

LAKE WAVES

Newsletter for the Hand/Hay Lakes Association

HandHayLakesAssoc.org

Summer 2018

Funding For Environmental Issues



Funding for environment projects comes from two main programs.

First, there is the Environmental & Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). In 1988, Minnesota's voters approved a constitutional amendment to use forty percent of the net proceeds from the Minnesota State Lottery to establish the trust fund. Income generated from the fund is for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. This contribution is guaranteed by the Minnesota Constitution until December 31, 2024. Since 1991, the ENRTF has provided approximately \$500 million to approximately 1,000 projects around the state.

A more recent funding source is the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment (Legacy Amendment). In 2008, Minnesota's voters passed a constitutional amendment to increase the state sales tax by three-eighths of one percent beginning on July 1, 2009 and continuing until 2034.

The funds are to be used to protect drinking water sources including protecting, enhancing, and restoring lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater; to protect, enhance, and restore wildlife habitat; to preserve arts and cultural heritage; and to support parks and trails. The additional sales tax revenue would be distributed into the four funds as follows: 33 percent to the clean water fund; 33 percent to the outdoor heritage fund; 19.75 percent to the arts and cultural heritage fund; and 14.25 percent to the parks and trails fund.

Since then nearly a million acres of wild lands have been acquired or protected to enhance wildlife habitat. Twelve hundred miles of paved bicycle trails, plus more for ATVs, snowmobil-

In This Issue

Funding for Environment
Stocking Walleye In Hand Lake
Tree Planting Initiative
Water Protectors
Enbridge Line 3

Departments

From the Editor
Minutes General Meeting (2018)

ing and hiking have been built, along with adding 300,000 acres of parks to support the parks and trails initiative.

But the long-term outcome for clean water is a bit murky. The state used the first decade of Legacy money to identify measure and track pollutants in all of its 80 major watersheds. Protecting water has more to do with what is done on the land around the water rather than what is done with the water itself. The head of the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources points out "cleaning up polluted water is a lot harder than identifying it, because it means changing what people do on the land around it and that land is in private hands."

As lakeshore owners and members of our lake association we should be mindful that protecting our lakes is dependent on what we do with our own lakeshore property. Do we have a vegetative strip at the water's edge? Do we fertilize our lawns? Do we have up-to-code septic systems?

Some legislators have been trying to raid these funding initiatives and use the money for other purposes. They have had limited success. This year Governor Dayton reluctantly signed a public works bonding bill even though the omnibus bill had an amendment to divert money from the Environmental and Natural Resource Trust Fund away from its intended use and use the money instead for debt service. Some environmental projects will have to be put on hold. This could set a precedence and we should expect more monies to be diverted even though they are constitutionally required to be used for environmental purposes.

Annual Hand Lake Boat Parade

The 2018 boat parade will be held on Saturday, July 7. In case of rain it will be held on Sunday, July 8. All boats must be in Samuelson's Bay by 1PM for judging. The three judges this year will be Mary Gabe, Loren Hanson and Shelly Haag. Judging this year will not be split between boats and pontoons. The top three entries will receive a trophy.

Stocking Walleye in Hand Lake



There is once again an interest in stocking Hand Lake with walleye. Walleye are being caught on the lake. The DNR has permitted stocking up to 140 pounds of walleye (one pound per acer). Doug Schultz, our area fisheries supervisor,

recommended stocking fingerlings instead of fry. In addition it is better to stock over a two or three year period and release the fingerlings in the main part of the lake rather than the access. The association passed a motion to provide \$300 per stocking from the general fund but additional funds will be needed from members. The cost is around \$1000.00 per stocking. If you want to donate to this project send your donation to the association treasurer, Gary Gabe. His address is listed on the back page of this newsletter.



From the Editor

Welcome to the summer issue of the association newsletter. There was excellent attendance at the recent association general meeting and much was discussed.

The minutes of the meeting are published on pages 4 & 5. They are fairly detailed so I did not expand on them in this issue other than for emphasis.

