

Sauk River Chain of Lakes Association
Board MINUTES
Tuesday, January 16, 2024 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
At Flexible Pipe Tool Co. • 22606 186th Ave • Cold Spring
Zoom Remote Option

Call to Order – Brad Matuska

Present: Steve Reid, Rick Reimer, Aaron Schwartz, Karla Smetana, Troy Atkinson, Wayne Karg, Gary Schnobrich, Administrator: Trish Feldhaus,

Team Remote Options: Gambling Manager: Keely Frakes-Rau, Steve Weeres

Absent: Richard Gallea, Website Guru: Kersten Thellin

Review of past Minutes – Brad Matuska

- December Board Minutes Approved via Email – Brad Matuska

Gambling Manager Report

- Gambling Manager Report – Keely Frakes-Rau
- The annual inventory was sent to MN Dept of Revenue.
- \$300 from meat raffle inventory and gift cards was carried over to January.
- \$5000 donation was made to the organization.
- Comparison of 2022 vs. 2023 showed we did net more in 2023.
- *Gene Krebs made a motion to approve the December gambling report, seconded by Karla. Approved.*

Financial Report – Troy Atkinson

- Review Financials - Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet, and Check Register
- Troy reviewed a few years of financials and found our membership dues have been consistent the last few years.
- 2023 was higher in income than 2022.
- A couple expenses in December were website hosting and stamps for the business mailing.
- *Rick made a motion to approve the December Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet, and Check Detail. – Seconded by Wayne. Motion was approved.*
- 2024 Budget is very similar to 2023. Troy will email the board to review. Each committee should let Troy know if they need anything additional.
- Inventory Update – please let Troy know if you have anything for inventory. Brad will check the storage shed and get back to Troy.
- Karla also brought up that we need more magazines brought to Shadys.

Administration Report – Brad Matuska

- History Minute - Water Quality Goals - Did we meet them?
- These goals were set in 2005 and involved both flowage and non-flowage lakes.
- The report is posted in the drive for board members who are interested.
- We determined we need to focus on minimizing run-off.
- Grant Search and Writing Team – Julie determined applications will be due sometime between now and July 2024.
- Dam Control Update - DNR Letter is posted on the drive. The letter describes their position. We will continue to pursue it by watching it and staying active.
- 2024 Shoreland Workshop - February 8 – Brad will attend and present a project.
- 2024 Decals have been chosen and we will order about the same amount we did last year for each level.

Land Use Committee Report – Rick Reimer

- Land Steward Program Update
- Rick has not had contact with anyone on the program.

Marketing/Public Relations Committee Report

- Kersten has been reorganizing and archiving the website.
- We are promoting Catfish fest.
- Once we have the new decals the new images will be uploaded on the website.
- Kersten and Brenda have been working on creating an “online store”. If you renew your membership here (for a promotion with Catfish fest) we will be giving out promotional items with memberships.

- Business Membership Update – we mailed out 250 membership letters to businesses and received 21 so far. We are going to do a 2nd mailing in mid-February with our new 2024 rates.

- Catfish Fest Volunteers - Brad, Gary, Steve W, Steve Reid- February 9 and 10
- They will be evaluating on Monday, January 22nd to decide if the event can take place. They will need to determine if there will be enough ice.
- The event will run from 3pm Friday, Feb 9th until 3pm Saturday, Feb 10th.

- WaterFest - February 7 and 8 - Rick and Steve R. will be going to help. They are going to develop content so that they may be more involved next year.

- Social Media Update
- We feel extend marketing has done a great job with driving people to our website/facebook/Instagram pages.
- *Aaron made a motion to re-up our contract with Extend Marketing for the 2024 calendar year. Gary seconded. Voted on and approved.*

AIS Awareness and Prevention – Steve Weeres

- I-LIDS update
- Steve Weeres met with Stearns County Grant Committee. He said it went well and we should get approval for 2024.
- Lake Level Modeling Project Update – Annual summaries have been posted on the website along with graphs.
- Ice Level is not being monitored right now.

Water Quality Committee Report – Gary Schnobrich

- 2023 Water Quality Report
- A report was published that was based on the data that Gary and Wayne had collected. Once this has been looked over, it will be posted on our website.
- Gary will go out in February to Horseshoe, Bolging & Cedar Island to measure temperatures.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Committee Report

- The last survey we did will be a great tool for how we do treatments in 2024.
- We have about 17 unmonitored private landings. Something we could consider is talking to campgrounds to be on board with monitoring and possibly adding I-LIDS in the future.

- Establish Treatment Plan Committee – Brad asked for volunteers to help out on this committee to help prioritize treatments. They would also work with the DNR and Dan at Limnopro.
- Gene, Steve R., Steve W. and Rick will be on this committee. Wayne also volunteered although he may not be available much the next few months.

Fisheries Committee Report

- There are no new initiatives going on in Minnesota at this time.

Old Business

New Business

Adjourn

Gene made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Karla. Motion carried.

For the Good of the Association Meeting Schedule

- Tuesday, February 20th at 6:30 pm at Flexible Pipe Tool.