

Regular Meeting of the Five Lakes Association Board of Directors  
August 13, 2012

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Five Lakes Association was held at the Grant Township Hall, 3022 E. Surrey Rd., Clare, MI on August 13, 2012. The meeting was called to order by President Dave Southworth at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken:

**Board members present:** President Dave Southworth, Vice President Chris Butche, Treasurer John Zomer, and Area Representatives, Bob Chamberlain, Dick Haynack, Frank Oles, and Ralph Greenfield.

**Board members absent:** Secretary Linda Verardi

**Association members present:** Cory Gingery, Tyler Gingery, Tim O'Neal, Ray Brusseau, Onita Oles, Don Dysinger, Rich Henk, Dave Ebert, Karen Wittich, Len Wittich, Walt Plajstek, Penny Williams, Milinda Bellah, Mike Vitale, Steve Cohoon, Sam Basirico.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the June regular board meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. There were no corrections to the minutes. Dick Haynack motioned and Frank Oles seconded to approve the June minutes. Motion carried 7 Yes, 0 No.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Zomer reported no changes to the budget as reported in the July meeting as he has not yet been authorized at the bank. Dave Southworth noted the 2012 surplus of funds from the special assessment and lake treatment fund will be carried over to the 2013 Lake Management fund. Tim O'Neal negotiated, on behalf of the Association, for the 2013 PLM lake treatment to be the same as 2012 cost levels. Our actual 2013 costs will be unknown until the Spring lake survey, but it is expected the costs will be similar to 2012. The Board will stay the course; robustly treat the variable leaf milfoil infestation. After PLM has provided the Board with 2013 costs, the Board will evaluate the budget and determine if additional projects can be funded (ex. Beach improvements, silt trap cleaning, additional lake treatment options, picnic area improvements...)

**Presidents Report:**

- Dave read and distributed Certificates of Recognition from the Michigan House of Representatives to the individuals on the Five Lakes Board honoring:  
"efforts while researching variable and Eurasian milfoil, working with Michigan DNR, participating in Michigan's Aquatic Invasive Species Program and exploring ecological foundations in Grant Township"

**Committee Reports:**

Dave Southworth / Lake Treatment Committee:

- A committee meeting was held on August 3<sup>rd</sup> to review Bre Grabills Fall lake treatment & budget recommendations based on the latest lake survey. There were two treatment options: Systemic @ \$12,400.00 or "knock down" (Dyquat) @ \$5,890.00. Based on current lake status, budget (2012 and 2013), and the growth patterns for the remainder of the year, Bre recommended the Dyquat treatment. Dave asked Bre to comment if either treatment had a more positive or negative impact to next years weed infestation. Bre stated neither would impact next year's goals. The committee unanimously agreed with Bre's recommendation for the Fall treatment. Also, during the last lake survey, the committee members saw significant algae in the lake. Because of this, the committee also asked Bre to treat for algae at a cost of \$800.

### **Area Reports:**

Bob Chamberlain: No Complaints to report, most residents reporting they are happy with the progress on the lake.

Ralph Greenfield: Nothing to report for the area. Although, Ralph presented the proposal for an absentee ballot (officer elections) for annual meeting voting (attached). Some discussion included with further discussion warranted at the next meeting:

- Need process to notify membership of candidates – currently only announced at annual meeting
- Need to develop timing of ballot availability and return
- Assure process to reconcile absentee votes to dues payment
- Need process to verify absentee ballots are not duplicated or duplicate votes at meeting (check and balances)
- Does constitution allow / disallow absentee ballots
- Security of ballots – must hand off to someone
- Should we have an opportunity for those who cast an absentee ballot to modify their choice if last minute candidates are announced
- Are absentee ballots really necessary based on the problems we have with getting people to run, most run unopposed?

