

**Sauk River Chain of Lakes Association**  
**Board MINUTES**  
**March 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, Gary Schnobrich, Wayne Karg, Steve Weeres

**Team Remote Options:** Matt Noska, Richard Gallea, Susan Antolak, Gambling Manager: Keely Frakes-Rau

**Absent:** Karla Smetana

**Guest:** Kersten Thellin

**Review of past Minutes** – Brad Matuska

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

**Gambling Manager Report** – Brad Matuska

- LG1004 Monthly Gambling Report was distributed to members.
- The SRCLA received and deposited a \$5,000 check from the Gambling account
- Inventory check was completed with no issues
- It was noted to raise the limit on pull tabs/bingo to \$1,500, and Triple Crown to \$4,500
- Monthly tax return: \$169K gross, \$28K net.
- Horse racing is running about 6 games per day, net is \$152 per game. KUDOS TO KARLA FOR SETTING THIS UP!
- *Wayne made a motion to approve the monthly gambling report, proposed gambling expenses, and pre-approved February taxes. – Seconded by Gary. Approved*
- The gambling reception is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>. 18 volunteers are signed up. A \$200 budget was proposed to be paid for by the association. *Wayne made a motion to approve the \$200 budget, seconded by Aaron. Voted on and approved.*
- A new pull tab game format was discussed for consideration, a short game with a unique prize. Tickets are sold and the winners names are put on a sheet, and then there is a drawing for the prize. The prize could be a grill, tool set, gun, etc. There could be additional cash prizes. There are 18-24 slots per game, when the slots are full the game ends. The game grosses \$1,800 and could net about \$400-600 depending on the prizes.

**Financial Report** – Troy Atkinson

- The February financial report showed \$ 142,987 in total assets.
- The Check Detail list was reviewed with the Board.
- The Profit and Loss Statement was reviewed with the Board.
- *Aaron made a motion to approve the February Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet, and Check Detail. – Seconded by Gene. Voted on and approved.*
- A letter was received from Internal Revenue Service regarding the SRCLA taxes and late 2020 filing. 60 more days are required for review.
- Committees are requested to send their 2023 budget needs to Treasurer Troy Atkinson as soon as possible.
- A bill was received from Rock the River. However, we did not sign up to support the event as we did not realize there was an opportunity to support it. Troy will discuss with Karla.
- A bill was received from Minnesota Lakes and Rivers for membership renewal. Cost is \$300.
- *Troy made a motion to approve the subscription renewal, Seconded by Aaron. Voted on and approved.*

**Administration Report** – Brad Matuska

- Finding a replacement to fill the Administrative Assistant role was discussed. Discussions have been had with 6 potential candidates, but none came to fruition. Brad recommended putting an ad in the Cold Spring Record.
- The production schedule for the Spring Magazine was reviewed. All articles are in and have been reviewed. All on schedule.
- The cover photo submissions were reviewed. 8 pictures were viewed and voted on. The top 3 were selected.
- First choice: picture of 2 girls, Second choice; Cold Spring Dam, Third choice; Fishing sunset. Have to check the file size for compatibility.
- The membership mailing will go out April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Email blast TBD, Aaron will check with Extend Marketing.
- Troy is on point to process received renewals. All on the Board will be available to help out as required.
- The on-line membership sign-up available on the website is working well.
- The new website is now on-line and looks good.
- Aaron will get website statistics for our next meeting.

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

- Social media update. February numbers, 81 new Instagram followers. 9339 Facebook impressions.
- On-line calendar; Let Aaron know about upcoming events you would like to see posted. Requests for volunteers can also be posted.
- Need pictures of the “association in action”. Be sure to post photos of events, field work, and events.
- On-line store update:
  - Original proposal: April 1-15, June 10-24, and September 16-30.
  - There was discussion on this proposal. The magazine is being distributed May 18<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed that the store should be open during this time. It was proposed to have the store open May 18-31 as high priority. Having the store open during the time around the annual meeting was also discussed.
- Richmond River Lake Days is July 13-16. Sponsorship costs \$750, same as 2022.
- *Gary made a motion to sign up for sponsorship, Seconded by Wayne. Voted on and approved.*
- Cold Spring Hometown Pride Days is July 27-29. Options for support are sponsoring a band on Friday or Saturday night, or sponsoring the breakfast Thursday morning.
- *Aaron made a motion to sponsor a band, with no preference on the night, Seconded by Steve. Voted on and approved.*
- Annual meeting. It was proposed to hold the annual meeting at Shady’s on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Start time would be around 9-10 am. Budget would allow for coffee and donuts.
- The annual meeting agenda needs to be developed. A topic for the April meeting.
- Susan will confirm the location.
- Susan announced that she will be retiring at the end of May.

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

- I-LIDS; no update. Anticipate installation around May 1<sup>st</sup>. Depending on ice-out. But before the fishing opener for sure.
- The Elevation Monitoring proposal is being written by Dr. Thorstensen at SCSU and will be submitted to the Minnesota Sea Grant program by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Preliminary field work will be completed this summer by SCSU Hydrology students.

