

## ELDA General Membership Meeting – July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 10am

### Officers:

George Firmstone, President  
Dave Stanton, Vice President  
Pat Walker, Treasurer  
Millie McCarthy, Corresponding Secretary  
Kathy Emanuelson, Recording Secretary

\*board members absent

### Board Members:

Joe Palonis ('26) Dennis Gregory ('25)  
Jon Walko ('26) Chris Mann ('25)  
Mark Murray ('26) \*Paul Szwayka ('25)  
Mike Connelly ('24) Bob Keen, Past President  
Mike Matzko ('24)

### Call to Order & Introductions

President George Firmstone called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 10:05am. He asked everyone present to sign in and introduce themselves. (Attendance sign-in attached)

**Recording Secretary's Report** – Kathy Emanuelson presented two sets of minutes. The minutes of the August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, General Membership Meeting were shared electronically with ELDA general membership for their review prior to the meeting. A motion to approve them was made by Joe Palonis, seconded by Mike Matzko, with no corrections noted, and passed with no one opposed. The minutes of the April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, board meeting were shared electronically with ELDA board members for their review prior to the meetings. A motion to approve them was requested from board members only, was made by Millie McCarthy, seconded by Pat Walker, with no corrections noted, and passed with no one opposed.

Kathy asked if members were finding the ELDA newsletter without a problem, as there were event date inquiries on the Elk Lake Facebook page? It was suggested to send an email blast with the newsletter attached as a PDF file twice a year when the newsletter is published. Millie, our corresponding secretary, emphasized that it's very important to forward her updated email addresses and contact information.

**Corresponding Secretary's Report** – Millie McCarthy reported ELDA has 3 members' dues are not paid. She reported that it's been a struggle this year. In chasing down payments, members thought they never received their invoices, only to find them in junk email. Millie asked members to take responsibility and look for their invoices every spring; she has set April 30<sup>th</sup> as the annual date by which all members will receive their invoice.

And it's important for all members to promptly attach annual use stickers to all watercrafts. Millie's sense is that we're losing control and respect for our lake. It's not OK to tell Joe Farrell that "stickers weren't available" when they actually were. Please be sure your inflatable kayaks and paddleboards have a manual sticker.

Millie encouraged people to review their boating registration responsibility in our by-laws. If anyone needs an updated by-law book, both she and George Firmstone have them.

Note from recording secretary: a pdf of the bylaws will be posted on the ELDA website soon.

**Treasurer's Report** – Pat Walker shared both the Profit & Loss summary for 8/1/23 through 7/13/24, the Balance Sheet dated 7/13/2024 and the checkbook transaction detail dated 8/1/23 through 7/13/24 (all attached). He noted that finances are in good shape, with our current total assets being about \$248,000. The August meeting will include a detailed description of ELDA expenses as well as an annual financial records review.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Mike Matzko, seconded by Dave Stanton, and passed with no opposed.

**Township Meeting Report** – George reported that Ken Swan is no longer reporting on Township meetings. George requests that any member pass along relevant new or information related to Clinton Township to the ELDA board.

**Patrol Report** – George reports for Joe Farrell that “all is well”. A few stickers were missing. The board will request Joe confirms PA registration numbers and ELDA stickers on our motor craft. We want to police ourselves as much as we can.

**Boating and Safety** – Mike Matzko reported that Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> a waverunner/jetski came right at him in his fishing boat. It was frightening. Joe Palonis noted there was a waterskier being towed well after dark.

Members are responsible for the safety of all at the lake. Motorboats and waverunners must travel in a counterclockwise direction. This includes boats pulling tubers. Mike is sure that not all new members realize this. Be sure to respect the maximum capacities of ski and pontoon boats: Tubers/skiers must be included in the count and remember that the spotter must be able to assist anyone being towed. There must be a PFD for every passenger on every watercraft. Lights are required on all watercraft after sunset. Kayaks and paddleboards have a PFD and whistle on board. Mike hopes members will encourage young skiers.

On the plus side, Mike had for members lots of information booklets, including the PA Fish and Boat Handbook, area snakes, a large fish identification poster and paddling safety booklets.

George thanked Mike and emphasized that policing our own is much better than having the PA Boat commission on our lake. He stressed that PA requires all operators of any age of waverunners are required to have their PA Boaters Certificate. He stressed that waverunners use extreme caution, especially during busy times, and look around, sideways and behind as they traverse at speeds that exceed every other watercraft on the lake.

