

Blue Lake Association Annual Meeting Blue Lake Improvement Updates June 4, 2022

Place: Stanford Township Hall

BLA Board members: Bill Yueill president, Becky Schulz, secretary, Teresa Bouten, treasurer (absent)

Board of BLID members in attendance: Bill Fredell (2023), Don Davies (2024), Becky Schulz (2023), Jill Gohman (2022), John Bistodeau (2024), Tiffany Determan (guest), and Lydia Godfrey (guest) Absent: David Badger chairman (2022), Dan Dixon (2023)

Lake owners/members in attendance: approximately 20 families represented

Call to Order: 10:00 am Bill Yueill

Pledge of Allegiance

BLA Business

Approval of Minutes 2021 meeting – reviewed by Becky Schulz – approved

BLA Treasure Report. Of the 155 properties, there are 56 paid association dues payments

Statement Balance as of 10/29/2021			\$ 7,915.39	\$ 7,915.39
Paper Statement Fee			\$ (5.00)	
Statement Balance as of 11/30/2021			\$ 7,910.39	\$ 7,910.39
Cash from public access box		Cash	\$ 26.66	
Paper Statement Fee			\$ (5.00)	
Statement Balance as of 12/31/2021			\$ 7,957.05	
Paper Statement Fee			\$ (5.00)	\$ 7,957.05
Statement Balance as of 01/31/2022			\$ 7,952.05	
Paper Statement Fee			\$ (5.00)	\$ 7,952.05
Wruck Sewer		Check 1007	\$ (125.00)	
Linus Meyer - Dog Sled Rides	2/5/2022	Check 1008	\$ (500.00)	
Village Check Printing fee - updated	2/22/2022	fee	\$ (17.77)	
\$325 from Sled rides	2/7/2022	Cash	\$ 325.00	
Rebecca Schulz - supplies		Check 1010	\$ (24.14)	
Paper Statement Fee			\$ (5.00)	
Julie Dollanski - hay bails		Check 1009	\$ (70.61)	
Deposits from Membership dues			\$1710.00	
Statement Balance as of 05/31/2022				\$ 9,239.53

BLA funds are used for social activities, gifts, legal responsibilities, insurance, etc. BLID dollars can only be used for the purpose of lake improvement and is guided by the county. Contribution form for BLA will be emailed out again soon.

BLID Updates

Bill Fredell, in place for David Badger, delivered a thank you to all on BLID and those who support BLID.

Alum treatment Tiffany Determan and Lydia Godfrey are county level staff who have managed the process to where it is right now.

Tiffany Determan: Manager of the Isanti County Soil and Water. Their division is funded mostly by grants Tiffany mentioned Blue Lake is a favorite to work with as the efforts have been strong to keep the lake healthy. The Alum treatment is the largest project she has ever done. Blue Lake is relatively healthy but by standards of the state, is at the cusp of becoming impaired. It is necessary to reduce phosphate by 360 lb/year in order to improve the health. First project has reduced the phosphate external load by 50% has been successful. Grant was \$250,000 BLID matched \$62,000.00 from BLID. BL is different from surrounding lakes, it is healthy and watershed not as large as others. Alum presentation has been placed on MNBLID.org

Reviewed action plan for Alum treatment

Alum treatment \$384,630 25% match from BLID \$96,158.00 so total project cost \$480,788.00. Will reduce over 600 pounds a year. Twice amount that was anticipated. Non-toxic treatment for water treatment etc. Very predictable. May improve aquatic health growth of natural plants and improve fish environment.

- One treatment-2 doses. Sept or Oct 2022 when there is less activity on the lake
- Second dose Oct 2024 at end of grant Effective life of Alum 15-20 years.

Lake monitoring will continue. Will be checking the phosphate level etc for the next 3-5 years. Spencer and Stanford township have offered to assist with the cost of the monitoring.

Also will need to manage invasive growth. May require need to treat more for curly leaf. The plan is in place if larger area needed to treat. Per John. Alum Project presentation can be reviewed on BLIDMN.org under more workplans

Outreach and education of the Alum Treatment. Reported by Lydia Godfrey

Important to Inform everyone about the treatment

- Inform residents
- Public users Methods on the Isanti website, tell lake owners
- Handouts at the Annual BLID meeting on the landing signs newspaper articles, social media. Presentations to townships. In the fall will ramp up the outreach program. Will talk to the monitors to educate the boat users.

Continue strong outreach as the treatment occurs.

Need to do general Lake health outreach at the same time. Reduce your phosphate footprint, reduce wake boat wakes information. Shoreline restoration workshop offered. Will be planned on Blue Lake (looking for home to host). Spread the word. SWCD webpage. Watch utubes, facebook and webpage.

Invasive Species Update: John Bistodeau

2022-Survey completed May 20, permit issued on 23rd and spraying completed the 24th. The weeds were found to be 12 – 24” in length so good opportunity for the spraying. Growth in the north bay was behind the growth in the south bay. However, spraying was done in both bays. 60 acres-15% threshold of the lake was sprayed. Post survey will be done 4 weeks after the spraying.

Lake vegetation management plan tied in with the Alum treatment. Baseline last summer in 2020 and then an assessment at end of Alum 2024. Will help us to get the variance on what we can spray in the future.

Question from Paul about the Diquat. John reported wider spectrum and can be more effective than Aquathol DNR does not want us to use Diquat near stocking of fish. Blue Lake is stocked every 2 years. Diquat has a shorter contact time. Report of the weed spraying for 2022 can be reviewed on the BLIDMN.org website.

Erosion Control and Phosphate into the lake: Bill Fredell

Continue to do lakeshore projects to manage the phosphate. Warned of wrong items going into the lake. Phosphate from yards is a problem for each lake owner.

- Hillside erosion, Can use Wehr retention, works as a dam to capture the sediment before it goes into the lake
- Rip Rap- rocks to retain the shoreline
- Undercutting of the shoreline. Willow bundles hold the runoff and support the shoreline. Plants into the area will hold shoreline.

Assistance: Todd with the Isanti Soil can assist with problems and give assistance. Todd Kulaf Conservation Technician ISWD 763-689-3271 TKulaf@IsantiSWCD.org

Bill Yueill asked about the Haas property for the phosphate capture project. The campground would have been more effective, however the methods are still the same. First year of installation, removed about one foot of organic material. Hopefully this year effective.

Paul brought up points of invasive species. Will be imperative to maintain the monitors at the landings to keep lake clean. If we get the zebra, etc will go crazy due to the clarity of the water. Some of the closer lakes have invasive species.

Update on North Landing closure to parking

Bill handed out a flyer about the closing of the North access.

Some discussion on the north landing access. Questions need to be directed to the township

Treasurer report for BLID Don Davies

Don reported-BLID has put money aside for projects since 2014. Assessment of lake owners will stay the same as reserves are all built up.

BLA Social events

July 4th Parage Floatina 11:00 near east landing. Parade 12:00 starts at South end of Blue Lake

BLA Picnic August 27th John Bistodeau and family have offered to host. Time 5:00pm

Usually the same day as BLID Annual meeting in the morning.

Board member change positions needed.

President and Secretary. Casual positions and great way to meet more neighbors.

BLA neighbor news

Adjourned 11:28 am

VISIT THE MNBLID.org for updates and news about Blue Lake