### **Other Business:**

- Dave asked for a motion to pay/approve the three invoices from PLM, Dick motioned, John seconded – motion passes 7 Yes, 0 No.
- John Zomer reported Auto Owners approved Five Lakes for insurance discounts (no guarantee they will be better than membership current plans). Next steps, Auto Owners will contact the members, by mail, for their specific estimates. Chris noted at the Annual Meeting, the membership approved sending addresses to Auto Owners, unless they contacted the Secretary to get their names off the list. Chris motioned, and Dick seconded to move forward with the distribution of the Five Lakes membership to Auto Owners – motion passes 5 Yes, 2 No. Chris reiterated the membership should contact the Secretary to have their names removed from the list prior to the distribution to Auto Owners, an e-mail will be sent and a notice on the website to membership with this information.
- Dave asked for a motion to approve Steve Cohoon to provide Five Lakes landscaping. Bob motioned, John seconded – motion passes 7 Yes, 0 No.
- Fall Newsletter – information for the Fall Newsletter needs to be submitted by mid-September. Also she asked for support in procuring advertisers (\$25.00 for the two Newsletters).
- Frank Oles informed the Board of the preliminary results of the dam inspection:
  - Fence needs to be relocated to allow removal of wood slats.
  - Steel plate on top of slats is secured by a padlock, no key. Needs to be replaced.
  - Frank believes the membership could make the adjustments.
- John Zomer asked the Board for sanctions against Frank Oles. Ralph motioned to move forward with the sanctions – there was no second. There was significant discussion, both supportive and unsupportive of the sanction and the role of the board in disputes between Association members.

### **Audience Discussion:**

Karen Wittich stated there are still some Association members unhappy with the state of the weeds in the lake and asked the Board to clarify their goals relative to weed and lily pad treatment. Dick Haynack stated the goal of the Board is to have a healthy balance in the lake, to achieve this; the Board is following the recommendation of PLM regarding lake treatment. Dave noted our primary

goal is the elimination of the variable leaf milfoil, and reinforced the Board will continue utilize PLM for their recommendations. Karen asked specifically if the Board was treating the lily pads. Ralph noted Bre had treated the lily pads during the last treatment (systemic).

Len Wittich also reinforced some membership concern over the growth of pond weeds.

Ray Brusseau supported the Board staying on course.

Tim O'Neal asked if it was Bre's recommendation to treat with Dyquat for the fall treatment. Dave stated Bre had given the Board two options, one with Dyquat and one with systemic treatments. Taking into consideration the budget and the fact that neither treatment would significantly change the Spring growth, per Bre, the Board moved forward with the budget friendly solution – Dyquat. Tim stated, based on his experience and research, the fall treatment should have been with the systemic solution.

Meeting Adjourned @ 7:15pm.

Submitted by Chris Butche, Vice President

Date: 6-6-2012

To: Five Lakes Association Board

From: R.Greenfield, B.Chamberlain, S. Cohoon, R. Haynak

Subject: Proposed requirements for absentee ballot

Scope: To develop a procedure that would allow members who are unable to attend the annual meeting a chance to cast their vote in the election process for the Executive Board positions. ( President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Area Representatives )

Procedure:

- 1.) Develop an absentee ballot. ( See exhibit 1.)
- 2.) Absentee ballots can be obtained from your Area Representative at least one week prior to the election.
- 3.) The absentee ballot must filled out completely in order for it to be valid.
- 4.) The absentee ballot will be given to the designated Area Representative in a sealed envelope with the voters name printed on the outside of the envelope.
- 5.) The Area Representative will present the envelope containing the absentee ballot to the election committee on the day of the election.
- 6.) The election committee will validate that the dues are paid prior to accepting the absentee ballot.
- 7.) If the dues are not paid the envelope will be dismissed and not counted in the election process.
- 8.) Nominees for election to the Executive Board must be submitted to the election committee two weeks prior to the annual election.

## FIVE LAKES ASSOCIATION ABSENTEE BALLOT

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Association member name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print name)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print address)

Names of persons voting for: (Print names)

- 1.) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4.) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5.) \_\_\_\_\_

Association Member  
signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Enclose ballot(s) in a sealed envelope and submit to Area Representative.