Leech Lake Association Meeting Minutes – October 17, 2022

Meeting called to order by President Gisvold at 9:30. Board Members present: Jennifer O’Neill, Mark Bovee, John Eaton, Tom McGovern, Bob Gisvold, Dave Laursen, Bill Schultz. Absent: Sharyn Nepsha, Jeff Holten, Jeff Brockberg, Steve Mortensen. Guests: Dana Gutzmann, SWCD. Jason Hauser COE. Carl Pederson DNR

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Bill Schultz move to approve the September 19 Meeting Minutes as written. Mark Bovee seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Dave Laursen reported that the Leech Lake Association bank balance at the end of September was $64,553.95. Income was $1,640 from membership renewals. Expenses were $1290.94, with $1147 for Liability insurance. Jennifer O’Neill moved to approve Treasurer’s Report. John Eaton seconded. Motion carried.

WATER LEVELS: Jason Hauser reported that the current water level on Leech Lake was 1294. 3, 0.2 below the summer band. Jason also reported that the youth fishing contest would be held once again in 2023 at Federal Dam. At this popular event, life jackets are given out, water safety is taught, and a movie is typically shown. Jason asked if the LLA would be willing to help sponsor the cost of movie rental? Tom McGovern moved that LLA contribute $250 to this movie event. Bill Schultz seconded. Motion carried.

AIS EFFORTS: Dana Gutzmann reported on summer AIS efforts. Boat Inspections increased from 5900 last year to 7300 this year. Up to 30 inspectors working at a time. Resort harbors are being checked for starry stonewort and other invasives. This is a time-intensive process and the Board discussed whether it may be feasible and affordable for the LLA to hire an outside firm to do this. No action taken. No details were available regarding progress of the DASH operation to hand pull starry stonewort outside the harbor at Andersons Cove.

MEMBERSHIP: Jennifer O ‘Neill reported that, as of this date, we had 252 paid up members. A reminder mailing was recently sent to the unpaid members, and responses are now coming in. It seems likely that our total membership will approach 300 as a result of the reminder mailing.

NEW ARRIVAL PROJECT: Mark Bovee is working on a project to identify new arrivals to the Leech Lake area in the last two years, which could be used as a mailing list to expand Leech Lake Association membership. Mark needs help with this, and Dana Gutzmann offered consulting help working with Cass County MIS.

Bill Schultz moved to adjourn at 11:30. Mark Bovee seconded.

Minutes submitted by Dave Laursen