A couple of weeks ago I wrote a few paragraphs explaining the Environmental trust fund and the Legacy fund and I decided to lead with that on the first page. These are the funds that fund most environmental projects in the state. There is grant money available. If there are projects the lake association wants to undertake we could apply.

I got a very nice letter from Bill Borchardt, a former Hand Lake resident. It is always fun for me to receive feedback from members. Don't hesitate to send me comments.

I received articles for publication from Mary Ackerman and Jim Reents. Mary and Jim are the co-founders of the Northern Water Alliance. Their articles define give tribute to "water protectors" and provide an update to the Line 3 pipeline issue. Since the Public Utilities Commission will make their decision to permit or deny Line 3 replacement by the end of this month, I included the articles in this publication.

Paul Courneya (editor)
1388 Shadywood Shores Drive
NW
Pine River MN 56474
pcourneya@gmail.com



Letters to the editor

Paul: really enjoyed this newsletter. Sorry to read of the deaths of the prominent folks that passed. I wanted to pass on a humorous story of Gloria. One year, just as the annual boat parade was ready to start, I noted that Gloria could not get her motor started on the fishing boat she always drove in the parade. Not wanting to see her miss being a part of the parade, I pulled alongside and offered to tow her around the parade route. She threw a tow rope and off we went. All went well and when the parade was all over, we pulled her in to her dock. As we made this last maneuver, she glanced down at the rear of her boat and found that the gas line had somehow dislodged itself and that was the cause of the engine failure or refusal to start. We all had a good laugh and I gave her a good ribbing from that time on about being frugal and just wanting to save on her gasoline bill. We all enjoyed Gloria along with her mother that was usually up there as well during the years we were up there. It was a pleasure to enjoy her friendship. On the subject of Jerry Conrad, we always looked forward to the playing of taps at sundown, courtesy of one of his boys, not sure which one.

Bill Borchardt

Tree Planting Initiative



The association's tree planting initiative got off to a good first year start. Basically the program gave five free trees, selected from a limited list, to any member who wanted them. In addition a member could buy additional trees at one dollar each.

Sixteen members took advantage of the free trees and most purchased additional trees. The association distributed 345 trees at a net cost to the association of \$327.

The association voted to continue the program for another year but to focus more on prairie plants such as butterfly weed, cone flower, blazing star, lupine, etc. Look for details in the fall issue..

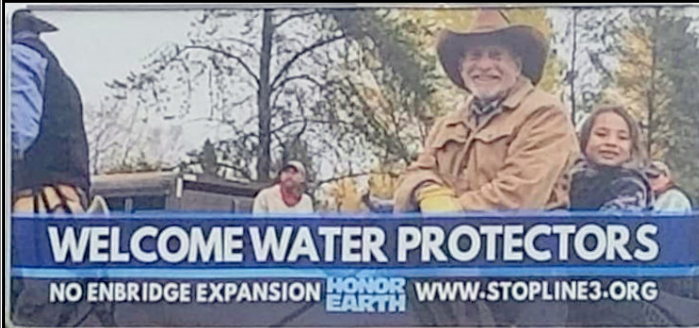
Interesting

Minnesota's private lake associations contribute more than \$6.2 million and 1.2 million volunteer hours each year to preserving the quality of the state's signature natural resource, according to a study released Monday. Concordia College in Moorhead conducted the study over the summer on behalf of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates.

Oct 2 2017 Star tribune

Welcome Water Protectors

By Mary Ackerman & Jim Reents
From Northern Water Alliance of MN



Remember several years ago when Jim Reents and Mary Ackerman created *The Northern Water Alliance of MN* – an alliance of organizations and individuals concerned about water? Well, NWA is still active and we are part of the new campaign in our region by Honor the Earth and their friends. It was decided that it was high time to especially recognize and welcome *Water Protectors*.

Who are *Water Protectors*?

