

EMILY LAKES AND RIVER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 18, 2023, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Russ Boverhuis at 7:06 pm. This meeting was hosted by Jean McLeod at her home with call in options for those unable to attend in person. Board members present – Russ Boverhuis, Jason Herfel, Randy Manlick, Randy Holz, Steve Smith, Jean McLeod, and Mark Seifert.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda was sent via email prior to the meeting. No changes were made. Randy M. made a motion to approve the agenda. Steve seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

3.1 April 2023 Board Meeting

The Secretary's Report from the April 20th board meeting was distributed via email. No changes were made to the minutes. Steve made a motion to approve the report. Randy H. seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

4.1 Treasurer Reports

Randy M. distributed and presented the Accounts Activity and Balance Reports. Our checking account balance is \$5,744.17. We had a \$150 deposit from membership and two checks were written to the City of Emily totaling \$110. There is a balance of \$18,309.51 in the savings account.

4.2 Budget vs Actual Report

Eighty-three members have so far paid membership dues to ELRA. To date we have spent \$973.38. Mark made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Jean seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

2023 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Randy M. received some forms from Russ to mail out to those who haven't paid this year, but who paid last year, and some for personal delivery to those residents missing mailboxes which were hit by snowplows during the past winter. Our membership goal is 95, but 100 members is attainable.

AIS Activities

6.1 PLM – Alternate Notification Procedure

Russ received verbal approval from Tim Pflug (of PLM) to go ahead and submit our public notice that our lake waters will be tested this summer. Russ sent our notice to Northland Press and it will be published in next week's edition.

6.2 Freshwater Scientific Contract

The contract was signed by Russ and Jason after last month's meeting and returned. We are expecting our lakes to be surveyed in late June or July.

6.3 DNR Grant

Russ reported that at some point we must send the DNR our testing permits, which are being prepared by PLM.

EMILY LAKES AND RIVER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 18, 2023, 7:00 PM

6.4 Crow Wing County Grant

No activity thus far unless we send them a bill.

6.5 City of Emily Grant

Similarly, no activity thus far unless we send them a bill.

Social Activity - Boat Parade

Boat participants should rendezvous at the Little Pine River/Lake Mary junction at 1pm on July 1 for the start of the boat parade. As in previous years, the route will proceed around Lake Mary and then move on to Lake Emily.

Annual Meeting

8.1 Outline Agenda

The ELRA Annual Meeting is to be held in the Emily City Hall on August 12th. At last month's meeting, it was suggested that we invite a new DNR hydrologist as a guest speaker. Jason reached out to this person who declined the invitation citing staffing shortages and departmental priorities. However, he was willing to answer questions we had (or direct them to other experts for their comment) that might be of interest to the membership. In our discussion, it was felt that we could prepare and present an informative session along the line of what we might have gotten from the hydrologist if we gathered questions beforehand that they would answer. The questions could be gathered from Board members and/or through a survey vehicle (SurveyMonkey or Constant Contact) in our next Association newsletter. Board members are to email Mark questions that could be submitted to DNR experts and he will compile them.

Annual Meeting Agenda and Timeline

8:00am - Board members arrive at City Hall to help set up the meeting space. Russ has arranged to get a key so that the ceiling fan/AC system (thermostat box) can be shut off during the meeting to improve hearing and communication.

8:30am – Registration begins

9:00am – Meeting begins

Secretary's Report from 2022

Treasurer's Report

Audit Committee Report

Water Quality Committee Report

2024 Budget

Election of Officers

Presentation (Survey Results)

Adjournment

WATERS COMMITTEE UPDATE

9.1 Waters Committee Update

Has not met since our last meeting.

EMILY LAKES AND RIVER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 18, 2023, 7:00 PM

9.2 Water Monitoring

Water sampling will be conducted per protocol next weekend (the weekend after the fishing opener) by Randy M. He samples water near the inlets of the Little Pine River to Lake Mary and Lake Emily and delivers the samples for analysis.

9.3 Water Improvement/9.4 Dam

Jason reported on his presentation to the City Council on May 9th concerning the breach in the dam. There was support from the City for making repairs to the dam this summer. Jason will follow up to see how this project is moving along and report back to the Board.

FISH STOCKING

Russ will call Doug (who obtains the fish for release) tomorrow to arrange a time for stocking fish in Lake Mary. The DNR stocks walleye fry in Lake Emily, but the Association pays for walleye fingerling stocking in Lake Mary (2 out of 3 years) since that lake has no public water access. We will ask permission of the owners of Miehke's Resort since this is where fish are released from. Because of interest in this activity, we will post a past video of a fish release on the ELRA Facebook page.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jean mentioned an upcoming presentation by WAPOA on shoreline restoration and maintenance. There may be an opportunity to have someone involved present similar information at our annual meeting.

Russ received emails from LARA (an association of lake associations) inquiring about the date of our annual meeting. That board would like to send someone to that meeting to learn what other lake associations are doing.

Russ reported on the MN Lakes and River Advocates. They have the Lake Stewardship Program and have resources that may be of interest to us.

Russ received an email from Aquarius Systems Company that warned of the use of certain chemicals for controlling lake vegetation.

Russ received an email from AquaRealTime, a company that sells buoys that can be placed in lakes to monitor a variety of elements (green and blue algae, turbidity, sunlight, wind, and rain) in real time.

MN Lakes and River Advocates has a video outreach service to do videos that we could show at our annual meeting or post on our website (e.g., on lakeshore restoration or other topics).

Mark Drewitz is our current webmaster. However, we need a backup for him.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next Board meeting is June 15th, 7pm. The location will be announced before the next meeting. Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Jason. Motion was carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Seifert