

SAWYER COUNTY LAKES FORUM ANNUAL MEETING
JUNE 15, 2013
FLAT CREEK INN, HAYWARD, WI
Website sawyer-county-lakes-forum.org

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Waldo Asp at 9 A.M.

The Roll Call of Members, as of 6/15/13 was Chetac, Chippewa, Clear, COLA, Connors, County Line, Moose, Nelson, Osprey, Quiet Lakes - Teal/Lost Land/ Ghost, Sand, Spider, Spring, Whitefish, Windigo.

Those in attendance and the lakes or organizations they were from included; Waldo Asp, County Line; Paul Schwister, Clear; Mickey Odawa, COLA; Bob Reynolds, Big Chetac and Birch; Bill Miller, same; Mel Kelly, Nelson; Ben Neimann, Moose; P. J. Schaeffer, Osprey; Linda Zillmer, Big Chetac, Big Birch; Kathy Wagenbach, Big Chetac, Cindy Clark, Lake Hayward; Kathleen Hatfield, same; Carol Dannehl, Osprey; Martin Hanson, SCLF Board; Don Semler, Whitefish; Coleen Graham, Windigo; Dan Tyrolt, LCO Conservation; Tom Gleason, Callahan; Jim Brakken, Bayfield County Lakes Forum; Chris Jeffords, CFAPOA; Bill Czeskleba, Moose; Jon Mostrom, Nelson; Douglas Kurtzweil, CFAPOA; Terrell Boettcher, Sawyer County Record; Linda Klett, Johnson Lake; Dave Mickelson, Spider Chain of Lakes; Mary Ann Churchill, Moose

Minutes of the 2012 Fall Annual Meeting were approved with a motion by Mel Kelly and a second by Bill Czeskleba. Passed.

Treasurer's Report - Paul Schwister - The report was approved with a motion by Chris Jeffords and a second by Mel Kelly. Passed.

Old balance	950.98
Income	
Dues	60.00
Grant	2,250.00
Expenses	
WEB Host	241.60
State fee	10.00
Jim Brakken	1,500.00
Evergreen printing	750.00
Balance	759.38

Vice President's Report - Mary Ann Churchill - The SCLF board members have made The Lake Life Booklet available to all lake associations in the county. It is being paid for with a DNR grant and we are paying our share with "IN KIND" work. The Lake Like Booklet is available on the SCLF website as a PDF file for viewing and/or downloading and printing.

An SCLF Communication List of members is maintained so information can be shared by e-mail with the associations. A change in the association contact person should be sent to M. A. Churchill at machu@centurytel.net

President's Report - Congratulations were extended to Lake Association that have received grants. Those announced were; Osprey Lake, \$20,000.00 for Milfoil; Whitefish, 3rd year, \$24,000.00 for Milfoil, \$4,000.00 Education; Chippewa Flowage, \$20,000.00 for 3 years for AIS Education/ Eradication, Clean Boats/Clean Waters; Nelson a 3 year grant for boat landing inspections; Windigo, \$14,000.00 for AIS; Big Chetac, \$218,000.00 for 3 years for Eradication, \$9,000.00 for 3 years for Clean Boats/ Clean Waters, and \$11,000.00 for other, and COLA,

\$185,000.00 for Curly Leaf Pond Weed.

The county Zoning Department is continuing its program called Conservation Star Home Award. This is a plaque that is given to a homeowner after inspection of the shoreland lot. A score is given based on the following; shoreland buffer zone, lawn care, habitat, lighting, invasive weeds in the water and water run off.

Election of Board Members

Those nominated to serve a two-year term from 2013 to 2015 were:

Martin Hanson (Round)

Bill Czeskleba (Moose)

Dan Tyrolt (LCO Conservation)

Those elected last year for a two-year term from 2012 to 2014 were:

Mary Ann Churchill (Moose)

Phil Nies (COLA)

Paul Schwister (Clear)

Jim Genrich (Winter Lakes)

Waldo Asp (County Line)

Mike Murry (Nelson)

Mel Kelly moved that the slate be adopted by unanimous consent. A motion to elect the full slate of officers as made, seconded and passed.

