



ELRA Annual Meeting - Your Attendance Needed

The Annual ELRA annual meeting will be held on **Saturday, August 17, 2019** at the Emily City Hall starting with an **8:30 a.m.** social period with the business meeting beginning at **9:00 a.m.** Light refreshments will be provided. Your lake association needs your participation to be effective.

Short presentations will be made on aquatic invasive species identification, water quality, and water safety/etiquette.

Business Meeting Agenda items include:

- Eurasian water milfoil control strategies
- Fish Stocking report
- Zebra Mussel Report
- 2020 Budget
- Board elections - **Two** Director positions are open this year.

All members are eligible to vote (one vote per property) and present actions for consideration. **Plan to attend now!**

If you are absolutely unable to attend you may sign a proxy designating a member attending to vote in your place. Presently, proxies count towards a quorum for the meeting but the proxy holder can only use it to vote in the elections to the Board. A proxy format is included with this newsletter.

Pay Your Dues

If you have not yet paid your dues you should do so before the Annual Meeting. Please send your check for \$50 to ELRA, P.O. Box 111, Emily, MN 56447. You may also pay on-line at www.emilylakes.org via credit card with a charge of \$51.50. The extra \$1.50 goes towards the credit card processing fee.

If you have paid your dues for 2019 - Thank You!

ELRA Board Position Opportunities!

At this year's annual meeting two Board of Director positions will need to be filled. Current board member Wayne Gapseiwicz is term-limited and not able to be re-elected. Tami Froidcoeur stepped down for family reasons earlier this year.

You may be the person that can step up and serve. You will learn much, get to know many more people, help your lakes and river and maybe even have some fun. Remember - if not you who, if not now when!

Proposed By-Laws Change

Currently the holder of a proxy at the annual meeting may use that proxy to count towards a quorum for the meeting and to vote on candidates for Board positions. The proxy holder is not allowed to use the proxy to vote on other issues that come before the Annual Meeting.

Article IV, Section 1 Annual Meeting currently reads "**A majority of the voting members present and voting shall decide all questions except as stated in Article XIV.**" Article XIV deals with by-law amendments/changes which allow for a mail in vote.

Article IV, Section 1 Annual Meeting is **proposed** to read "**A majority of the voting members present plus valid proxies held by members shall decide all questions except as stated in Article XIV.**"

Per the By-Laws a 3/5 vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting or casting a mailed vote is required to adopt the change. If you will not be attending the Annual Meeting but wish to vote yea or nay on this change please mail your vote to ELRA, P. O. Box 111, Emily, MN 56447. Your mailing must contain your name clearly legible on the envelop or elsewhere in order that the Secretary can determine the vote came from a current member. One vote per property is allowed.

Contact the ELRA Board at elra@emilylakes.org if there is any question.

Eurasian Water Milfoil Update

ELRA engaged the services of PLM for treatment of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) again in 2019. Surveys were completed of both Emily and Mary (see maps posted on ELRA web site).

The Board has approved the treatment as proposed by PLM; however, the MN DNR is reviewing and considering a possible less aggressive treatment plan. The MN DNR through their permitting process has the final say on the areas to be treated.

Many thanks to those who provided donations to help with this year's treatment.

Following is the required MN DNR treatment notice which also appeared in the July 9 edition of the Northland Press.

NOTICE

**Emily Lakes and Rivers Association
P.O. Box 111
Emily, MN 56447**

The Emily Lakes and Rivers Association has contracted to treat Eurasian Water Milfoil, an Aquatic Invasive Species in Emily Lake and Mary Lake in 2019.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has granted to the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association a waiver of the requirement that the association obtain the signatures of approval of owners of lake-shore property. Instead, the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association will notify property owners of the treatment through alternate forms. This notice is one form that the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association is using to notify property owners. Other forms include but not limited to notification through the associations web page, member newsletter and annual meeting.

With regard to the treatment for this year, 2019:

1. The proposed date for treatment: July 10, 2019 through October 1, 2019
2. The target species for the treatment: Eurasian Water Milfoil
3. The method of control or product being used: EPA and MDA registered aquatic herbicides, such as but not limited to Liquid 2,4-D, Granular 2,4-D, Granular Triclopyr
4. How landowners my request that control not occur adjacent to the landowner's property: If you desire that the treatment of Eurasian Water Milfoil not occur adjacent to your property, please notify the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association immediately at the following address and email address below:

P.O. Box 111
Emily, MN 56447
elra@emilylakes.org

City of Emily - Waters Fund Issue

For the past 4 years the City of Emily has maintained and funded the Emily Waters Fund. This provided funds to area lake associations for assistance in aquatic invasive species (AIS) more specifically Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). ELRA utilized these funds in 2016. In 2017 and 2018 treatment areas were such that Crow Wing County AIS funds as well as ELRA budgeted funds and donations from members and others covered the necessary costs.

This year the City of Emily's consulting attorney rendered an opinion that the funding was not legal as currently structured. In order to meet state statutes, in his opinion, the lakes had to be wholly within the jurisdiction of the City of Emily. Emily Lake is also partly in Fairfield Township and Mary Lake is partly in Little Pine Township. The remedy proposed by the City's consulting attorney was a Joint Powers Agreement with the respective Townships.

It became the responsibility of ELRA to initiate and draft the Joint Powers Agreement. A draft agreement was prepared by ELRA which the City's attorney reviewed and provided proposed revisions. We had no objections to the revisions so a final document was then available for presentation to Little Pine Township and Fairfield Township.

As of this writing, Little Pine Township and Fairfield Township have both approved the Agreements. The Emily City Council will consider these agreements at a special council meeting on Wednesday, July 17 at 5:30 p.m.

If approved by the City, the City funding should be available as in past years.

Thanks to all who showed their support for the city funding or attended the City Council meeting at which it was discussed.

Zebra Mussel Inspections

ELRA participates with Crow Wing County for the testing of veligers (larvae form of the zebra mussel). **Doug Tarasar** takes samples which are tested to determine if the veligers are present. This is an "early warning system" for the presence of zebra mussels. The Crow Wing County AIS program pays for the test. Thus far no veligers have been detected.

In just a few short weeks the season will start to wind down. As you remove items from the water remember to check your docks, boats, lifts, etc. for any presence of zebra mussels. Should you find any report these to the Minnesota DNR at (218-203-4354) and to ELRA at elra@emilylakes.org.

Boat Parade Held

The ELRA Annual Boat Parade was held Saturday July 6. Thanks to those who took time to decorate their boats/pontoons in the red, white and blue. Thanks also to those on shore who cheered on the parade!

ELRA Proxy Format

This is to certify that _____, a voting member of the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association, has designated _____ as his/her representative to cast all votes that said member may be entitled to vote on at the Annual Meeting of the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association to be held on August 17, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. as specified in the Emily Lakes and Rivers Association By-Laws.

This proxy shall expire following the adjournment of the specified meeting.

Member Designating this Proxy