

☒ President: Jodi Riddell
☒ Vice President: Margaret Billinger
☒ Secretary: Lisa Behrens
____ Treasurer: Irene Crowley (notified absence)
☒ Director at Large: David Haggard
☒ Director at Large: Lindy Moss
☒ Director at Large: Michael Dale



PO Box 520931
Big Lake, AK 99652-0931

General Membership Meeting – August 12, 2025 – 7:00 PM
Big Lake Lions Recreation Center

DRAFT MINUTES

1.) Call to Order/ Determination of Quorum

By: Jodi Riddell Time: 7:05pm
Quorum: Yes Attendees: 21 members & guests

2.) Pledge of Allegiance

3.) Agenda Approval

Motion: Margaret Billinger Second: Yes

4.) Previous Meeting Minutes Approval (July 8, 2025)

Motion: Michael Dale Second: Yes Copy signed: Jodi Riddell

5.) Treasurer's Report

Checking: \$37,161.50 Savings: \$3,633.08 Money Market (Jordan Lake Park project): \$22,954.22

6.) Membership Report

Voting Members renewed for 2025: **81** (Plus 4 renewals) Associates (non-voting) renewed for 2025: **7**

7.) Presentation(s) (15 Minutes per presentation)

1. Telsche Overby and Rachel Christensen – Mat Su Health Foundation: New opportunities for residents of Big Lake and Houston. **Project #1:** Community interviews on financial hardship and needs, to be held at the Big Lake Library. See flyer posted on BLCC website (link below) for details. **Project #2:** October 18 is the tentative date for a Community Choice Health Ideas forum. 40 seats are available, preregistration is required. This is an opportunity for community members to propose ideas for use of grant monies in their community. Types of projects may be promoting physical or mental health, residents' wellbeing, community beautification etc. Sign up via this QR code or see the flyer posted on the community council website: www.biglakecommunitycouncil.com.



Scan to email your ideas to
ideas@healthymatsu.org

8.) Reports

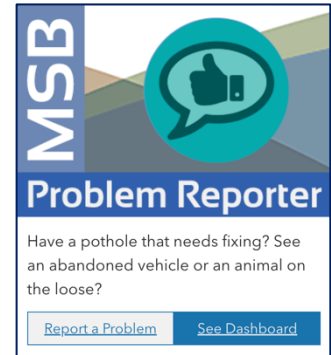
1. Legislative (State House & Senate)
Senator Shower: Not available

Representative McCabe: In July visited homesites affected by the Bear Creek Fire – please everyone, be diligent about clearing trees and brush near residences and outbuildings. Last week, attended the commission of the new icebreaker vessel that is currently docked in Juneau. Meeting last evening with the US Secretary of Transportation regarding the Port Mackenzie facility, rail extension, gas line final investment decision expected this December. Open house and tours are being scheduled.

2. Assembly (District 5)

Representative Gamble: Not available

3. Fire Service (West Lakes Fire Department – WLFD) Captain Hightower: Thank you to Representative McCabe for his support. Need to stress and reinforce Rep. McCabe's exhortation to be attentive to clearing brush around structures. July was a record low month for WLFD emergency responses at 42 calls. 3 structure fires in the Big Lake area were the result of escaped outdoor burning, such as burn barrels or fire pits. Reminder: The Firewise Grant through BLCC provides smoke and CO alarms that WLFD distributes and assists Big Lake residents with installation.
4. Road Service Area: Andrew Traxler – Update from the RSA meeting the previous night (August 11). It is time for RIP (road improvement project) list development and submission to the MSB Assembly. Hoping for some federal money this coming year. Next RSA meeting will be October 11. Please use the MSB problem reporter for road issue notifications. It is a relatively new program that is showing itself to be quite effective. Here is a link to access the program: <https://problemreporter.matsugov.us/>



9.) **Correspondence**

1. 10060 The Green Spot, LLC – Marijuana License Notice Of Renewal
2. The Aardvark – Alcohol License Renewal Application Notice
3. Susitna Brewing – Liquor License Renewal Application Notice
4. Shepard's Island – Variance Application Notice

10.) **Unfinished Business**

1. Lake Setback Ordinance & Waterbody Setback Advisory Board – Update: Linn McCabe shared information from the most recent Planning Board meeting, where 5 of the 7 board members were present. The board did not support the legislation as it is currently written and voted it down 5 to 0. The Planning Commission took note of the large amount of public testimony and decided to send the legislation back to the Assembly, to revisit the matter with a new task force, which needs to include more citizen residents. August 18 is the next meeting of the Planning Commission, 6:00pm at the borough administration meeting. Al Bolea: August 20 is the last date to submit comments to the MSB Assembly prior to the September 4 Assembly meeting when this matter is to be addressed. <https://matsugov.us/boards/waterbody-setback-advisory-board>
2. 2025 BLCC Grants Committee – Update: All grants completed and paid. Move to finished business.
3. 2025 BLCC CIP (community improvement projects) Committee – Update: Cindy Bettine Three projects from FY 2026 have been resubmitted, with one new project submitted by Larry McKinstry.

11.) **New Business**

1. None

12.) **Persons to be Heard** (3 Minutes per person)

1. Larry McKinstry: Jordan Lake Park progress update. Fishers donation of over 300 cubic yards of topsoil for building a soccer field. Home Depot grant process is moving forward. 20 Community volunteers needed to assist the Home Depot volunteers to plant trees along the fence facing Big Lake Road. Reggie and Jay Joy have provided a donation to provide water access at the park. Progress is being made on grant funding for next year's construction priorities.

13.) Audience Participation (3 Minutes per person)

1.

14.) Announcements

1. Cincy Bettine: Reminder that BLCC grant money paid for lift tickets and bus transportation for youth to the Skeetawk ski area. The tickets are still available, and bus transportation money is still with the recipient organization. Now that the road is finished, it is feasible to move forward with the project.
2. Margaret Billinger: The Big Lake Chamber of Commerce building has been renovated and beautified. The Pike fishing derby was a success. The Big Lake Chamber fall meeting schedule is being developed.
3. Linn McCabe: Ranked Choice Voting repeal initiative update.

15.) Board Member Closing Comments

1. Jodi Riddell: Reminder that BLCC Board elections are coming up in November
2. Margaret Billinger:
3. Irene Crowley:
4. Dave Haggard:
5. Lindy Moss:
6. Michael Dale: Reminder to check headlights, now that daylight hours are growing shorter and we are driving in the dark again. Please use turn signals. Please also follow rules of the road and appropriate lanes for passing. Happy birthday Jodi Riddell (tomorrow)
7. Lisa Behrens:

16.) Adjournment

Motion: Jodi Riddell Second: Yes Time: 8:03pm

Signature – Jodi Riddell, President – Big Lake Community Council

Date

Attestation – Lisa Behrens, Secretary – Big Lake Community Council

Date