**Fish Committee** – Jack Mulka shared a couple of great fishing stories: Don Haggerty’s granddaughter caught a 17” rainbow trout, and Toney Catania caught a 5lb, 18 inch large mouth bass! In mid-May, a 6lb 10oz walleye was caught, almost 30” long, and was thrown back in the lake. Great luck!

The lake was stocked this April with 600 rainbow trout and 400 brown trout, about 10” long. Quality of the fish was good, and they are growing with some up to 15” already, eating alewives.

Jack reports that it’s the opinion of the fish committee that the investment of an annual stocking is going well. If we keep the same schedule, walleye will be stocked in the fall. There are many members of the fish committee, but all are welcome to join. At his request for suggestions as to what to stock, Shiners was suggested.

**Water Quality Report** – Dave Stanton reported that Ecoli and phosphorus, our chief concerns, are generally low. Levels were slightly higher last August, after a rainy month, which results in more nutrients in the lake. The main concern is the timely maintenance of septic systems, and he reminded members that there is no fertilization of lawns allowed.

Important for members to remove and clean every trailer and boat that has been in another lake, with hot water and soap and allow it to thoroughly dry before putting into Elk Lake.

Dave contacted Aquatic Environmental Consultants regarding the appearance of ‘green blobs’ in the lake. Those are algae blooms, and the hot dry weather contributes to their appearance. At this time, Ecoli was very low so water quality is not a concern.

**Fracking Committee Report** – Dave Stanton has no report, as fracking is on hold.

**Dam report** – Dave reported for Fred Stanton there are no issues with our dam. The dam was inspected, but no official report is back yet. Chris Mann shared a concern for the possibility that state inspectors could find our dam substandard and mandate that it be taken apart. This concern arises from the recent action of the state to drain two lakes in north Susquehanna County. George will contact Steve Knash, our engineer, to see if he has any insight on the state’s activities and policies regarding small lake dams.

## Committee Appointments

- **Financial Records Review Committee** –George has appointed Vince Gatti to review the financial records and present the annual review at the August meeting.
- **Nominating Committee** – John Parker, chair, thanked both Holly Stanton and Beth Walko for their time serving on the committee.

John reviewed that annually there are three board positions up for election. This year's positions include those of Jack Cleary, who has resigned, and Mike Matzko, who is retiring from the board at the end of this term. Incumbent Mike Connelly's position is up for election, and Mike is interested in staying on as board member.

The Nominating Committee recommendations for the two open board seats are Mike Henshaw and Brian Devaney. John requested any further nominations to the board from the membership in attendance, and none were put forth. With that, John asked for a motion to close board nominations, which was made by Mike Matzko and seconded by Millie McCarthy. The vote passed unanimously with no opposed.

With 3 candidates for the 3 board positions, voting at the August membership meeting will be by affirmation.

## Summer Activities for 2024: (All this information is also on the ELDA website)

- General Membership Meeting – Saturday August 10<sup>th</sup>, 10AM.
- George Stanton Annual Golf Tournament – Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Links, tee off 8:30am. Stanton family and Len Addison. Sign-ups link on ELDA website and facebook page, and available today at the meeting. Lenny has many prizes and there are lots of hats!
- Annual Field Day – Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 1PM, Sarah Sierra (sarahmsierra@gmail.com), Theresa Dethlefsen.
- Covered Dish – Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup>, 6PM, Laura Beard and Joanne Connelly.
- Fishing Tournament – Sunday August 4<sup>th</sup>. Measurements at Howell cottage at 11AM, Rob Howell, & Kristin Conover. Please sign up at covered dish. OR stop by the Howell cottage anytime to sign up. It is helpful to include first & last name, as well as age, of the participant when signing up. Fee for tournament: \$1 for kids, \$2 for adults.

Please remember Elk Lake is "No Wake" until 11am on Fishing Tourney Sunday, 8/4.

George thanked everyone who contributes to the success of the activities!

## Old Business

- **Invasive weed issue** – George will always have this item on our agenda, and emphatically requests members' vigilance to prevent contamination of Elk Lake! If your craft (boats, trailers, kayaks, paddleboards) have been on another lake, please take the time and care to wash with hot water and soap, and thoroughly dry.
- **Fire departments discharging water into lake** – the board has set the policy that no water may be discharged into the lake. George spoke with Gary VanPelt, a retired firefighter, with our concern that fire equipment may carry a contaminating weed. In an effort to maintain our good relationships with local fire departments, ELDA is sending a letter to Browndale, Prompton, Sellyville and Waymart fire departments explaining the rule and our concern.

