



Douglas County Lakes Association
Wednesday, April 14, 2010, 4:30 p.m.
Public Works Building
Alexandria, MN 56308

President Dick Kuehn called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. with the following people present: Jim Peterson – Ida, Emily Siira – Douglas SWCD, Tom Brunner – Red Rock, Hank Janz – Mina, Sue Engstrom – Darling, Bonnie Huettl – Lobster, Keith Dougherty – L’Hommie Dieu, Harry May – Geneva, Karen Cook – Latoka, Jan Beliveau – Mary, Mike Kopitzke – Vermont and President Kuehn – Milona.

Bonnie Huettl moved and Tom Brunner seconded to approve the March 2010 minutes with the following corrections. Mike Kopitzke (Vermont) and Tom Brunner (Red Rock) were present. Motion carried.

Treasurer Jim Peterson distributed and reviewed the financial reports. The checking account balance was \$7,305.39 as of March 31, 2010. Bonnie Huettl submitted bills for lake service provider training expenses. This training was conducted by Nathan Olson on March 16, 2010. Bills were submitted by Nancy Haggemiller for postcard mailing (\$78.83) and by Country Secretary (\$267.32). Motion by Jan Beliveau, second by Keith Dougherty to accept the Treasurer’s report and pay all bills. Motion carried.

Emily Siira reported on behalf of Water Planning. The Rain Garden Workshop held on March 18, 2010 was well attended and all attendees did receive a copy of Rusty Schmidt’s “Blue Thumb Guide to Rain Gardens.” There was a Bio Retention Workshop held on April 9, mainly for professionals. The speaker was Rusty Schmidt. This year’s scholarship essay winner is Bob Guetter (Jefferson High School) \$500.00, second place is Randy O’Brien (Jefferson High School)\$300.00. Bonnie Huettl suggested we have a photo opportunity when the scholarships are awarded – perhaps at Honors Night for graduating seniors. Emily reported that she is applying for Clean Water funding to pay Minnesota Conservation Corps Students for summer help with lakeshore restorations, etc.

Dave Rush dropped off his written report, as he was unable to stay for the meeting. His report follows: "I will not be able to attend the meeting this evening, but I wanted to provide a brief update on activities in our department. At a SSTS Task Force meeting last week, the committee reviewed a very rough draft of the proposed county wide septic rules. There was productive discussion on the first half of the rules. L&R Staff will review the comments over the next two weeks and make changes as discussed. Another meeting to complete the rule review will be held on April 22nd in the evening. After that meeting, the rules will be revised and public hearings will be held. We expect to adopt on schedule – by June 30, 2010.

The Comprehensive Plan Task Force will be meeting tomorrow to continue developing land use policies. Natural resource mapping and priorities, developed from the focus group meeting in November, will be presented and meshed with land use policies. This will be the second iteration of policy development by the Task Force. Several more iterations will be completed before June, when the County will host a planning "open house". On Tuesday, the County board agreed to have the L&R Department to begin the process of drafting a water surface ordinance restricting boat travel in the channels between Cowdry and Darling and between Victoria and Geneva. The purpose of this proposed restriction would be to limit the spread of zebra mussels into waters where they are not currently. The board asked that our office, in cooperation with the DNR, hold informational meetings to present facts about what is known and now known about the zebra mussels, as well as hold public hearings (as required by State statute) before bringing it back to the board for a vote. The County would like to have assistance from DCLA for the informational part of the meetings, but does not expect support for the water surface zoning. This effort will take place very soon, as it would be best to have possible restrictions in place before the boating season takes off." The SSTS Task Force reviewed a very rough draft of the proposed county wide septic rules. Public hearings will be held and adoption is expected by June 30, 2010.

Bonnie Huettl reported on behalf of Lakes Area Regional Planning. Owen Miller (City of Alexandria) would like to use our placemats (DNR Public Awareness Grant) on fishing opener May 15.

Keith Dougherty reported on behalf of Public Relations. The KXRA Open Line speaker on May 6th will be Dean Beck, DNR Fisheries. Keith Dougherty and Tom Brunner will be on with Dean Beck. There was discussion on topics to be covered. Carp removal was suggested.

Sue Engstrom and Bonnie Huettl reported little activity for zoning. The BOA/PAC approved an application last night on Lake Miltona giving 100% credit for pervious pavers as part of a storm water plan.

Bonnie Huettl reported all of our DNR grant applications have been approved but we must wait for the signed contracts before spending can begin.

President Kuehn will contact Marian Bender of MN Waters to speak at the September annual meeting. He will also contact Adam Hjelm in case Marian is not available.

The Douglas County Lakes Association took no position on the 2 tier boat license fee. More information is needed.

There was a motion by Bonnie Huettl, second by Jan Beliveau to support the proposed DNR five year moratorium on building additional boat accesses. Motion failed. More information is needed.

Let's Go Fishing with Seniors presented their program. This is not the same as the Senior Fishing organized by the Viking Sportsmen.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Klemann
Executive Secretary
DCLA

(Notes provided by Sue Engstrom. Thank you, Sue.)