

**FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Crandon Public Library and via Zoom
Friday, June 21, 2024**

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:35 am by Vice President Greg Schmitz who established a quorum.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Present: Greg Schmitz, Bob Ebben, Larry Sommer, Clair Carty, Pat Schultz, Mark Truymen, Derek Thorn, and Kathy Babcock.

Board of Directors present via ZOOM: None due to no ZOOM access.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Excused: Pam Schroeder, Vi Lamers, Lee Lamers, Jim Zach, Curt Haga, and Mark Smith.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Absent: Steve Kircher, Mike Henderson, Patty Orlovsky, and Dan Verbanec.

Guests: Diane Smith.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion to accept the minutes from May 17, 2024 was made by Mark Truymen and seconded by Larry Sommer. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT -- Bob Ebben presented the treasurer's report.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Larry Sommer and seconded by Mark Truymen. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob explained that he did try to change the date at the top of the budget from 2023 to 2024. Because the program he is using is somewhat complicated, he asked that we just make the correction with pen.

GRANT UPDATES

CoVantage – Bob submitted a \$1,500 grant request for supplies to build the monofilament receptacles and for lead-free sinker supplies. This request is pending.

Associated Bank – Bob discovered that Associated Bank has a grant program. He will do a bit more research on this, but will likely apply for a grant to help cover the costs of the essay contest.

Visit Forest County – We are now members. Bob will follow up with them to see what kind of grant opportunities there might be.

LIAISON REPORTS

Forest County Land and Water Conservation: no report at this time.

FLOW/AIS: Derek Thorn reported that. . .

- he, Kayla, Steve, and Rosie & her Tech from Vilas County have been collecting Purple Loosestrife beetles;
- the Spongy Moth breakout throughout much of Forest County is severe;
- a small fragment of Curly Pond Weed was found in Crane Lake – due to its very small size, its status per the DNR is Observation Only. They will survey Crane again next spring;
- the Six-County Lakes & Rivers Meeting is July 12 at Nicolet College in Rhinelander. A revised agenda will be available in the next few days;
- he will attend a Plant ID meeting next week; and,
- he will provide a bag of materials for our booth at Kentucky Day although he will not be able to attend the full day.

Lumberjack: Larry Sommer reported that. . .

- he has been elected president of Lumberjack;
- Lumberjack continues to work with Enbridge;
- Lumberjack will be meeting in July – they will begin reviewing grant applications;
- grant applications are due by the end of the year and voted on by the end of January 2025;
- grant requests can be made for up to \$10,000 and must include a cost-share provision; and,
- they have \$65,000 to distribute.

WRISC: Derek noted that WRISC is doing Purple Loosestrife work, too. Kathy reported that she attended the WRISC Annual Meeting and encourages others to attend next year. The presentations were educational – among the topics, some presentations were about current invasive species and how WRISC is currently

targeting them, as well as those that WRISC is watching as these invasives are in Canada or Michigan and moving towards us.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Annual Meeting/Dinner – Thursday, October 24 at Ed’s in Argonne.

Business Donations & New Membership Forms – Larry has attempted to contact Conway Tru-Value, Charlie’s, and Water’s Edge. He will continue to do so until he is able to meet directly with the person in charge of making the decision to join FCAL.

Diane Smith requested that plaques for Business Members be on the agenda for our next meeting. Are we interested in providing these for each business member? Cost of frames and certificate?

Environmental Days – Date to be determined. No report at this time.

Essay Contest – Clair Carty reported that the *Forest Republican* gave this event great coverage including many photos of the students. The article with photos will be placed on the new web page.

Fall Forum – Friday, August 16 at Lake Lucerne Pavilion from 9:30am – 11:30am. Speakers include Jeannie Fannin (Forest County Zoning Dept.), John Richter (Plum Lake Association & River Alliance), and Kayla Littleton (Forest County Land and Water Conservation Dept).

Kentuck Days – Saturday, July 27. WRISC usually brings materials as does Steve Kircher’s office and FLOW. Our set-up crew will meet at 8 am. Our booth will be in the same location as last year. Because we are members of *Visit Forest County*, we are not being charged for our spot. Larry has already ordered 300 tote bags at \$3.50 each. We will have at least 150 printed in time for Kentuck Days. Diane Smith reported that Mark Smith has set aside maple syrup for new members who join while visiting the booth. Greg Schmitz will print off membership forms to bring and will have the sinkers for give-a-ways.

Newsletter – Special thanks go out to Vi Lamers for doing a fabulous job on this year’s newsletter. Not only did she design and edit it, she wrote most of the articles. Next year more of us should provide her with articles.

We need to follow up with Steve regarding accuracy of the mailing list. Kathy has been at her new address for two years and her newsletter is still being mailed to her old address; she also knows of people not receiving it.

Website -- no report at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Monofilament Receptacles – Discussion about proceeding with this project with or without grant money ensued and it was agreed that proceeding is a good idea. According to Diane Smith, Mark S. has gotten information about the cost and will get in touch with Greg. Per Diane, Mark S. is willing to pick up the materials. Bob will make sure that Mark S. and Greg Schmitz have the tax-exempt number. We are considering placing the receptacles at boat landings on the following lakes: Metonga (2 landings), Lucerne, Roberts, Silver, Pine, Pickerel, & Lily and possibly Sevenmile and Kentuck.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Mark Truymen, seconded by Larry Sommer. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:38 am. Motion carried unanimously.

Note: Our next Board of Directors Meeting is on Friday, July 12 at Nicolet College immediately following the Six-County Lakes Meeting. The Six-County Meeting begins at 8:30 am. Our meeting begins at approximately 12 noon. There will be no ZOOM access for this meeting. Please let Pam and Kathy know if you are not able to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Babcock
Secretary