

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Associated Bank, Crandon
Friday, February 21, 2025

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by President Pam Schroeder who established a quorum.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Present: Pam Schroeder, Bob Ebben, Greg Schmitz, Lisa Vida, Pat Schultz, Mike Henderson, Lee Lamers, Vi Lamers, Derek Thorn, Jim Zach, and Kathy Babcock.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Excused: Clair Carty, Diane Smith, and Mark Smith.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Absent: Mark Orlovsky and Kayla Littleton

Guest: None.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept the minutes from January 17, 2025 was made by Vi Lamers, seconded by Jim Zach. Motion to accept the minutes with a small change (Summer to Sommer) was revised. Revised motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Ebben reported that the dues have been steadily coming in since he sent out the renewal form with Greg's reworked letter. This, plus donations, are helping replenish our check book. Bob presented the Register Report, Current Budget, and Net Worth. Mike Henderson made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Lee Lamers. Motion passed unanimously.

GRANT UPDATES: Bob reported that . . .

- we have received the \$1,000 grant from Mole Lake Sakoagon ; next year, we may want to increase the amount we request.
- he has been in touch with Mr. Ison of the Laona State Bank. Ison is checking to see if they have a grant program similar to Co-Vantage's.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Forest County Land and Water Conservation: Kayla is currently running the native plant sale.

Lumberjack: No report at this time.

WRISC: No report at this time. However, Sherry Pethers is on the WRISC board and has volunteered to give Clair Carty a report after each of their board meetings. Kathy Babcock will also serve as a liaison on the off months that WRISC does not have a board meeting.

FLOW/AIS: Derek Thorn report:

- Lakes and Rivers Convention March 26-28. He will be presenting on the work done on his resort owner outreach project.
- Six Counties Lake Conference will be held at Nicolet College on July 11 at 8:30 am.
- Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) – there will be two online training session April 22 (1-3pm) and May 5 (9-10am). These are being sponsored by Oneida, Vilas, and Lincoln Counties.

Committee Reports

**Essay Contest (spring)– Kathy Babcock and Clair Carty* – Kathy reported that she and Clair will be typing up the essay question and the directions. This year's topic is about the students' relationship with Nature – they will write a myth, legend, or fable and use personification in the process. The setting will be somewhere in Forest County, on a waterbody or in its surrounding area.

**Newsletter (article due date = April 30) – Vi Lamers*. Vi will reach out to Kayla to make sure the addresses we are provided are more accurate than they were last year. Kathy has offered to check to see that all of FCAL's members are on that list. Vi reports that she has lined up quite a few articles already:

- an article by Jim Zach
- Roberts Lake's wake boat ordinance

- Mole Lake grant (Pam)
- loon births (Pat)
- essay contest winners (Clair)
- activities for lakes and fisheries
- business members (Bob)
- fishing line receptacles (Greg)
- quotes for filling white space (Mike)
- resort project (Derek)
- AI poem on water (Vi)
- PFAS or water quality article (Lisa)

**Kentuck Day (July 26) – Greg Schmitz and Mark Smith.* We have two booths reserved; we have plenty of bags, but we will need more literature. Derek has some. We will ask Kayla and WRISC if they have any to donate.

**Fall Forum (August 15) – Jim Zach.* Jim reports he has been working on a speaker list with the following possibilities:

Bob Martini (Green Fire)- 50th Anniversary of the Clean Waters Act

Carol Warden – Glacial Lake Hydrology/Lake Ecologies

Sakoagon Community – Treaty Rights

Etc.

**Environmental Day (date in September TBD) - Lee Lamers and Kayla Littleton.* Lee recognized the amount of work Kayla does for this event. He also indicated that we have a new warden, who they will ask to participate.

**Annual Meeting (Thursday, October 16) – Pam Schroeder.*

No venue has been selected yet – possible places were suggested including JARS and the Casino in Carter. We would prefer to support

one of our business partners if their space will work for us.
Discussion about whether the event should be on Thursday, 10/16;
Friday, 10/17; or, Saturday, 10/18. We decided upon Thursday,
October 16th.

Miscellaneous Business

Larry Sommer—Pam reported the sad news that Larry Sommer has passed. The funeral service will be in Denmark, WI at Cotter Funeral Home. Lee Lamers made a motion that we send \$100 to the Crandon Lion's Club in memory of Larry. This was seconded by Lisa Vida. Motion passed unanimously. Kathy will send a sympathy card. Bob will send the donation. Pam will send flowers.

River Alliance – Bob reported that we received a request for a donation from River Alliance. Kathy Babcock made a motion to donate \$100 to River Alliance, seconded by Greg Schmitz. Motion passed unanimously.

Loon Watch – Pat Schultz reported that Loon Watch is losing its headquarters as Northland College is closing. Loon Watch has pledged to continue even as it looks for a new location.

Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Conference 2025 Delegates – In addition to Derek Thorn, Kathy Babcock will attend.

May 6th Conservation Lobby Day Request – more on this at the next meeting.

By-law Review -- Lisa Vida and Pam Schroeder will take on this task.

"Lakes at Stake" video – provided by Jim Zach and viewed by all; Kathy will put this on the website.

Next Meeting – There will be NO MARCH MEETING. Our next meeting will be Friday, April 18, 9:30 am at the bank. Zoom and in person.

Adjourn – Motion to adjourn at 11:15 made by Kathy Babcock, seconded by Jim Zach. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Babcock