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

- Gary distributed a handout with discussion points on water quality monitoring. The handout is attached.
- Lake Surface Monitoring:
  - Continue with 6 monitoring points
  - Drop Zumwalde, add Bolting
  - Move the monitoring point in Krays
  - *Brad made a motion to adopt the proposal above. Seconded by Gary. Voted on and approved.*
- Lake Bottom Monitoring
  - This will be performed by the Sauk River Watershed District in 2024.
- Tributary monitoring
  - Potential monitoring points are Kolling Creek, Kinser Creek, Turtle Creek, and the Culvert into Long Lake
- It was decided to wait on lake bottom and tributary monitoring until after the SRWD sampling in 2024
- Lake Profile Monitoring
  - Gary discussed the purchase of a dissolved oxygen meter. The approximate cost is \$2000. The meter is out of stock right now.
  - DO sampling and data analysis needs to be part of an overall plan to determine where/when to sample and how often.
  - Decided to table the discussion for the next meeting
  - In the meantime, Gary will determine if the DO meter becomes available and send an email to the board to consider the purchase
- Roadside/Ditch cleanup is scheduled for May 6<sup>th</sup>. 10-15 volunteers will be needed.

### **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 treatment maps were reviewed for each lake with the following CLP treatment protocol proposed:
  - Becker: Mechanical
  - Bolfing: Mechanical
  - Krays: Mechanical
  - East Lake: Chemical
  - Great Northern: Mechanical
  - Knaus: Chemical
  - Schneider: Chemical
  - Zumwalde: Mechanical
  - Koetter: No treatment
  - Horseshoe: No Treatment
- Horseshoe and Cedar Island will be treated for HWM at 29 sites in June
- Brad will submit Permits for the above plan, pending DNR approval
- *Gary made a motion to adopt the proposal above. Seconded by Richard. Voted on and approved.*
- *\*\*Note, after the meeting an email proposal was submitted by Brad to contribute \$8,500 to the Long Lake Association toward their AIS management efforts. This has been planned in the budget. Karla made a motion to adopt the proposal above. Seconded by Susan. Voted on and approved.*

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

- No Report

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

- Richard discussed a proposed project to map out the 78 miles of SRCL shoreline. The project would be led by Dr. Lavigne, a professor of Environmental Studies at St. John's University. Dr. Lavigne as sponsoring faculty and the student as an undergrad in GIS (Geographic Info Systems), with a goal to characterize Chain shoreline as native vs lawn to facilitate targeted future outreach in support of native buffers.
- Shoreline would be categorized. From this data we could get statistics of the SRCL shoreline for future planning efforts.

### **Adjourn**

- *Gene made a motion to adjourn the March 28th SRCLA Board Meeting. – Seconded by Gary. Approved.*

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

- 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
- Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm – at Flexible Pipe Tool Company, 22606 186<sup>th</sup> Ave • Cold Spring/Microsoft Teams Remote Option

## 2023 Sauk River Chain of Lakes Water Quality Monitoring Discussion Points and Proposals

### Lake Surface Talking Points

- \*\*\* Limit monitoring to 6 existing sampling locations and parameters on the Chain
- Add locations Bolfling Lake, Becker Lake, Long Lake (cost per location for the year \$250)
- Eliminate one or more locations (savings per location for the year \$250)
- Adjust location of Krays and Zumwalde (move to location with more depth)
- Is the report that we received in 2022 what we want going forward? (\$1015 add approximately \$100 for each additional monitoring site)

### Lake Bottom Talking Points

- \*\*\* Begin taking lake bottom samples to assess legacy nutrient loading.
- Frequency and location of sampling sites.
- Analysis costs (cost per location per sample \$60)
- Equipment cost approximately \$50
- Would another report and the cost of that report be necessary?

### Tributary Monitoring Talking Points

- \*\*\* Begin tributary monitoring to assess nutrient loading from sources other than the Sauk River
- How many to monitor? Kinser Creek, Kolling Creek, Turtle Creek, Unnamed creek into the east shore of Long Lake, others.
- Where to monitor? Road access closest to where the creek flows into the lake on the chain.
- Frequency of monitoring. Would it be dependent on flow? (eg. limit to spring runoff, major storm event, normal seasonal flow)
- Cost to monitor (cost per location per sample \$50)
- Would another report and cost of that report be necessary?

### Lake Profile Monitoring Talking Points

- \*\*\* What is the value of dissolved oxygen/temperature profile?
- It would give a picture of the depth at which there is no longer enough DO to support fish and other aquatic organisms. It would also help understand the extent to which nutrients that have been deposited in the lake bottom are reintroduced upward into the water column again and are contributing to aquatic plant and algae proliferation in the chain of lakes.
- Equipment necessary and costs.
  - 3 types titration, electrochemical, optical.
    - Titration needs samples to be taken and done in a lab
    - Electrochemical sensors have membranes & electrolytes that must be replaced frequently and require frequent calibration.
    - Optical are more accurate, have less drift, have less maintenance, and hold Calibration longer
  - ProSoloDigital Water Quality Meter \$985 (YSI web site says it is on back order)
  - 20 meter cable and sensor for ODO (optical dissolved oxygen) monitoring \$940
  - Carrying case for equipment \$55
  - Sensor cap \$200 (it deteriorates over time decreasing accuracy, suggest replacing each year)
- Frequency and location of sampling sites. (existing monitoring sites, seasonal at selected sites, following major weather events, at what depth intervals, at the request of membership of SRCLA)
- Would another report be necessary and who would complete the report along with the cost of that report?