

# Lamoka-Waneta Lakes Association – Board of Directors Meeting

September 19, 2015

**Present:** Terry Allison, Kurt Bischoff, Cartha Conklin, Sean Fitzpatrick, Kevin Morris, Gordon Shafer, Chuck Rybak, Joan Rybak, Brian Smith, Patty Smith, Andy Strawhand, Carolee Thatcher, John Thatcher, David Wallace, Billy Croft

**Absent:** Al Buckland, Al Gerth, Gary Gray, Dene Karaus, Ron Dixon, Richard Stewart, Ed Sharpe, Corinne Julian

**Guests:** Bruce Odell, Joyce Strawhand

**Meeting called to order:** 10:05 AM

**Introductions:** Welcome to new member Bill Croft and our guests Bruce Odell and Joyce Strawhand.

Responsibilities of board members has grown over the years because the lake requires more care now due to changing weather patterns, floods, global warming, weeds, etc. LWLA is recognized as innovators. We were the first in state to incorporate chemical treatment. Today DEC gives us 5 year permits due to our track record and their trust in what we are doing. To ensure continuation of the health of both lakes it is important members continue to be proactive and provide new ideas.

Please note the October BOD meeting will be October 10 instead of the 17<sup>th</sup>. This is due to the conflict with the NYSFOLA western region meeting.

We have had some sad news with a few deaths. A sympathy card was sent to Whitney family who had accident with cannon on Lamoka Lake. We also lost Jim Frawley a past board member known for humor and wit, Malcom Hayes 90 years old from Lamoka Lake and Ray Ruff past board member and Librarian. They will all be missed.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Minutes from August 15<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting and August 29<sup>th</sup> Public Meeting** were approved unanimously as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kurt supplied a printed report with the following highlights:

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Checking             | \$14990.25 + \$3,600 (from flares to be deposited) = \$18,663.25 |
| Savings              | \$20,174.83  |
| Fixed assets         | \$ 7,363.58 (Furniture and equipment)                            |
| <b>Total (about)</b> | <b>\$45,000.00</b>   |

➔ ***Kurt will send treasures report for October meeting to Terry to present since he will not be at meeting***

**Kurt printed/stuffed membership dues letters and envelopes.** They are ready to be sent out in January

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Lake District Commission meeting Sept 12, 2015 highlights –**

### Permitting Requirements

1. We have a permit for treatment good until 2019. Permit for current treatment only if change need new permit
2. An annual plan must be submitted by Feb. 1, 2016

3. Must include Bob Johnson's plant report
4. Riparian announcement must be made
5. Notification to DEC 7 days prior to treatment
6. Before Apr. 1, 2016 fees payments to DEC
7. Dec. 1 – submit this year's report to DEC

Finances:

1. In treasury at this time – Steuben County -\$0 – Schuyler County - \$1,000
2. We collect \$102,000 annually – fees to be paid: \$11,000 for plant studies, \$15,000 waste water management & unknown cost of Chemical treatment based on needs of both lakes
3. This year's costs \$160,000 = \$104,000 Waneta treatment + \$51,000 Lamoka treatment + \$5,000 misc. fees

Waneta and Lamoka Differences:

1. Clarity on Lamoka – very good – more plants and algae growth  
Discussion at BOD meeting - Report of EWM on Lamoka Lake – Only Sparse area on east side near Baptist Camp. Losing battle with EWM on Lamoka –Flood dissipated Renovate before it could do complete job.
2. Turbidity on Waneta – high –fewer plant growth – little to no algae
3. Southern Naiad prevalent to Lamoka and there is now a mud layer since the flood. Plant species have increase in Lamoka – ring around the lake.
4. Lamoka 35 points of Eurasian milfoil, the Channel 8 points, Mill Pond 40 points
5. Waneta – 2 points at north end
6. A few milfoil locations in Channel near Lamoka side

Projects Costs for 2016:

1. \$113,300 = \$97,500 (for Lamoka Lake 75 acres) + \$15,800 (for Channel)
2. After paying for plant and wastewater management, there will be \$76,000 left for treatment
3. There will be a shortfall in financing of approximately \$40,000

How can we make up this financial shortfall?

1. Ask for membership donations
2. Revenue increase
3. Change in testing – look for milfoil and hydrilla only
4. Change in liquid or granular for certain areas.

**Questions and Answers asked to Schuyler Legislature**

1. Can we increase District scale of charge without voter approval? Probably not. Would need Public referendum. It is unclear if there are any tax cap implications with an increase in charges.
2. Can District solicit donations from Taxpayers? Yes
3. Can the District solicit donations to the LWLA? Yes. The District probably should sign a simple Memorandum of Understanding with the LWLA indication that such donations will be used solely for the treatment of invasive species.
4. Can the District receive funding from the LWLA? Yes

Summary: Based on above think #2 is too administratively burdensome for the county to handle. Would prefer a combination of #3 and #4 in which LWLA would jointly send out an appeal letter (similar to joint Riparian notification letters) requesting donations be sent to the LWLA. And then at some appropriate time LWLA will submit a check to the District for supplemental treatment of Lamoka Lake.

### **Discussion by Board Members:**

**Why should Waneta pay for Lamoka?:** Preventative – Water comes into Waneta from Lamoka and there is no inspection of boats as they travel between lakes.

