

Boating Safety Committee
August 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Kerry Romsa, Sue Romsa, Jim Frymark, Lud Ludholz, Bob Mott, Paul Tomezak, Ken Phelps, J. Phelps, Sandy Jeske and Dave Jeske
Attending via Zoom: Steve Tripp and Chet Ulikey

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Kerry Romsa and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Kerry stated that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss options for the future funding of the costs of installation and removal of the buoys as well as the costs of maintenance and replacement of buoys. Kerry then asked Jim Frymark to briefly provide background information that led up to the need for finding funding alternatives for buoys. He explained that Enterprise did not budget for its share of costs to place and remove buoys in its area of the lake for the 2025 season, nor does it plan to budget for these costs soon. He added that the absence of buoys in a large section of the lake presented safety concerns given the number of hazards that will go unmarked. However, the buoys were eventually put in through the efforts of Mike Fowler who donated his equipment and time to put them, working alongside Paul Tomczak, ensuring they were placed in proper positions.

Presented was description of the roles of the Towns of Enterprise and Schoepke up until now and what it cost each town to have the buoys put in and taken out, and the Association's role and costs in maintenance and replacement of the buoys. Total cost figures for putting in and taking out the buoys, maintaining and replacing them

as needed were discussed. It was noted that 20 new buoys were recently purchased and financed in part through a generous donation. The total costs of the buoy program was discussed.

The discussion turned to the funding options cited on the meeting agenda. The discussion took into consideration the dilemma posed by the Town of Schoepke in continuing its funding the buoys if the Town of Enterprise no longer participants in the buoy service. Bob Mott added that the Town does have an agreement with the Association to fund its portion through 2027. Options discussed were removing the towns from financial responsibility for buoy installation/removal and cleaning, removing the PLA from the financial responsibility for buoy maintenance and replacement [new buoys], and creating a buoy trust account with a local financial institution with it being the trustee of the account.

Further discussed was the option of having the Association take on full financial responsibility annually and establishing a restricted account used for the buoy service, including putting in and taking out of the buoys, maintenance and power washing and purchasing of new buoys as needed. The discussion also included the PTA's healthy financial situation that members could identify as a source of funding for the buoy service. Steve Tripp and Kerry led the discussion identifying a number of ways the restricted account could be funded and how it could be administered within the overall PLA budget. Potential sources identified for the restricted account include allocating a part of an anticipated increase in annual dues to the account [pending membership approval], fundraisers, and donations from the towns of Enterprise and Schoepke, local businesses, and the chamber. Bob Mott believes the town of Schoepke would make a donation to the fund stating it would be a responsible public service. Kerry added that he would donate and raffle one of his hunting blinds by selling \$100 dollar tickets.

The annual amount needed for the restricted fund was estimated at \$11,060 annually to cover the costs of putting in and taking out the buoys [currently \$8,060 @ \$158.04 a buoy] and maintenance and power washing [\$3,000]. Also stated was a long-term goal for the restricted fund is to accumulate a three-year reserve not to exceed four years. Anything accumulated beyond four years will go into the general fund. All members in attendance voiced support for the idea of a restricted fund. The PLA will follow its bidding procedures in securing services for the buoy program.

Kerry took a vote from the meeting attendees on pursuing Option 1, which is the PLA assuming full responsibility for the buoy program by asking for a show of hands. The vote was unanimous. He explained the next step will be the Boating Committee will make a recommendation to the PLA governing board at its next meeting that the PLA assume full responsibility for the buoys.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM