## The Quiet Lakes

## TEAL, LOST LAND and GHOST LAKES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC. BOX 214 • HAYWARD, WISCONSIN 54843

## www.quietlakes.org

Saturday, July 12, 2025, at 10:00 am Spider Lake Township Town Hall

Doors were opened at 9:00 am for the members who wanted to vote prior to the meeting. Kelly Seivert and Shae Green helped with processing absentee ballots prior to the meeting to speed up the end of the meeting and calculating the ballots.

Norm called the meeting to order promptly at 10:00 am and announced that voting will commence at the end of the meeting. There were approximately 55 members in attendance.

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Norm took a few minutes to thank everyone for allowing him to sit on the QLIA Board and most recently serve as the Board President. He indicated we have had 2 successful treatments with ProcellaCOR and that we have had good turnouts for the fundraising.

The meeting was then turned over to Matt Berg from Endangered Resource Services, LLC for his presentation bed mapping. Matt's company provides bed mapping for not only our lakes but many lakes in Wisconsin. Matt gave a background of himself and the history of some Wisconsin lakes. Some of Matt's presentation points were:

- Explanation of the benefits of plants. He described the lake without plants as like having a forest without trees.
- Lost Land Lake bays are quite "planty" (there is approximately 13 feet of clarity)
- Teal is even more "planty" (only approximately 12 feet of clarity)
- Plants provide hunting habitat and cover for game and bait fish alike.
- Pondweeds are what we want as they are giving structure.
- Floating leaf plants are good for young fish.
- Emergent species if we pull all weeds out, we will get erosion.
- Matt did the 1<sup>st</sup> survey in 2022.
  - o Why do surveys?

- The goal is to determine how Eurasian Watermilfoil Management levels had changed since the 1<sup>st</sup> surveys were done in 2016.
- Update the lakes' aquatic plant management plan. His company surveys all types of things, but aquatic plants are the bulk of his work. Matt showed several graphics showing Lost Land Lake and Teal Lake and how they look. If we don't have plants, we have green soup/algae which can cause many issues.
- Matt said it is hard to find algae in Lost Land Lake and that we have great shoreline care. There is no algae in Teal Lake. Our lakes are in very good health.
- On Lost Land Lake in 2016 it was hard to find any Eurasian watermilfoil at that time. By 2022 it was everywhere on Lost Land Lake.
- In 2016 Eurasian watermilfoil was not found in 2016 on Teal Lake but was present in 2022.
- The boat landing on Lost Land Lake is the densest Eurasian watermilfoil he's ever seen.
  - In 2022 he found 21 beds (263 acres on Lost Land Lake). In 2024 there were 5 beds (7.26 acres on Lost Land Lake).
  - In 2022 he found 35 beds (44 acres on Teal).
  - In 2024 there were 11 beds (10 acres on Teal).
- The harvester tends to make the EWM explode. It is not meant to treat/harvest milfoil. He suggested harvesting is counterproductive to what we are doing with ProcellaCOR.
- ProcellaCOR is a relatively new chemical and tends to travel. Small treatments can have whole lake effects. Lynch Bay and Wilson Bay were treated in 2025. We will not know how it looks until August. It is up to us as an association to figure out what is best for our lakes. Matt cannot and will not tell us what's right for us.

Craig Pagenkopf thanked Matt for his presentation and opened the meeting up to questions from the audience.

The following are the questions/comments from the audience members and the answers provided by Matt Berg, unless stated otherwise:

- Is the treatment effective on native plants?
  - o 24D is good for killing young milfoil but not old milfoil. ProcellaCOR is killing everything and is expensive.

- How does it affect non-plant life?
  - O Dioxin (which is in 2,4D) chemical refining process has gotten better over the years. ProcellaCOR is denied for use on body of water that contains with wild rice. There is not a lot of research on ProcellaCOR. The DNR fisheries are concerned about the timing of applications of ProcellaCOR.
- Where milfoil has been eradicated how fast does the milfoil come back, if you actually clean out an area and have not treated it with anything?
  - Motors churn up stuff (yes, it is quiet lakes, but we know they aren't). The idea of "deal with it and you're done" is a fallacy. Lake plants have seeds and are waiting for the right environment to grow.
- We were told Ghost Lake is so dark that they don't face a milfoil problem.
  - (Craig Pagenkopf) We have someone coming out in August to do an inspection of the lake to see if we need to do anything.
  - o (Norm Bratteig) There were 2 points of inspections on Ghost some years ago and have never found anything.
  - o (Matt Berg) It's less about the color and more about the bottom of the lake.
- We've noticed a lot of boaters backing up their engines. Does that affect milfoil?
  - You have to clear out plants from the engines. Fragments are going to drift down stream.
- What are the effects of the breakdown of what has happened with treatment? I feel like I see algae blooms, is that normal?
  - Algae is normal and I can't really comment without the data. The effects are usually very short lived.