2013 NW Wisconsin Lakes Conference - Paul Schwister - The conference will be held in Spooner, WI on Friday, June 21, 2013 at the high school. Topics to be covered are The Citizen's Role in Conservation, Almost Everything You Wanted to Know about Lakes, Citizen Lake Monitoring, Enforcing Shoreland Laws, Frogs and Salamanders of NW Wisconsin, Changing Water Levels, AIS Smart Prevention and Risk Assessment. Citizen Science and Loon Research, Science of Shoreline Habitat, Aquatic Plant Identification Workshop, and Fishing Has No Boundaries-? Applications are available on the SCLF website.

Activity by the Board on Sawyer County Committees - Board members had input on the current comprehensive zoning plan and attend Zoning and Board of Appeals committee meetings where they represent the SCLF.

Website Report- Martin Hanson - The past problem with the SCLF web site has been resolved and when the words of the organization are entered ,with most search engines, it is now at the top of the page. Members were encouraged to send news items for the website directly to Martin. He was thanked for his time and expertise in maintaining the site. SCLF web site www.sawyer-county-lakes-forum.org

Motions and Reports from the Floor

Bill Miller requested that a letter of support from SCLF for work on invasive species on Big Chetac Lake and Birch Lake be sent to the WDNR with a copy sent to Dale Olson, County Zoning and Conservation Administrator.

Guest Presentations, A Summary

"The History and Implementation of AIS Management on Big Chetac and Birch Lakes" by Bob Reynolds, Director and Bill Miller, President Bill Miller told the history of Curly Leaf Pond Weed and Blue Algae on his lakes and how they exacerbate each other in their growth cycles. In an attempt to break the increasing amount of phosphorus, chemical applications have begun. He

detailed the history of getting to this point with the many studies of the plants, the lake bottom and water quality at point of in-flow. These studies took three years to complete. In addition to the chemical application, hand pulling and encouragement of native plants are actions being taken.

“Scientific Research and Data from Sawyer County Lakes” by Dan Tyrolt, LCO Tribal Environmentalist

Dan told how quickly a small patch of Eurasian Water Milfoil can grow and take over sections of a lake. He assesses the Fleuristic Quality Index of a lake to find out the level of healthy native plants existing there. He found that native plants exist as a multi-culture, in contrast to an invasive species which crowds out native plants and becomes a monoculture. One surviving invasive shows up as a low number on the Fleuristic Quality Index. When the test shows a certain score, treatment may be indicated. Some chemicals could be briefly harmful, but the ones he has used break down quickly. Leaving the invasive species in place is “not an option,” he points out since left unchecked they will eventually choke out a lake’s native plants, impact the water quality and harm fish habitat on the lake. He told about one lake association that used a herbicide for ten years with poor results. After testing the acidity of the water he requested a slight change in the formula. That slight change, based on scientific research, yielded affective results in the following year.

”The Evolution of an AIS Committee and Where We Go in the Future” by Dave Mickelson, Chair for AIS Committee for Spider Chain of Lakes Association.

Dave spoke about the future actions that lake associations might take. Clean Boats Clean Waters, the program of inspecting boats and trailers at boat launches, began on Spider Lake with the help of volunteers who soon burned out with the time demands of this effort. They made the change to hiring inspectors when both of their launch sites were not well covered. Individual landowners could be taught how to recognize invasive species in water at their own shoreland. This way, individuals, as opposed to a committee, would be responsible for their part of the lake.

Education is good but visibility and enforcement of laws concerning transporting weeds are needed. Lake associations will need to partner with other lake associations, town, village, city and county governments, as well as state legislators in order to have an effective voice in advocating for the money for Water Guards. These are officers who look for violators who transport weeds from one lake, town, county or state to another. The Guards would offer the visibility and enforcement that are the future hope for curtailing the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species.

The following dates were accepted for future meetings but are subject to change.

Regular 2013 Summer Board Meeting: Thursday, July 11, 10 a.m. at Hunter Town Hall

Regular 2013 Fall Board Meeting: Thursday, October 3, 10 a.m. at Edgewater Town Hall

Regular 2014 Winter Board Meeting: Thursday, February 6, 10 a.m. at Flat Creek Eatery

Regular 2014 Spring Board Meeting: Thursday, April 24, 10 a.m. at Bass Lake Town Hall

Annual 2014 Meeting: Saturday, June 14, 9 a.m. at Flat Creek Eatery

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 11 A.M. Passed
Mary Ann Churchill