



## **DCLA Board Meeting**

April 12, 2023

Douglas County Public Works Bldg.

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by President Steve Henry at 4:00 pm.

**Attendees:** 13 Board Members, 3 County employees, 3 Carlson Dock Representatives

**Presentation:** In fall of 2022 the DCLA established a committee to address excessive aquatic plants in all Lake Association Lakes, and to research options for lakes experiencing considerable plant growth. Committee member, Mike Kettler provided research results regarding excessive plants in county lakes. He covered techniques for removal of excessive plants from area lakes and process for needed DNR Permitting. Chris Carlson from Carlson Docks explained the process for removal of plants using a harvester that cuts the plants and a barge that takes the plants off lake. The harvester cuts 5 feet wide and five feet deep. It must not disturb lake bottom. In most instances the harvester must sit on dry land for five days before harvesting in another lake. For this reason they recommend and provide special pricing for lake shore owners to work together to harvest multiple sites on their lake at one time. No action was taken.

**Agenda:** Agenda was mailed to Board members. Motion to Approve: Rose/ Horntvedt

### **Secretary's Report:**

Minutes of the November 19, 2022 board meeting were approved by the DCLA Executive Council on November 1, 2022 and mailed to the DCLA Board. Minute Correction: Meeting start date is April (not June) Kettler/Lopez-motion to accept the minutes with correction. **Motion Passed**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

There are no outstanding bills. Lake Assc. may expect RMB billing in May if the are conducting stream testing.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Douglas County Legacy Fund**

**Water Quality Legacy Fund: DSWCD:** Roger Thalman is ending his term as the City of Alexandria representative. Mike Weber will be the new city's representative. Jay Sieling will replace Gene Rose as one of the two DCLA representatives. Emily Siira will replace Dean Beck as the DNR representative. Rose/IDokken-McFann moved to accept the new appointees. **Motion Passed.** Several WQLF Projects have been approved, including Bethel Manor runoff and three basins for wetland restoration. DWQLF funding is sufficient for Ditch 23 and DSWCD will move forward on the project.

**Website:** Rose reported that the website needs updating. He asked for board interest in the DCLA website. Members said they do want to keep the website and that minutes should be on the website as well as being emailed to board members. Craig Calhoun is interested in helping with updating the site. Others are invited to contact either Benson or Rose if you have an interest in helping with the update.

**Fisheries Committee:** Rod Johnson reported that Bruce Luehmann and Jay Seiling researched restoring spawning areas on LHD. They have concerns that the DNR fish stocking of LHD could be reduced if action to encourage spawning is taken. Spawning restoration would be required annually. No action was taken.

**Excessive Plant Harvesting:** Luehmann /Rose moved that DCLA endorse the committees report and accept their suggestions. **Motion Passed.** A brochure with details regarding the removal of excessive plant growth is available with details regarding permitting and companies that provide services. The DCLA is providing this information without recommending any action or vendor. The committee members, Mike Kettler, Chad Swanson and Wayne Horntvedt are available to answer general questions. The brochure provides names of companies that will provide specific information.

**DCLR:** See Justin Swart's full report as emailed with 4/12/23 minutes.

**DSWCD:** See Danielle Anderson's report previously emailed with agenda. Dokken-McFann/Leuhmann moved to donate \$500 to the May 3rd, KIDS Ground Water Festival. **Motion Passed.** The event is at the RCC from 8:30 - 2:30. Lunch provided for all including volunteers. To Volunteer for the event contact Anderson at DSWCD at Danielle.Anderson@mn.nacdn.net

**Property Value:** Chad Swanson reviewed Douglas County lake property values and tax rates on all the major lakes in the county. Current values show that 47% of Douglas County taxes come from lake shore properties.

**Communication:** Henry reported KXRA Openline programs: 9 am, 2nd & 4th Thursday mornings  
April: The new DNR Watershed Health Assessment Framework lakes scoring system.  
May: The Devil's Element, Phosphorus and a World Out of Balance" book review  
June: How fish net counts are done in area lakes.

**Stream Water Testing:** Fuller agreed to develop a data entry form/guide for the testing of phosphorus and solids of streams as they enter a lake. She will research last year's records to determine the best lake sequencing for sharing of testing equipment. The stream testing will cost \$47 per time. Because testing data on Lake Jesse is critical, Henry conducted Phosphorus testing in 2022 and paid for the testing himself, Leuhmann/Rose Moved that DCLA pay for last year's testing and pay for it going forward. **Motion Passed.**

**Minnesota Lakes and Rivers:** Rose/Johnson moved to continue support of MN Lakes and Rivers with a donation of \$100. **Motion Passed.**

**New Committees:** Henry expressed a need for volunteers for two committees.

1. **Lake Association Development** committee to grow the number of lake associations involved in the DCLA Board's lake conservation practices.

2. **Nominating Committee:** needed to establish candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer to be elected at September 2023 annual meeting.

**DCLA Projector:** Rose/Lopez moved DCLA purchase for \$50 the projector that they have been borrowing. **Motion Passed.** Anderson will keep the projector at the DSWCD office.

**Next meeting:** The second Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 4 pm at DC Public Works. The DCLA Executive council meets the first Wednesday of the month.

**There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6pm.**

Respectfully Submitted: Barbara Benson, Secretary

(From meeting notes taken by Cynthia Fuller)

**Draft of Minutes: Minutes will be Reviewed and approved at the next meeting of the DCLA Executive Council. This Draft of the Minutes is mailed prior to approval.**