### **How to close shortfall of cash required for treatment?**

1. Is it possible to decrease cost of Plant Study by polling less plants?  
➔ ***Is someone doing this***
2. How much can LWLA donate to district for shortfall?  
➔ ***Sean see how much LWLA can donate to district after reviewing budget***
3. Public Relations – get word out about shortfall and need for donations
  - a. put on LWLA Facebook  
➔ ***Carolee to update Facebook to communicate need for donation***
  - b. Additional Lake Commission District Letter to go out prior to membership letter  
➔ ***Kevin will draft letter & send to Terry to go out ASAP. Will explain have not had increase in fee attached to taxes in 10 years. Sean/Kurt will send to Staples for printing to include pictures so people know the difference between EWM and other weeds(S. Naiad)***
  - ➔ ***Patty to send out BJ Report so people know extent of problem***
4. What about grants?  
➔ ***Talk to O'Mara at Cuba NYSFLOA meeting in October.***
5. Does LWLA increase cost of events such as Pancake breakfast, make golf tournament self-funding, or increase cost of items LWLA sells. Currently LWLA does not make much of a profit on items.
6. **LWLA unanimously agreed to recommend to district:**
  - a. Increase fees attached to taxes
  - b. Draft letter to send out
  - c. Publicize need for donations

**NYS Federation of Lake Associations Meetings:** Scheduled for October 17, 2015 in Cuba, NY. NYS Senator Tom O'Mara will be there. Terry, Cartha, Sean, Rich Stewart will be attending others are welcome. Topics:

1. Michael Greer on Hydrilla in the Erie Canal
2. Stevie Adams- Nature Conservancy –Honeoye Lake Inlet Restoration Project
3. Ed Kwietniewski – Lake Management Graduate Student at SUNY Oneonta Rushford Lake Management Plan Update
4. Michael Haught – President of the Center for Environmental Initiatives A potential Partner in the work to reduce runoff in your watershed.
5. Tom O'Mara – NYS Senator

### **Calendar of Events Discussion:**

1. Pancake Breakfast  
➔ ***Al/Heidi Gerth and Patti Smith to put out work assignment list May Timeframe***
2. Pontoon Palooza: Looking for Chairperson. Need to put in newsletter. Not exclusive to Pontoon boats. Billy Croft will help part of Red Neck Yacht Club on Lamoka.  
➔ ***Need to find Chairperson***
3. Flares – Only 1 case of regular flares left – 36/case at \$88. Discussed how to get rid of them. Agreed LED Flares will be included in Clothing Sales. Suggestion to put note to remind people to remove the batteries when not in use. Discussion on moving Flare night time to 8:30 n Sept.  
➔ ***Agreed to Donate regular flares to Tyrone Fire Department – John Thatcher will do***  
➔ ***Put note on Facebook to remove batteries out of LED Flares***

4. Rummage Sale on Lamoka date correction July 30-31
5. Calendar of events Schedule
  - a. Public Meetings at 10am at Tyrone Fire House May 28, 2016 & August 27, 2016
  - b. Flare Nights- July 2, 2016 at 9:30pm & September 3, 2016 at 8:30pm
  - c. Boat Parade July 2, 2016 2pm – Lamoka meet Baptist Camp – Waneta South end
  - d. Golf Tournament July 9, 2016
  - e. Rummage Sales – Waneta July 23-24 - Lamoka July 30-31
  - f. Pancake Breakfast August 6, 2016 8-11am
  - g. Pontoon Palooza – August 13, 2016 2pm – Lamoka meet Baptist Camp – Waneta South end
  - h. Board of Directors Meetings Tyrone Town Hall at 10 am – September 19, 2016, October 10, 2016, April 16, 2016, May 21, 2016, June 13, 2016, July 16, 2016 & August 20, 2016

#### **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:**

**President Term:** Start thinking of someone. Terry's 4 year term is up next year. President is only as good as support of Board members.

**Clothing:** Chuck Rybak and Ron Dixon and John Thatcher clothing team. Question of Fire Department Shed near LWLA Supply shed

**Water Quality Testing:** Brian Smith, Bruce Odell, John Webb, Kevin Morris testing team. Billy Croft's neighbor Sam has PHD in this sort of thing and will help. Kevin Morris volunteered to store equipment so it does not freeze. Not sure O2 meter working properly. Terry would like same team to do testing on both lakes.

➔ Need to set a schedule for testing starting in May. Need consistency in process.

**Steuben/Schuyler Watershed Committee:**

➔ **Need someone from North West end of lake who is in Steuben County to attend meeting quarterly. Put on Facebook and email mailing to look for volunteer**

**Publicity:** Carolee Thatcher

#### **OTHER:**

**Harvesting in Mill Pond:** No EWM spreads by fragmentation.

**Channel Clean up:** Need Permit

➔ **Add to Agenda for April BOD meeting**

**Lake Level:** Getting correct cell service modem the 1 from Verizon did not work

➔ **Bob DeYeager/Terry Allison getting correct modem**

**NYSEG:** Putting new gates on Dam – timing is up to them

**Draw Down:** Date Sometime in mid-October – This is not 3 year draw down – DEC specifies when it has to be done

**CSLAP Training:** Available at NYSFOLA meeting in the spring

**Meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM**

**Next meeting(s):**

- Board of Directors Meeting 10:00 AM Saturday, **October, 10, 2015** at Tyrone Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cartha and Corinne