

## FTLPOA BOARD MEETING – April 15, 2023

### 9:30 AM -- Campfire Bay Resort

**Board Members Present:** Scott Schnuckle – President, Ron Nypan – Vice President, Gary Ziehmann – Treasurer, Mary Thibert – Secretary, Paul Baker (via phone), Doug Copley, Marie Hilliard, Chuck Salter, Brian Sams, Ron Markfelder, Mike Meis.

**Absent:** Mary Hodgins, Jon-Scott Johnson **Also Attending:** Tom Anderson and Chris Ziehmann from the LID

**Call to Order:** Scott Schnuckle called the meeting to order at 9:30am

**First Order of Business:** After ten years of service as Board Secretary, Mary Thibert is retiring from that role after the Property Owner Association meeting this summer. Mary will continue as a FTLPOA Board Member. Thank you so much Mary for your outstanding work as secretary. We appreciate your many years of support!

**Secretary's Report:** Gary Ziehmann motioned to accept the minutes from the fall board meeting, Brian Sams seconded, the motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Gary Ziehmann submitted the treasurer's report and it was accepted as submitted. Gary motioned to approve operating expenses remaining at previous year's levels. Chuck Salter seconded, motion carried.

#### Old Business:

A. CD3 Boat Cleaning Station – Chuck Salter

The CD3 station records frequency and types of usage and we're pleased to see it got quite a bit of use. The original plug wrench was made of plastic and was stripped by the end of the season. The CD3 supplier has provided a metal replacement at no charge. Chuck will report usage again at the end of this summer.

B. Lake Shamaineau Project Update – Gary Ziehmann

Permits and agreements are in place and there is a plan for the pumping project to move forward. Unfortunately, costs have gone up in virtually every area, so the budget has gone from the original estimate of approximately \$2 million to over \$5 million. The Lake Shamaineau LID is requesting \$3 million in State general obligation bonds and State bond funds will be matched by lake property owners.

C. Initiative Foundation Endowment Fund – Gary Ziehmann

The current endowment fund is just under \$65,000 and, in spite of market fluctuations, earnings over the life of the fund are approximately \$17,000.

Use of funds for 2023:

1. Scott will contact Blue Water Science to conduct another analysis of the lake. According to a recent DNR sampling, lake phosphorous levels were up slightly. If Blue Water isn't available, Scott will pursue other sources.
2. We continue offering grants for native plants. Ron Nypan utilized the grant last year and was very pleased with the results. Two other property owners have applied for the grant as well. Ron will write a story to include in the newsletter to encourage others to take advantage of the grant.

D. Water Levels & Beaver Management – Brian Sams

Due to heavy snows this winter, water levels will be up. We're seeing more beaver activity than last year. There's a smaller dam about one mile west of Hwy 10 near the pipeline. Creek is moving slowly but could double if we clear out the dam and Brian thinks he can get that done. There are also a couple other lodges near Hwy 10 under construction. Scott will provide Brian with contact information for Tyler who has helped manage the beaver population in another location. Brian will also reach out to Morrison County who has been helpful in the past. Note: Per the DNR, property owners may address beaver issues when they're causing property damage.

E. Website/Newsletter -- Chris Ziehmman

The Spring issue of the newsletter is slated to come out by Memorial Weekend. Items to be included should be submitted to Chris by May 8<sup>th</sup>. To date we have 23 advertisers representing \$575 in revenue. Special thanks to Ballou Plumbing of Randall who paid twice the normal advertising rate in thanks to the many Fish Trap Lake property owners who have used their services.

Our web designer, April Powell utilizes WordPress and has some suggestions to update the website. Chris will speak with April and share those suggestions with the board. In order to manage costs, we typically do updates with April once per year (images in the banner carousel need to be managed by April). Other updates can be provided to Chris in MS Word and static images can be added so forward any new imagery to Chris for consideration.

The Fish Trap Lake Facebook page is managed by Laura Zachman Walder. It was established three years ago and has 1,300 members. Because some property owners only rely on social media rather than visiting the FTLPOA website, it could be helpful to share information about upcoming meetings, etc. Tom Anderson will provide Laura's contact information to Chris so they can coordinate.

**New Business:**

A. New Board Secretary: Marie Hilliard has volunteered to serve as Board Secretary and was unanimously approved by the Board at the beginning of today's meeting. Thanks to Mary Thibert for covering the annual meeting this summer and then Marie will resume the role.

B. LID Update – Tom Anderson and Chris Ziehmman

The LID has been getting a lot of feedback from property owners complaining of lake weeds. The LID has spoken to 20 different weed control companies and many of them use divers to physically pull weeds, which isn't feasible with 40 acres of curly-leaf pondweed. The search was narrowed down to five companies and decided upon:

- RMB Lab in Detroit Lakes will do lake testing
- Lake Restoration will do weed control treatments

This is consistent with the DNR's preference to have two different firms do testing and treating. We increased the budget last year for weed control to \$60/PO and we have adequate balance in spite of increased costs. Tom will take the lead to discuss non-invasive weed control with the DNR. The DNR doesn't allow weed treatment of the public landing. They did improve the dock last year however (new decking, new rubber bumpers, inflated tires, etc.). We would like another 16' added to the dock; 8' onto shore and an additional 8' into the water. Paul Baker will reach out to the DNR office in Little Falls who manages landings to see if they could extend the dock.

C. Fishery Testing – Paul Baker: The DNR has moved to fishery testing every three years instead of every four. Eric and his team will be testing at Fish Trap mid-July. Paul will pursue electro testing with the DNR to prevent the fish-kill from gill netting.

**Date for Annual Meeting:** The Annual Meeting of the Fish Trap Lake Improvement District (LID) and Property Owners Association is set for **June 10<sup>th</sup>** at 9:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., respectively, at Scandia Valley Town Hall. Thank you to Mary Hodgins for making the arrangements for the meeting.

**Post meeting addendum:** At the August 15, 2020 Annual Meeting, use of endowment funds was approved for an updated lake study. After our spring board meeting, Scott Schnuckle contacted Steve McComas from Blue Water Science to see if he would be available to submit a bid for our project. He was available and submitted a bid to reassess the lake, including a written summary of the findings, updated lab analyses of the water, an advance briefing to the Board and a formal presentation to the property owners at the 2024 Annual Meeting for \$2900. Via an email to the Board, Scott motioned to approve the use Foundation funds to conduct the lake study this summer, Gary Ziehmman seconded. Motion carried via email vote on 4/28/2023.