

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING LIVE & VIA ZOOM
June 17, 2022 STARTING AT 9:30 AM

Call to Order: 9:31 am by President Pam Schroeder who declared a quorum.

Board of Directors Present: Vi Lamers (Roberts Lake), Lee Lamers (Roberts Lake), Larry Sommer (Lake Lucerne), Pat Schultz (Jungle Lake), Bob Ebben (Arbutus Lake), Clair Carty (Bear Lake), Pam Schroeder (Little Long Lake), Curt Haga (Pickerel- Crane Lakes), Greg Schmitz (Camp Six), and Kathy Babcock (Butternut-Franklin Lakes).

Board of Directors & Liaisons Excused: Mark Smith (Lost Lake), Steve Kircher (Land & Water Conservation Dept.) , and Derek Thorn (FLOW-AIS).

Board of Directors Present via ZOOM: Jim Zach (Lake Lucerne).

Guests: Jean Fanin -- Forest County Zoning Department

INTRODUCTIONS, AGENDA

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion to accept the minutes from 05/20/22 was made by Lee Lamers and seconded by Curt Haga. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Bob Ebben distributed and reviewed the register report, net worth, and budget. He explained that he removed from the budget the \$5,000 that anticipated grant money which we did not receive. This is why the budget is now showing a deficit. Our net worth provides a cushion. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Larry Sommer and seconded by Lee Lamers. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob E. sent out approximately 20 membership reminders.

LIAISON REPORTS

Forest County Report – Steve Kircher was not able to attend, but sent a report (see attached).

WRISC (Wild Rives Invasive Species Coalition) – Larry Sommer reported that. . .

- FCAL was well represented at the WRISC Annual Meeting by Pam S., Larry S., Steve K., Derek T., and Kathy B.
- A highlight was WRISC's DASH raft (Diver Assisted Suction Harvester). Lee L., perhaps with Steve K., will contact WRISC for advice as they develop plans to outfit the pontoon boat that Lee was able to get donated to Roberts Lake with hopes of developing a multi-organizational use for the boat perhaps by FLOW, FCAL, and individual Forest County Lake Associations. In addition to reaching out to WRISC regarding the DASH boat, they might also reach out Marinette County, as Marinette has a DASH unit mounted on a pontoon.
- WRISC's strike team will remove the phragmites found in on Hwy 8 near Laona by Al Murray.

Lumberjack R & D Report – Larry Sommer reported that Lumberjack has hired a new forester who will be completing a forestry inventory and, among other things, studying the effects of weather, fire, and other environmental factors on the forests in the northern part of Wisconsin. The forester will have five other people reporting to him.

FLOW AIS (Forest, Langlade, Oconto Waterways Aquatic Invasive Species) Report -- Coordinator, Derek Thorn, was not able to be present, but sent a report. The highlights of this report include the following):

- Jean Sharer, the state-wide expert on Purple Loosestrife was visiting sites in Derek's territory.
- On June 5, Derek led a CBCW ('Clean Boats Clean Waters) training for 19 people from Lake Lucerne. He will be leading one for Butternut Franklin Lakes Association on June 27 as well as an AIS Monitoring class on Butternut on July 18.
- He has received the towels for giveaways at Lucerne, Metonga, and Butternut-Franklin boat landings as well as at Kentuck Days.

- Consider volunteering to bring samples of aquatic plants and animals to the Fall Forum where Derek will identify them for your lake – he will stay after the Fall Forum to do this as part of Snap Shot Day.

OLD BUSINESS

Essay Contest – Clair Carty has delivered the awards to the essay contest winners at each of the three schools (Crandon, Laona, and Wabeno). If possible, she will send copies of the essays that mentioned specific lakes to those lake associations.

Newsletter – Vi Lamers showed the proof of the summer newsletter that will be mailed to all riparian land owners in Forest County in the next couple of days. We thank Vi for her efforts.

For the next edition, Vi will seek bids for printing on white stock with colored photos.

Kentuck Days – Saturday, July 23.