## New Business

- **Summer newsletter** – Please send stories and pictures of lake events to Laure Carlo at [laurecarlo@yahoo.com](mailto:laurecarlo@yahoo.com).
- **Food Pantry** – Karen Firmstone reminded members that there is a collection box at Jakes, by the fireplace. Please remember the box when cleaning out your cottages at the end of a visit or at the end of the season. Also, cash is appreciated. Karen takes the contents down once a week. The pantry serves 140 families every Saturday.

○ **Traffic on Sensentine Road** – Dave Humphrey reminded cottagers that there's a lot of traffic with the summer season. He requests that drivers keep speeds down and use extra caution! There's lot of ATVs and golf cart traffic with kids. He also reminded lake residents that the AED is available in the box at the Pavilion.

George asked for any new business from the floor: there was none.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Matzko, seconded by Larry Conover, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:58am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Emanuelson  
Recording Secretary  
7/22/2024

Attendance Log ELDA General Membership 7.13.2024

George Firmstone  
Kathy Emanuelson  
MIKE MATZKO

BOB DETHEFSEN  
LEN ADDISON

Cynthia Matzko  
Charlatte Jari  
Jack Mulku  
Millie McCarthy  
Katherine Mulku  
M. H. Murray

DAVID PHILLIPS  
Holly Stanton  
Dave Stanton  
Jotta PARKER  
Bob Keen

Brian Kuper  
Dennis Dugan  
Joseph & Bill Tatalo  
Janne Connolly  
Mike Connolly  
Julia Devaney  
Steve Ryan

Brian Devaney  
Jon Wilko  
M. E. Wilko  
Susan Galeone  
Kara Firmstone  
Barb Lubat  
Kate Dugan  
Dave Hump Hays  
Chris Mann  
Lorry Cowover

2:17 PM  
07/11/24  
Cash Basis

Elk Lake Development Association, Inc  
**Profit & Loss**  
August 1, 2023 through July 13, 2024

	<u>Aug 1, '23 - Jul 13, 24</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Membership Fee Income	32,810.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>32,810.00</u>
<b>Expense</b>	
Fish Replenishment	5,000.00
Insurance	7,855.00
Lake Patrol Services	1,011.66
Lake/Dam Maintenance	3,564.00
Lawn Care	826.80
Office/Postage	136.00
Permits	3,000.00
Picnic/Events	2,226.03
Professional Fees	570.00
Realty Taxes	5,313.63
Repairs & Maintenance	169.60
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>29,672.72</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	3,137.28
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>	
Interest Income	4,526.42
<b>Total Other Income</b>	4,526.42
<b>Other Expense</b>	
Inc Tax (IRC Sec 528)	1,049.00
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>1,049.00</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	3,477.42
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>6,614.70</u></u>

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07/11/24  
Cash Basis

Elk Lake Development Association, Inc  
Balance Sheet  
As of July 13, 2024

	<u>Jul 13, 24</u>	<u>Jul 13, 23</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Checking/Savings</b>			
*Checking 5435	11,402.59	13,775.83	-2,373.24
*Money Market 3701	50,876.77	48,264.15	2,612.62
CD - 80018654 (0.7001 ...	33,008.90	32,778.65	230.25
CD - 80037590 (3.5%)	57,057.48	55,243.22	1,814.26
CD - 80037593 (3.0433%)	96,108.92	93,729.66	2,379.26
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>248,454.66</u>	<u>243,791.51</u>	<u>4,663.15</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	248,454.66	243,791.51	4,663.15
<b>Other Assets</b>			
<b>Lake Right Property</b>	406,864.50	406,864.50	0.00
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<u>406,864.50</u>	<u>406,864.50</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>655,319.16</b></u>	<u><b>650,656.01</b></u>	<u><b>4,663.15</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
<b>Equity</b>			
<b>Members' Equity</b>	648,704.46	647,412.06	1,292.40
<b>Net Income</b>	6,614.70	3,243.95	3,370.75
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>655,319.16</u>	<u>650,656.01</u>	<u>4,663.15</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><b>655,319.16</b></u>	<u><b>650,656.01</b></u>	<u><b>4,663.15</b></u>

