

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

July 9, 2022

Cable Community Centre and Zoom

Attending : Tom Johnson, Jon Nymo, Jerry Kollross, Jodi Pfaff Gillman, Ed Ronkowski, Bill Hannaford, Terry Miller, Clint Harris, Mike Yankee, Dave Berg
Via Zoom: Amy Louis

Guests: Cheryl Clemens, Steve Schieffer

Meeting was called to order by President Tom Johnson at 9:05 CDT, 67 members attended the meeting either in person or via zoom.

1. Tom welcomed attendees and introduced the board members, along with Lake Manager Cheryl, Scientist, Steve Schieffer, Fisheries Advisor, Paul Rhodes, and Webmaster, Ed Ronkowski.
2. **Lake Manager report:** Cheryl explained Zoom procedures and discussed goals for keeping the lake clean. She urged members to access the LOA website as a resource for lake news, activities, and social events. She briefly reviewed the strategic plan for Lake Owen, talked about CBCW, monitoring of the two boat landings, the need for additional staffing, and use of the hot water decon unit for cleaning boats, in accordance with the Bayfield County Ordinance. More boats were washed this year in two months than were washed all of last year. A bleach sanitizing station has been installed at the campground landing.

Help is available for native planting assistance, contact Cheryl. Also, infiltration assistance is available, especially where there are hard surfaces, which are the worst.

Use of Wake Boats was discussed. Several area lakes have an ordinance limiting the distance these boats must operate from the shoreline, between 300' and 700', depending on the size of the lake. LOA will consider updating the wake ordinance in 2023.

3. **Lake Owen research activities:** Steve gave a very interesting and comprehensive report on the research being done on Lake Owen. Much of this information is on the website. The lake is extremely stratified and there is no

algae on the surface and the bottom water is very cold. Phosphorus is at the bottom and the lake mixed in November, which is quite late compared to other lakes. Phosphorus was undetectable in March.

The thermistor string has been placed in the deepest part of the lake (South Big Bay) and is marked by a large orange buoy. The thermistor measures the water temperature at various depths. This is the best way to monitor possible evidence that algae or other water problems may occur.

Steve will conduct two free pontoon tours on Lake Owen, on July 26th and 28th, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am.

4. Lake Owen Protection and Preservation Endowment campaign: Jodi Pfaff Gillman discussed the campaign to raise \$2.5 million to help finance continued operation of the many activities currently being done by LOA. So far, \$754,000.000 has been secured. We are currently operating off a DNR grant of \$182K, which is gone after this year. The Board contributed \$143K to secure the grant in 2018, which provided adequate funding over the past two years. Dues, donations, and a CBCW monitoring grant do not provide necessary funding for all activities, including full time monitoring, so it is essential that the goal of \$2.5M be reached over the next 4-5 years.

5. Treasurer's report: Bill Hannaford reported that of the 253 eligible Lake Owen residents, 152 have paid their dues and donations. Annual income is \$84K, which includes dues, donations, and grants. Dues budget for next year is \$12K. Expenses total \$99.5K, thus a deficit of \$15.5K next year. Net worth is \$679,734K. Consulting fees were \$38K for Cheryl and Steve, and wages were \$25K for Monitors at the two boat landings.

6. Member survey Jerry Killross discussed the Lake Owen member survey. The goal is to have a diverse group of lake residents participate in one of two focus group meetings, at 5 to 7PM, on August 9th and August 23rd.

7. Fishing report, Paul Rhodes: The DNR survey indicated 2.7 walleyes per mile in the lake, quite low. 12,685 fingerling walleyes were planted in the lake in 2020, and the same number will be released this year. Other fish (bass, northerns, crappies, sunfish, etc.,) were 27 per mile. The tribe speared only 9 walleyes, which is low compared to previous years.

8. LP gas purchase, Dave Berg: Midland Services, Inc.in Ashland, will once

again be the preferred propane vendor for Lake Owen members. Their price from July, 2022 thru April, 2023 is \$1.79 per gallon for the 2021-22 season purchases. Compared to other vendors, Midland has NO additional fees, no pre-pay, and may offer a rebate of \$4.8 cents per gallon purchased.

9. Board of Directors nominations: Tom thanked Terry Miller for his many years of excellent service on the Board of Directors. Bill Hannaford, Clint Harris, and Amy Louis were re-nominated for 3 year terms. Nora O'Leary was nominated and unanimously voted in as a new board member, replacing Terry Miller.

10. Annual Picnic: Jon Nymo reported on the annual picnic, at 5:00 pm, at the North End picnic grounds. The Brickhouse is catering the food, which includes a full menu consisting of baked chicken, pulled pork and buns, cole slaw, potato salad, baked beans, desserts, and homemade dill pickles from Jon.

11. LOA Charity Golf Event at TOIX: Jodi Pfaff Gillman invited all members to sign up and attend the annual golf event on August 15th, at 9:00 am, registration. Shotgun tee off at 10:00 am. Spots available for 36 people, and lunch will be served. Cost is \$25 per golfer, \$15 per guest. Contact Jodi to register.

12. Member questions: Mark Gillman cautioned tubers to avoid going in circles on the main lake, instead, drive your boat North/South, to save the shoreline from erosion.

13. Meeting adjourned at 10:54 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Nymo, Secretary
