

LMBIA BOARD MEETING –January 22, 2019 @ Bonfire

Members Present: Cliff Willhite, Tom Rotz, Laurie Boll, Robert Hantge, Steve Hatlestad, Stan Kittelson, Don Kotila, Todd Kuechle, Steve Stepien, Kristi Ties.
Newsletter Editor: Kristin Jaquith **Member absent:** Julene Schatz

President Cliff Willhite called the meeting to order. November 27th minutes were reviewed by all prior to the meeting. A few corrections were made and Cliff asked for a motion to accept **the Secretary's minutes** and Stan so moved and Steve H. seconded it.

Treasurer's report was handed to everyone and report was given by Todd Kuechle. Steve S. submitted a bill for \$1020 for the September Starry Stone Wort Divers inspection, \$2000 from Pheasants Forever for the Bees and Butterfly Project, \$375 bill for a DNR permit fee for MBO project. Cliff asked for a motion to approve the treasures report and Stan so moved and seconded by Steve H.

Bees & Butterfly's & Starry Stone Wart Inspection Bills & Grants Steve S. mentioned that we haven't been sending copies of the canceled checks to the county for AIS for reimbursement of the grant money. Todd said he will keep track of all AIS payments made and send canceled checks to the county for reimbursement.

Update on AIS Grant Spending Steve S informed the board that he will be attending the upcoming county AIS meeting to request more money for watercraft inspections and see what the county's AIS's proposed plan is for all of Meeker County lake..

OLD BUSINESS

Steve S. and Tom R. gave a updated report on **Bees and Butterfly Project**. Josh Pomier from Pheasants Forever said they are running short of funds. The burn is necessary on the large piles of trees. Robert made a motion to hire someone with a loader to push up the piles while being burned. Steve H. approved this motion and the majority so agreed. Now the plan for the project is to do a scrub planting in 2019 and final seeding in 2020. We have a grant for \$1000 from the BWSR and will apply for additional funds to complete the project later this year.

Website Update by Kristi: The website will be ready for online payments of LMBIA membership dues and AIS donations by the end of January. Cost of the website is \$200 per year. She said cost will go up because of the payment feature. Thirteen advertisers have paid extra \$20 each will help pay for the additional website expense. We have about 10 advertisers that want links on our website.

Fund Raising, Membership Letter, Income Status and Advertisers report by Kristi T, Steve S. and Steve H and Todd: Steve H and Todd want to send out another letter as a

reminder to pay memberships dues. Steve H. said there are now 61 advertisers and 52 have paid as of today. And there are 10 new advertisers. Additional AIS donations are down this year. Todd estimates that there is about \$24,000 in the AIS fund.

AIS and 2019 Grant Update. Steve S. said we have 12,500 grant dollars and hopefully more coming. Where should we put the funding? Stan came forward and suggested that we do an “Aquatic Point Survey” of Lake Minnie Belle this year. He stated that we had aquatic surveys in 1991, 1993, 1999, 2004 and 2012. He suggested we use Limnopro Aquatic Science, Inc. from St. Cloud. Todd made a motion that we hire this company and Cliff so moved and Tom 2nd it.

MBO update – phase I & II report was given by Steve S and Steve H.

1. **Swamp is still open** and we may have to wait and use mats on phase I. Or we will wait for frozen ice to get the dredging completed. Joe Norman said the ACE and DNR permits are needed.
2. **Engineering work still has to be done** on phase II, {which is the tile around}.
3. **Both the Army Corps Engineers and DNR have to approve:** soon as they get their \$375 fee they will approve.
4. ACE (**Army Corp of Engineers will take a few months.** DNR is already looking at it.
5. **Steve S. mentioned that we need to apply for grants from BWSR and SWCD to help out – CRP only covers 50%**

Spring Newsletter, Articles, get in-put to Kristin J: Stan said he will get his Aquatic Point Survey article to Kristin.

Job Descriptions of the Board Members: We could use a few ideas and some verbiage for Board members of their job descriptions to Kristin. Stan handed his in months ago. Steve H. handed his in tonight.

New Volunteers for Roadside Clean Up. Don Kotila gave a report that he have a lot of volunteers for roadside cleanup. Laurie Boll gave him the box of yellow vests and bags. She will bring the contact info to the next meeting.

Fundraising, Web & Facebook_We have two volunteers to help with the website and Facebook. They are Carl and Sara Schlauderaff.

New Business

County AIS budget, next meeting Jan 23rd_Steve S. is attending this meeting and will be asking for \$4323 additional funds for boat inspections and education. There was a lot of

discussion that there is AIS risk on the west landing. There was a lot on controversy on whether or not to close the west landing and the possible repercussions. Steve said at this **2019 boat inspection budget meeting** input is needed.

Tom attended the MCAL meeting on Jan 17th. Items discussed were the approval of grants and the increase of Zebra Mussels on Lake Washington. Also receipts for water testing should be turned into AIS, Kristin Cote, as this is no longer a MCAL funded project.

New Business from the floor: No new business was brought up.

Next meeting will be Tuesday February 26th.

Adjournment: Cliff asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and Don so moved and Stan seconded it.

January Minutes respectfully submitted by Laurie Boll.