Craig Pagenkopf stated that the DNR is asking us to wait and see what happens and how the lakes respond. We cannot keep dumping chemicals into the lake without knowing the effects. The next 2-3 years we are in a wait and see "mode". If you see milfoil popping up, let us know.

Norm Bratteig stated that he could see Matt coming back the next couple of years to keep us informed. Norm also stated he personally agrees with the harvester comments, and he was the one who pushed to get the harvester here. We do our best with what we know at the time.

Lisa Carpenter – Secretary's Report

Minutes from the Annual Meeting July 13, 2024, were approved as posted. These minutes are available on the website under QLIA Info / Minutes / 2024 Summer Meeting QLIA Minutes

Craig Pagenkopf – The new website is up and running. Please take a look.

Perry Cowan – Treasurer's Report

• Thanks to Molly Pagenkopf's help we are up and running with QuickBooks.

- We started absentee ballots this year (94 absentee ballots this election).
- We have a new website which now allows online payments of dues and/or donations. We have received 47 payments so far since June 1<sup>st</sup>. Thanks to Amy Jo Wittenberg for her help with the website. The website also has the ability for you to sign up for volunteer work as well. We had to give money back to the DNR this year for the lack of volunteer hours.
- Thanks to Kelly Seivert for all of her work on preparing our newsletters.
- Checking account balance as of July 11, 2025, is \$91,266
- We have \$15,450 in tier donations.
- There are 226 members in the QLIA with 18 of them being lifetime members. We have 23 new members this year.
- The DNR expects us to do 200 hours of clean boat check. We are currently at approximately 40 hours.
- The QLIA annual picnic is set for Sunday, August 10, 2025 at Reel Livin'

The following are the questions/comments from the audience members and the answers provided by Board Members, unless otherwise noted:

- Is there any type of training for clean boat check volunteers?
  - o The "training" is on the website when you sign up.
  - Keith Baumgart said in over 4 years he's been volunteering, only 1 guy has given him a hard time at the boat check. No matter how busy or not busy you are, the QLIA gets money for volunteer hours.
- What is the projection for the end of the year for the checkbook?
  - We can expect approximately \$98,000 back from DNR in December/January.
  - There are many factors that play into the checkbook, and I can't really answer that question.
  - We have approximately \$40,000 in costs without treatment.
  - o We have to front money and then we get reimbursed by the DNR.
- If the plan is to hold off treatment, are we still planning to maintain fundraising?
  - o No, we are still moving forward with fundraising to keep money coming in. We payout \$40,000 a year even without chemical treatment.
  - o Future grants are probably going away due to budget cuts and the like.
- It is very important to encourage new members since it's the same people donating year after year.
  - Craig Pagenkopf reiterated to reach out to neighbors to join the QLIA. Growing our membership is very important.
- With the ineffectiveness of harvester is there any chance we can sell it?
  - We would have to find someone (lake) who has the correct type of plants.
  - o We've had interest in renting it out, but we'd have to get insurance.

- Kevin Kroll spent 53 hours in Steamboat Bay just raking the milfoil up, I think we should keep it just for future use.
- What if someone comes back from a day out on the lake and haven't done proper boat cleaning?
  - Almost everyone knows the drill. Just explain the rules/laws to them. We aren't taking names or getting their registration of the boat. It's pretty low key.
- Thanks to the board members and all of their work and thanks to Norm for his years on the board. The newsletters have vastly improved over the last year, so we don't have to go to the website to get information. Where does the board stand on the Spider Lake Boating Ordinance?
  - We don't get into political stands. If we were to make a statement, it would have to come from what the members want and not just from the Board's views.
- Can we get a show of hands of the membership in attendance who supports the Spider Lake Boating Ordinance?
  - A majority of the members in attendance voted by show of hands in support of the ordinance.

Steve Fiala did a power point presentation about Norm and his years of service.

Norm Bratteig called for any more votes to be cast before he closes the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am

Steve Fiala received 62 votes John Wittenberg received 92 votes

Kevin Kroll was elected as President Lisa Carpenter was re-elected as Secretary John Wittenberg was elected as the new Director at Large