



**DOUGLAS COUNTY  
LAKES ASSOCIATION**

**Meeting Minutes**

November 8, 2023 5:00pm

DC Public Works Meeting Room

**Call to order:** President Sieling called the meeting to order at 5pm

**Secretary's Report:** Luehmann/Lopez moved to accept minutes of 9/12/23 annual meeting. **Passed**

**Treasurer's Report:** Approved, Budget for 2023-24 Luehman/Rose moved to adopt. **Passed**  
Zastro/Rose Moved to appoint Debbie Fearing as DCLA treasurer. **Passed**

**Guest Speakers:**

- Vicki Poels, from Friends of the Alexandria Nature Trail, presented current information regarding the proposed Trail. Two grants are in preliminary stages. Anyone can become a FANT member. The Mission Statement is: "FANT brings people together to build the Alexandria Nature Trail and to protect the upper Long Prairie watersheds, for present and future generations."
- James Bosek, Related his grave concern when finding invasive adult crayfish in four locations on lake Winona this fall. He advised trapping over winter to assess numbers and prevent a spring time hatching. It is unknown if the crayfish have spawned previously. Bosek said quick action is needed to prevent spread. Present at the meeting, Mark Ranweiler, DNR and Justing Swart, DLR expressed their concern and potential funding issue. A committee was formed to coordinate organizations to address the issue: Steve Henry, Linda Dokken-McFann, Carole Weber-Brown, Mark Ranweiler.

**Reports:**

**DSWCD:** Staff is working on next steps for Ditch 23 following the denial of easement application. Tree order forms and DSWCD newsletter were provided for board members. Long Prairie projects are being implemented. Tree Open House will be held at DSWCD on December 20.

**DCLR:** Swart reported that DNR has AIS grants available for up to \$10,000 chosen by lottery. DCLR funding may be available for the Winona Crayfish issue.

**WQLF:** The DCLA will meet regarding Ditch 23 status.

**AIS Education update:** Zastrow reported on status of AIS research effort.

**Old Business:**

**Nelson Lake:** Intend to follow efforts of Ottertail county to deal with Nelson Lake

**New Business:**

**Potential Goals for DCLA:** Rose/Weber-Brown moved to adopt strategic DCLA goals. To:

- Explore Sustainable Funding models for AIS
- Update DCLA communication (website or other media options)
- Streamline DCLA Membership records
- Update By Laws & Mission statement

**Motion Passed**

**Political:** Discussion regarding importance of supporting MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates with personal or Lake Association membership. [MNLakesAndRivers.org](http://MNLakesAndRivers.org)

**Next meeting time and date.** December 12, 2023 at 5pm. A Zoom option will be offered.  
Meeting was Adjourned at 6:45.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Barbara Benson