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07/11/24

Cash Basis

**Elk Lake Development Association, Inc  
Transaction Detail By Account**

August 1, 2023 through July 13, 2024

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Debit	Credit	Balance
<b>Fish Replenishment</b>							
Check	12/20/2023	1413	Big Brown Fish Hatchery	balance due on trout stocking April 2024	5,000.00		5,000.00
Total Fish Replenishment					5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
<b>Insurance</b>							
Check	10/12/2023	eft	US Liability Insurance Co	Liability Insurance (D&O)	284.00		284.00
Check	04/19/2024	eft	US Liability Insurance Co	Liability Insurance (D&O)	279.00		563.00
Check	06/07/2024	1420	Tuscarora Wayne	General Liability Policy	4,997.00		5,560.00
Check	06/07/2024	1423	Tuscarora Wayne	Umbrella Policy	2,295.00		7,855.00
Total Insurance					7,855.00	0.00	7,855.00
<b>Lake Patrol Services</b>							
Check	07/08/2024	1424	Joe Farrell	2023 service: 118 hrs. @ \$8.00/hr. + gas/oil	1,011.66		1,011.66
Total Lake Patrol Services					1,011.66	0.00	1,011.66
<b>Lake/Dam Maintenance</b>							
Check	01/15/2024	1414	Stephen Knash	Dam Inspection	350.00		350.00
Check	04/29/2024	1415	Aquatic Environment Consultants	Lake Study Samples/testing payment 1 pf 3	918.00		1,268.00
Check	06/07/2024	1421	Aquatic Environment Consultants	Lake Study Samples/testing payment 2 of 3	2,296.00		3,564.00
Total Lake/Dam Maintenance					3,564.00	0.00	3,564.00
<b>Lawn Care</b>							
Check	08/21/2023	1404	Grass Roots and Garden	summer of 2023 cutting	381.60		381.60
Check	12/18/2023	1412	Grass Roots and Garden	summer of 2023 cutting	254.40		636.00
Check	06/07/2024	1422	Grass Roots and Garden	2024 lawn cutting by dam	190.80		826.80
Total Lawn Care					826.80	0.00	826.80
<b>Office/Postage</b>							
Check	05/23/2024	1419	Millie McCarthy	reimbursement /US Postage	136.00		136.00
Total Office/Postage					136.00	0.00	136.00
<b>Permits</b>							
Check	08/01/2023	1401	PA Clear Water Fund	Dam Program (FY 7/1/22 thru 6/30/23)	1,500.00		1,500.00
Check	05/02/2024	1416	PA Clear Water Fund	Dam Program (FY 7/1/23 thru 6/30/24)	1,500.00		3,000.00
Total Permits					3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
<b>Picnic/Events</b>							
Check	08/02/2023	1402	Sarah Sierra	Field Day Games	894.93		894.93
Check	08/18/2023	1403	Len Addison	remib on Golf outing/Field Day	62.13		957.06
Check	08/22/2023	1405	Boulevard Rental	Chairs/Tables/Tent for family picnic day 7/30/...	771.15		1,728.21
Check	08/22/2023	1406	Reeves Rent-A-John	Covered Dish Picnic - 7/30/23 weekend rental	145.75		1,873.96
Check	09/12/2023	1407	Rob Howell Jr.	Fish competition reimbursement	446.07		2,320.03
Deposit	09/12/2023		Howell, Robert	cash collection on Fishing tournament		94.00	2,226.03
Total Picnic/Events					2,320.03	94.00	2,226.03
<b>Professional Fees</b>							
<b>Acctg/Tax Prep</b>							
Check	11/28/2023	1411	Vannie B. Williams, CPA, P.C.	Tax Preparation (FYE 7/31/23)	570.00		570.00
Total Acctg/Tax Prep					570.00	0.00	570.00
Total Professional Fees					570.00	0.00	570.00
<b>Realty Taxes</b>							
Check	09/20/2023	1408	Marianne L. Thorpe, Tax Collector	Lake Body School tax	4,044.38		4,044.38
Check	09/20/2023	1409	Marianne L. Thorpe, Tax Collector	lot by dam School tax	8.05		4,052.43
Check	05/23/2024	1417	Marianne L. Thorpe, Tax Collector	County / Township	1,258.69		5,311.12
Check	05/23/2024	1418	Marianne L. Thorpe, Tax Collector	County/ Twp tax on lot by dam	2.51		5,313.63
Total Realty Taxes					5,313.63	0.00	5,313.63
<b>Repairs &amp; Maintenance</b>							
Check	10/04/2023	1410	Seaman's Marine	winterization of ELDA Patrol boat motor	169.60		169.60
Total Repairs & Maintenance					169.60	0.00	169.60
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>29,766.72</b>	<b>94.00</b>	<b>29,672.72</b>