA Member" sign for each MLA member. This is seen as a way to recognize membership and solicit new membership. Pricing is approximately \$12 for a 12' x 18' sign in quantities of 100 or more. If possible, we would like to obtain the signs through a local supplier. There was a discussion of using the MLA logo. Most likely the MLA would fund the pole as well. Motion made and seconded to move forward with the membership signs.

**Annual Meeting:** The Annual Meeting will be held 9:00 a.m. Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Kalmar Center. The guest speaker will provide a presentation on bats. Tom should send out an email previous to the meeting as a reminder.

Jeff noted that we have collected over 250 pictures documenting the lake and MLA history. Jeff has posted these on the MLA website. Some years are well-represented with pictures however some there are gaps with little to no picture. If anyone has any additional photos they would like to post to the photo gallery please let Jeff know.

There was discussion of officers and board members for next year. Tom will include a note in the newsletter to encourage MLA members to participate as an officer or on the board.

## **New Business**

**Follow up board meeting will be scheduled within 60 days of Annual Meeting and is currently scheduled for Saturday August 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

## **Meeting Adjourned**