

**Sauk River Chain of Lakes Association**  
**Board MINUTES**  
**February 28th, 2023 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**  
**At Flexible Pipe Tool Co. • 22606 186<sup>th</sup> Ave • Cold Spring**  
**Microsoft Teams Remote Option**

**Call to Order** – Brad Matuska

**Present:** Brad Matuska, Aaron Schwartz, Troy Atkinson, Gene Krebs, Karla Smetana, Gary Schnobrich, Steve Weeres

**Team Remote Options:** Matt Noska, Richard Gallea

**Absent:** Wayne Karg, Susan Antolak, Gambling Manager: Keely Frakes-Rau

**Guest:** NA

**Review of past Minutes** – Brad Matuska

- January Board Minutes Approved via Email – Brad Matuska
- Minutes taker for the meeting: Steve Weeres

**Gambling Manager Report** – Brad Matuska

- *See attached* – LG1004 Monthly Gambling Report to members.
- A check was given to Troy for the amount of \$5,000
- Inventory check was completed with no issues
- *Gene Krebs made a motion to approve the monthly gambling report, proposed gambling expenses, and pre-approved January taxes. – Seconded by Karla Smetana. Approved*
- The Horse racing gambling event is going well and everyone seems to be really be excited. Horse racing continues every Sunday at 3 pm at Shady's Long Shots.
- The meat raffle and bingo continue to operate successfully, with many volunteers from the Long Lake neighborhood. It was mentioned that it would be good to provide recognition for their volunteerism. It was suggested that we recognize their contribution. Free SRCL apparel was suggested, Karla volunteered to reach out to them on this.

**Financial Report** – Troy Atkinson

- The January financial report showed \$ 144,345.35 in total assets.
- The Check Detail list was reviewed with the Board.
- The Profit and Loss Statement was reviewed with the Board.
- *Karla Smetana made a motion to approve the January Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet, and Check Detail. – Seconded by Aaron Schwartz. – Approved.*
- Waiting on resolutions from the Internal Revenue Service regarding the SRCLA taxes and late 2020 filing.
- Committees are requested to send their 2023 budget needs to Treasurer Troy Atkinson as soon as possible.

**Administration Report** – Brad Matuska

- SRCLA will no longer publish the list of individual memberships on the association's website. The names of business and business elite members will remain listed with business elite members' logos appearing in the website's business carousel.
- The departure of Ann Warling was discussed. Brad will include a recognition of Ann's contributions in the upcoming spring magazine.
- Short term assignments for the administrative activities was completed by the Admin committee. Brad will coordinate the publishing schedule for the spring magazine and Matt volunteered to assist. Troy will run point on membership management and the data base, and Richard volunteered to assist.
- Finding a replacement to fill the Administrative Assistant role was discussed. There was consensus that the position should be filled. The board is encouraged to suggest candidates for the position. A position description is available.
- The production schedule for the Spring Magazine was reviewed. **The deadline for all articles is March 20<sup>th</sup>.**
- This deadline includes invited articles from the Story List. Brad and Matt will review the list and reach out to the relevant contacts to encourage them to submit on the deadline.
- The Board and public calendars are now on the Facebook page. We are encouraged to submit items for inclusion on the calendar.
- Legislative issues: E-Tabs and boater education, there are opportunities to voice your concerns on the issues if you are so inclined.
- The stipend for the Gambling Manager was discussed. The current stipend is \$750/month. It is recognized that this position is essential to the continued compliant and successful gambling operation. *Troy made a motion to increase the stipend to \$1000 starting in March. The stipend would be reviewed annually. The motion was seconded by Gene. The motion was approved.*

### **Marketing/Public Relations Committee Report – Aaron Schwartz**

- Aaron shared a link to a Google drive, this is a spot where we can upload photos from various events and images from around the Chain. Extend Marketing will pull items from the drive for posting on our Social Media site.
- Online calendar; Let Aaron know about upcoming events you would like to see posted. Requests for volunteers can also be posted.
- Catfish Fest; There were 600+ participants. The winning fish was 15 lb. 9 oz. We recognize that this event draws visitors to the Chain. This will be an important event for the Association to recognize and support in the future.
- Rock the River; opportunities to sponsor were not available, hence the Association will not be sponsoring for 2023.
- Brad attended the Shoreline Workshop.

