

## **Blue Lake Improvement District (BLID)**

### **Membership Annual Meeting Minutes: August 27, 2022, 10:00 a.m.**

**Place:** Stanford Township Hall,

**Directors Present:** David Badger (2022), Dan Dixon (2024), Don Davies (2024), Bill Fredell (2023), John Bistodeau (2021),

**Directors Absent:** Rebecca Shultz (2023), Jill Gohman (2022)

**Members present:** 33 property owners

**Guest:** Lisa Lovering, Isanti County Deputy Sheriff was in attendance.

**Call to Order:** Following a social time with refreshments that started at 9:30 a.m. the official meeting was called to order by David Badger at 10:00 a.m. The meeting's agenda was shared orally.

**Minutes Approval:** 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes were approved in September 2021 and can be found on our website [blidmn.org](http://blidmn.org)

#### **President's Report:**

David Badger welcomed the membership and provided an overview of the Alum Application Project that is scheduled for September 12-16, 2022, and another application in the fall of 2024. The purpose of the project is to capture a significant amount of phosphorus in the lake water to provide clearer water. The clearer water will promote more healthy aquatic life. This project is fully funded by BLID funds as well as a significant grant from the Minnesota Legacy Fund.

During the week of September 12-16, both boat launches may be closed for at least three days. Use of the lake, especially by larger boats, is discouraged so that the alum will settle to the bottom of the lake and begin its work. Badger encouraged residents to maintain no wake boat operations during this period. After September 16, the restrictions will end.

#### **Committee Reports**

Weed Control – Aquatic Vegetation, John Bistodeau

Bistodeau reported that the weed spraying was effective again this year, based on the pre- and post-application testing. Diquat was used again this year as it provides a more robust elimination of the targeted invasive weeds, and it also costs less than alternative chemicals.

Blue Lake's Vegetation Management Plan was approved by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Because of the Alum Application this summer, we may be allowed up to 30 acres of treatment for 2023. We will have to wait and see what the results of the alum application are. Funding has been provided for continued monitoring to determine the effects of the alum application.

### **Water Clarity, Dan Dixon**

Dixon demonstrated various techniques for measuring the clarity of water each week. He shared that the temperature of the water varies based on weather and rainfall. The water ranged for 55 degrees in May to 76 degrees in August. The night point was 80 degrees, before cooler weather reduced the water temperature. Evaporation changes the water temperature, sometime quickly.

Water clarity:

The numbers shown below reveal that as the summer goes on, the water clarity diminishes.

	North Bay (Little Blue Lake)	South Bay (Big Blue)
May	6 feet	10 feet
August	3.3 feet	6 feet

### **Education Committee, Bill Fredell**

Fredell shared that 14 issues of the **Blue Lake Bulletin** were published over the last year. Readership is 68% of those to whom the newsletter is sent.

Information about shoreline restoration has been a target of the newsletter as well as for workshops conducted by the Isanti County Water and Soil Conservation District (ISWSCD). The goal is for every lakeshore owner to understand the importance of controlling run-off as well as shoreline erosion. Natural waves and wake boats are punishing to the shoreline. There will be more opportunities for shoreline restoration workshops as volunteer activities next year. Contact Todd Kulaff at ISWSCD for guidance.

Fredell also suggested that we look more carefully at the permitting for lakeshore modifications, buffer zone restrictions, building permits, DNR/State/Local guidelines for docks and other uses of shoreline property. This information will be shared with the membership.

**Inspections for Invasive Species.** Jill Gohman could not attend the meeting to present the findings of the service that hires, trains, and supervised the inspectors. David Badger, however, shared that we are not aware of any problems during the season, but the inspectors have ended their contracts since they are all college students and had to return to classes before Labor Day. There will be no inspections over the Labor Day weekend. The cost for inspectors is covered by BLID funding as well as contributions from Isanti County and the townships.

### **Financial Report, Don Davies**

Don Davies presented the BLID financial reports. He began by describing the differences between the BLID and the Blue Lake Association for the benefit of newer landowners. The Association is a nonprofit organization which began in 2003 for the purpose of improving the quality of the lake. Membership and dues payments were voluntary and used to pay for such things as weed spraying. When the BLID was formed in 2014 the Association became more of a social organization to bring community to the lake. The BLID is a quasi-governmental

organization funded through landowner assessments which has taken over the lake quality projects.

He then noted that the BLID operates on a fiscal year basis (July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>) in order to have annual meetings in August when more landowners are available. The financial results for the fiscal year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 are as follows:

<b>Assets</b>		<b>Revenues</b>	
Cash	\$ 115,135	Assessment Fees	\$ 36,742
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 115,135</b>	Government Grants	5,870
		<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 42,612</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>		<b>Expenses</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$ 7,536	Boat Inspections	14,936
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 7,536</b>	Weed Mapping & Spraying	4,110
Dedicated Reserves-		Organizational Expense	1,802
Rapid Response	15,000	Reserve Set-Asides-	
Grant Projects	54,002	Rapid Response	5,000
Retained Earnings	38,597	Grant Projects	25,000
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$ 107,599</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 50,848</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$ 115,135</b>	<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (8,236)</b>

Don briefly presented the 2023 Budget which had previously been distributed to landowners. The budget is based on a calendar year in order to more clearly reflect the revenues and expenses during a single recreational season. In terms of revenues, the recommended assessment of \$250/landowner would remain the same, but we expected to lose a weed control grant from the State. The only other change was the increase to the Grant Project Set-aside to \$30,000. The purpose of the increase was to prepare for a total of \$96,000 in payments over the next three years for the BLID's portion of the Alum treatment. This is what we have been setting funds aside for the past few years.

Goerge Golden moved, and Bill Yueill seconded, to approve the financial statement for 2021-22, and for the 2022-2023 budget. The budget includes not changing the \$250 assessment for members. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Questions and Comments from the Membership Present.**

Lynne Yueill thanked the board for their work, diligence, and communications with the residents.

Deputy Sheriff, Lisa Lovering shared that she would be willing to monitor an online neighborhood watch group. These have been used at other lake and neighborhood associations to deter crime. She suggested that BLID or BLA create a Facebook group for this purpose.

**Election Results:**

New directors were elected:

Jill Gohman, to complete a one-year term

David Badger, for a three-year term

Teresa Bouten, a write-in candidate, for a three-year term

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Bill Fredell (substitute secretary)