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# West Battle Lake Lakeshore Association Executive Board Meeting Minutes

9/22/2022 Final Approved Copy

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## Call to order

A meeting of the West Battle Lake Lakeshore Association Executive Board was held at The Shoreline Restaurant in Battle Lake September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022 at 6:00 pm. Attendees were Tracy Rendz-Eldridge, Kyle Johnson, Steve Slatten, Michael Smith, Sean Belmont and John Hofflander. Absent were Chad Schaefer and Terry Stroh. President Tracy Rendz-Eldridge called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

## Quorum Requirement

6 directors were present. The quorum requirement was met.

## Discussion/Business Items

1. Tracy distributed an agenda for the meeting.
2. Jim Bosek of Bosek Fisheries was a guest. Jim spoke extensively of walleye stocking on West Battle Lake (WBL). Jim is a proponent of fingerling vs. fry stocking for lakes such as WBL that have limited natural reproduction. The DNR is planning to stock WBL with 1,250 lbs. of fingerlings this fall. They have purchased 1,000 lbs. from Bosek Fisheries so will only have to come up with 250 lbs. of fingerlings from their own ponds to meet their total quota for WBL.
3. Sean Belmont presented the Treasurer's report. The unrestricted general fund balance is \$60,297.99. The restricted walleye stocking fund is \$18,144.83. Kyle Johnson presented a \$2,000 check from a property owner to be used for walleye stocking. Once deposited, the walleye stocking fund balance will be \$20,144.83 Sean will move the unrestricted general fund into an interest bearing account. Sean suggested creating a new annual dues notice to include more information on what the association has been allocating funds for. The Board will work on a new dues notice over the winter.
4. John Hofflander presented a fisheries update:
  - DNR plans are to continue stocking fingerlings annually in WBL (1,250 lbs.).
  - The next comprehensive fisheries survey for WBL is scheduled for summer 2024.
  - DNR goal for Muskie is stocking 2,500 fingerlings every other year. Due to COVID and poor fingerling pond production, they have not met this goal the last few years. Plan is stock in even numbered years starting fall 2022. The next targeted Muskie trap net survey is proposed for 2024.
  - DNR is proposing to eliminate the special Northern Pike regulation on WBL and replace it with the North-Central regulation. The Board supports this proposal with the hopes that it will help reduce the number of small Northern Pike in WBL.
  - As discussed in 2020, the Board supports a reduction in the Crappie limit from 10 to 5 with a 10" size minimum. John will draft a letter asking the DNR to consider these restrictions.
  - The DNR has never done a targeted Crappie survey in WBL. They plan to do one in 2024.
  - West Public Access – The contact person at the DNR for issues related to the access is Jeff Fjestad of the DNR Parks and Trails division.
5. More discussion related to walleye fingerling stocking. Decisions made were:
  - Committing \$20,144.83 from the walleye fund for 2022 fingerling stocking, with the intent to raise an additional \$4,855.17 in the next several weeks. This will enable

WBLLA to reach our goal of \$25,000 to purchase 1,250 lbs. of fingerlings (maximum allowed per our stocking permit from the DNR) for stocking in WBL yet this fall.

- Donations exceeding \$4,855.17 will be used to purchase yearling walleye in the spring of 2023. Absent the availability of those fish, the excess donations will be used to purchase fingerlings in the fall of 2023.
  - Explore the feasibility of creating a QR Code allowing those interested to easily donate to the walleye stocking fund.
6. Decision to hold an annual meeting in 2023. WBLLA bylaws require an in-person annual meeting be held between June 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup>. The 2023 WBLLA annual meeting will be held at 9:00 am Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Battle Lake high school auditorium.
  7. Vote to add members Mike Anderson and Dan Kolpin to the WBLLA Board of Directors. Both were nominated by member Jody Coleman. As directors-elect, their official three year term will begin at the annual meeting 6/24/2023.
  8. John gave a water clarity update. As has been since the zebra mussel infestation, spring secchi disk readings approach 30' and trend downward over the summer ending at around 17' in September.
  9. Steve Slatten gave a water quality update. All indicators from his tests remain positive with the Trophic Status Index (composition of all the tests performed into a single number) trending downward which is a very positive sign as the lower the TSI is, the higher the water quality is.
  10. Glendalough Donation Request – John will contact Glendalough representatives to see if we are able to make a donation with the requirement it be used to improve/maintain the several hundred feet of WBL shoreline and adjoining 30 acres of native grasses on the south side of highway 16.
  11. Agreed to Tracy's request to provide 5 \$25 gift certificates to be given to ice fisherman who do an exemplary job of maintaining a clean environment in and around their ice houses. Tracy will administer the process.

## Adjournment

There being no more discussion or business items, the meeting was adjourned 3 1/2 hours later at 9:30 pm.

John Hofflander  
Secretary

9/28/2022  
Created

10/5/2022  
Approved