### **AIS Awareness and Prevention – Steve Weeres**

- I-LIDS; no update.
- Steve provided an update on SRCL elevation monitoring. The 2022 historical data summary was provided to the Board and to Kersten. This will be archived on the website under Archived Documents.
- The SRCL Level monitoring continues to make measurements and a link was provided to Kersten for inclusion in the new website.
- Steve presented a proposal written for modeling the Sauk River Watershed and the effect on the SRCL lake level. The goal is to establish a means to predict changes in the level of the SRCL based on precipitation events in the upstream watershed. The proposal was presented to both the Sauk River Watershed District and the Andrea Thorstensen, an assistant professor in the Hydrology department at SCSU. Andrea is excited about the project. She will be submitting a proposal to the MN SEA Grant program for consideration. The proposal will be submitted at the end of March. Andrea requested a letter of support from the SRCLA for the proposal, Steve presented a letter of support, with Board President Brad Matuska as the signatory, for the board to review. *A motion was made to approve the submission of the letter to SCSU, the motion was seconded and approved.* Steve will keep the board informed of progress.

### **Water Quality Committee Report – Gary Schnobrich**

- Dissolved oxygen testing: does the SRCLA invest in the instrument to make our own measurements? What would we do with the data collected? Gary to provide a recommendation at the March meeting.
- Allison from the SRWD sent a draft of the 2022 water quality report for the Sauk River Chain of Lakes. The report was nicely done but some edits are required. Gary to provide feedback on edits of the report. The data will be presented in the Spring Magazine.
- The lake monitoring routine was discussed. Allison has suggested the addition of four new measurement points. It was suggested to add Bolging Lake to the sampling routine. Gary to provide a recommendation at the March meeting.

### **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Committee Report – Gene Krebs/Wayne Karg**

- The AIS Subcommittee (Brad Matuska, Gene Krebs, Wayne Karg, Richard Gallea, and Troy Atkinson) met to determine the AIS plans for the SRCLA for 2023.
- The subcommittee decided to focus on treating HWM. \$68K was allocated for control. The timing of treatment is still TBD.
- The indicated budget for Curly Leaf Pondweed treatment is as follows: \$20K for mechanical treatment and \$12K for chemical treatment. We do not know what size area we will be allowed to treat. Brad will submit the request for a permit.

### **Fisheries Committee Report - Matt Noska**

- No Report

### **Land Use Committee Report – Richard Gallea**

- Authorization has been given by the *Midwest Glacier Lakes* magazine to reproduce the story written about the Richard Gallea property for the Spring issue of *The Chain Link* magazine.
- 2023 Shoreline Tour: Greg Berg has proposed to have Richard's property as one of the featured projects.
- If there are additional examples of before and after shoreline restoration projects, let Richard know.
- The Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership is hosting a series of webinars in the coming months. The schedule was sent out to Board members. The webinar schedule is also available on their website:  
<https://midwestglaciallakes.org/resources/webinars/>

**Adjourn**

- *Gary Schnobrich made a motion to adjourn the February 28th SRCLA Board Meeting. – Seconded by Karla Smetana. Approved.*

**For the Good of the Association – Meeting Schedule (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the Month)**

- Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm – at Flexible Pipe Tool Company, 22606 186<sup>th</sup> Ave • Cold Spring/ Microsoft Teams Remote Option
- Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm – at Flexible Pipe Tool Company, 22606 186<sup>th</sup> Ave • Cold Spring/Microsoft Teams Remote Option