- The booth has been reserved (\$25.00).
- Pam S., Vi L., and Kathy B. will meet to update our display board.
- Jim Zach will send contact information for Loon Watch at Northland College, so we can arrange to have the display for Kentuck Days and maybe at our annual meeting. Renting the board is free, except we will need to pay for postal insurance (insuring the package for \$300).
- Derek T. has acrylic blocks of some aquatic plants and animals for us to use in the booth.

Fall Forum – Friday, August 19.

- Jim Zach reserved the Lake Lucerne Pavilion for no charge.
- 8:30 am = FCAL's August Board Meeting
- 9:30 am – 11:30 am = Fall Forum, with Greg Matzke, Jean Fanin, and Derek Thorn doing short presentations and answering questions from the attendees.

Environmental Day – no update.

Annual Meeting and Banquet – Saturday, October 22.

- The Crandon Community Center has been reserved (\$450 rental fee).
- Ed from Ed's on Main Street in Argonne will cater and use the on-site kitchen.
- Christian Cole has agreed to be our presenter (\$250)
- Beer and wine, will be served – we can't sell it, but we will have a donation jar.
- Pam has found a donor to cover the cost of dinner for the essay contest winners and their family. Two families have already said they are coming.
- Pam and Larry will visit Ed to plan the menu – they will try to keep the cost between \$15.00 - \$20.00 per person.

Small Box Trailer with Drop Gate – After thorough research by Greg Schmitz, we decided not to invest in a trailer. We thank Greg for his efforts.

NEW BUSINESS

Guest Speaker: Jean Fanin from Forest County's Zoning Department, spoke about the importance of educating our lake association members about waterfront codes as they are designed to protect our lakes. When water quality declines, property values decline. By protecting our lakes, we protect our investments. She discussed the importance of providing a buffer zone between dwellings and the water in order to stabilize the shoreland, prevent ice damage, reduce erosion, etc. She noted that the 75 ft. set back allows space for trees which helps keep the water from heating up, which preserves fish habitat among other things.

Jean distributed copies of "A Homeowner's Guide to Septic Systems" and presented a PowerPoint on issues related to septic systems.

We thank Jean for sharing her expertise with us.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Larry Sommer, seconded by Lee Lamers. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.

Next BOD meeting will occur in-person at the Lakeside Center, Nicolet College, Rhinelander Friday, 15 July 2022 at 11:30 am. We will be assigned a breakout room for our meeting. The conference begins at 8:30 am – 12:30 pm (see attached for a tentative agenda). All are welcome. Consider bringing others from your lake association, too.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Babcock
Secretary



Forest County Land & Water Update For FCAL

Since 5/20/2022

6/17/2022

Steve Kircher here. I'm off to Chicago to welcome my newest Grandson. Kayla is off on Fridays.

Land & Water Update

- I recently completed and presented Forest County Land & Water's 5 year Plan Review for the Wisconsin Land and Water Board. We were unanimously approved to proceed as planned. We were asked about our progress with Stream Crossings. I informed the Board that we continue to replace damaged/inadequate stream crossings in the county. Working with Trout Unlimited and the Forest County Highway Department, we are replacing one or two projects per season. I was also asked about Managed Grazing Plans for Forest County. To date, we don't have them and most of our cattle ranchers are allowed to 'free range' their cows. We will continue to educate and encourage farmers to practice rotational grazing and use cover crops.
- As Derek will probably inform you, there is a confirmed location of Phragmites in Forest County. The site was first brought to our attention by Al Murray. Verification was done by Derek, FLOW AIS and the DNR shortly afterwards. Removal and control of the phragmites will be done by WRISC this year.
- I received a phone call from Gary Mueller, former President of the Lake Metonga Association regarding having the County take over the Clean Boats Clean Waters Program in Forest County. We would apply for the grant and do the hiring of the CBCW personnel and administer the payroll for them. Derek and I believe this could create a smoother hiring process of interns. We'll be looking for support of FCAL and help with the match requirements of the grant. The match requirements could be up to, but no more than a value \$6,000.00. Currently, we are looking for Metonga, Lucerne, Silver, Bitternut/Franklin to participate. The match can come

from multiple sources, volunteer time and several different types of donations. Details of the grant are still being worked out at this time. If you have questions contact us. We'd like to have the program in place for next summer.

- Land & Water plans on attending the Northwoods Six-County Lakes meeting at Nicolet College on Friday, July 15th.