

BLUE LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
Meeting Minutes of July 31, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:04, via Zoom.

Attending:

David Badger - President (2025)
Bill Fredell – Vice Chair (2026)
Don Davies - Treasurer (2024)
Tayler Guinn – Community Engagement (2026)

Not Present:

John Bistodeau – Invasive Weed Treatment (2026)
Teresa Bouten – AIS Watercraft Inspections (2025)
Dennis Bouten – Water Quality (2024)

Agenda:

Approval of June Meeting Minutes. Update from Isanti County Soil and Water Conservation District (ICSWCD) Manager, Tiffany Determan, focusing on the Phase II Alum Treatment Preparations. Committee Reports. Planning for the Annual Meeting,

Minutes of June Meeting (2024) were approved online, in advance of the meeting. The minutes were accepted without objection.

David Badger welcomed Tiffany Determan, who started with an update on the Phase II Alum Treatment. Here are the facts she shared:

Dates have been finalized by the supplier: September 11-14, 2024

- Set up for the application, September 11
- Actual application, September 12-13
- De-mobilization (pack up), September 14.

There will be no boat traffic on the lake during this period, especially on Sept 12-13.

Necessary Communications:

Initiative	Who will coordinate
Contacts to Stanford and Spencer Brook Townships	Fredell
Isanti County Sheriff's Office	Fredell
Signs for each access, announcing the closing	Fredell
Announcement/Story for area newspapers	Godfrey
Blue Lake Bulletin newsletter	Fredell
Social Media	Badger, Gwinn, Fredell
Flier	Godfrey

Tiffany also raised the possibility of a post-application study to document the behavior of the water column and sediment core following both applications. This study would take place in September of

2025, at a cost of \$16,000. This amount is NOT in the budget for the alum applications. We decided to study this matter carefully. Still, we decided to include it as a potential budget item for the next fiscal year.

Boat Limitations and Wake Boats.

Limiting Access to the Lake. Tiffany shared that Christmas Lake (Hennepin County) has limited access to the lake by Shorewood Town Ordinance. The ordinance says that when the parking lot is full, no more boats can enter the lake.

Blue Lake is interested primarily in limiting the number of wake boats that can be on the lake at any one time. Tiffany mentioned that a comprehensive study will be released soon about the bad effects of wake boats on the sediment core of the lake bottom, even as deep as 14 feet. We agreed to investigate Smart Wake Boating Group and encourage membership by wake boat owners who use Blue Lake.

Weeds. We mentioned the green globs that showed up in July. Fredell will send photos to Tiffany and Todd for identification.

Annual Meeting Preparations

Facts: The meeting will be held at a different location this year.

- Location: Spencer Brook Township Hall, 6978 305th Avenue NW, Princeton, MN 55371
- Date and Time: August 24, 2024, 10 a.m.
- Coffee and treats begin at 9:30 a.m.

Theme: Celebrating BLID's 10-year Anniversary

Agenda: (final agenda to come from David Badger)

Overview: David Badger

Committee Reports: Each director will present the highlights

Budget Presentation: Don Davies

Notes:

Taylor and Teresa will handle buying the treats and coffee.

Fredell will supply the coffee pot. Davies believes that there are leftover cups, plates, and napkins.

Fredell will run story in Blue Lake Bulletin in August.

Badger will tweak nomination forms.

Action necessary to confirm Taylor's appointment during 2024.

Committee Reports

Weeds/AIS Treatments. John Bistodeau – Invasive Weed Treatment. Bistodeau sent in a report since he was traveling and could not present.

John spoke with Chris Jurek at the MN DNR, and she will consider allowing us to treat more acres in the spring after the survey based on both this summer's survey and spring survey.

We should consider upping the budget for spraying since we might be allowed to spray a larger area.

John recommended that we stay with Lake Restoration and AIS consulting next year. The other Isanti lakes in COLA had good spraying results as well and would like to stay the same with same discount.

Communications/Education- Bill Fredell. Blue Lake Bulletin was published on July 22. Lakeshore Restoration signs have been created and being installed at sites around the lake. The intent is to demonstrate that many BLID members are restoring their shores while protecting the lake from phosphorus infiltration.

Finance. Don Davies - Treasurer.

Four actions were approved relating to payments:

- June WaterGuards - \$5,404.30
- Jill Gohman reimbursement for GoDaddy renewal (WEB site) - \$155.88
- Don Davies reimbursement for 1 year P.O. Box fee - \$72.00
- Isanti County SWCD final alum treatment bill - \$32,052.50

Formal financial reports were submitted and sent to each director on July 29, 2024.

Further, Don discussed the fiscal year financial reports that had been previously distributed to the Board. He noted that we currently had \$85,980 in cash at the end of June and an operating deficit of \$14,368 for the 12 months ending June 30th. He noted that during that time we had not received the expected grant payment from the County for boat inspections relating to the summer of 2023 which had been requested in March of this year. He and David will follow up on that.

Don then presented a comparative financial report for calendar year 2024 along with a proposed budget for calendar year 2025. The budget reflects a continuation of the \$250/member assessment level for 2025. After previous discussions, he noted that he would need to make budget adjustments for the following:

- increase the cost of weed treatments by \$2,000 based on Johns report
- reflect an inflationary increase to boat inspection expense
- add the cost of core sampling (\$16,000) as an expenditure from the Project Reserve.

The Board approved the proposed budget, as adjusted, for presentation to the members at the annual meeting.

Taylor Guinn asked about the washing station at Spectacle Lake and what that might cost at Blue Lake. John Bistodeau might have a contact through the ICOLA group who could provide insight into this capability at Spectacle Lake.

Don will present these financial documents at the annual meeting.

Water Quality/Testing. No Report.

Watercraft Inspections. No Report.

Other topics: Taylor Guinn raised the matter of dredging the channel. She will reach out to the DNR in Isanti County to see what's involved in dredging the channel between little and big Blue Lakes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20

Submitted by Bill Fredell