You're probably one of them! They are all those people working to stop AIS -- zebra mussels, milfoil, etc. -- from entering our lakes. They are people concerned about the agricultural runoff that has stricken hundreds of lakes in Minnesota making swimming and fishing prohibited. *Water Protectors* are those people working to keep the Boundary Waters free from pollutants. And, *Water Protectors* are the folks working to keep new pipeline corridors out of lake country and in more safe and appropriate locations.

Water Protectors are everywhere. They are an important part of Minnesota's tourist economy. They own property and pay taxes. They are cabin renters with several generations of family that call this region magical. They are resort owners and small businesses that rely on tourism, fishing and hunting. *Water Protectors* generate millions in the North Country. The U of MN estimated a decade ago that over \$700 million was spent in the four-county area of Aitken, Cass, Crow Wing and Hubbard counties alone. An amount that exceeds every other region except the tourist-rich metro area of the Twin Cities. *Water Protectors* understand we are a water dependent economy. Many *Water Protectors* are unaware that the DNR has estimated that nearly 60% of MN's lakes and streams -- the South and South Central portion of the state -- are under "major stress -- mostly cannot be restored or restoration is mostly unrealistic". No swimming. No fishing. Our North Central portion of the state -- around 40% -- has "Good quality lakes that can be protected." *Water Protectors* work every day to preserve the North Country's pristine waters for our kids and their kids to come.

The "*Welcome Water Protectors*" campaign launched June 15 in northern Minnesota, with the unveiling of two billboards -- one in Park Rapids, and a second in Backus. Both locations target the Line 3 Pipeline issue that seriously impacts those

communities. The billboards feature the smiling face of NWA co-founder, Jim Reents, an Intervenor on behalf of the NWA in the Public Utilities Commission process opposing the Line 3 project. Sitting with Jim is a young Lakota boy, riding along the proposed pipeline route in the fifth year of the Honor the Earth Spiritual Horse Ride from Rice Lake Refuge to Rice Lake, Minnesota. When interviewed Jim said "Water is life. Each of us has a responsibility to maintain and preserve the waters in northern Minnesota. Not only for ourselves ... but for future generations."

You may not have thought about yourself as a *Water Protector*, but we are pretty sure you are. Please stay current on all the water issues that affect our lakes and watersheds. And, thank you for taking on your new title: *Water Protector!*

For more water information:

www.mnlakesandrivers.org MN Lakes and Rivers

www.MN350.org MN 350 – Climate Change, Twin Cities office

www.mnipl.org MN Interfaith Power and Light, Twin Cities office

www.mepartnership.org MN Environmental Partnership, Twin Cities office

Water Protectors Update on the Enbridge New Line 3 Route

By Mary Ackerman & Jim Reents
From Northern Water Alliance of MN

Many of you have been watching the nearly four-year process to create a new pipeline corridor across our region. It's a route across lakes, wetlands, the Mississippi River and some of the state's most pristine waters. The Northern Water Alliance has been in the thick of it. A quick summary of where we are now might be helpful. At the end of June, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission will determine if the Enbridge Corporation will receive a certificate of need and an approval of a route for the 915,000 barrel-per-day New Line 3. The Department of Commerce recommended against issuing the Certificate of Need last fall, and the Administrative Law Judge recommended against issuing a permit for the preferred route. Those two recommendations are considered significant in the deliberations of the Public Utilities Commission. Given the tone of the MN Legislature this session and the power of corporate entities we are not at all sure the route will be shifted away from our lakes, wetlands and the Mississippi River. Your letters, calls and emails have been so important. They may be needed again.

In an Interview, Winona La Duke, Executive Director of Honor the Earth, said "When the state rejects Enbridge's proposal, we will celebrate. If the state should go against all recommendations and issue a permit, we will be ready to camp and protect our water." Honor the Earth has been one of the leaders in opposition of the new Enbridge Line 3 route, the abandonment of

Continued on page 5

Hand Hay Lake Association May 2018 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9AM. President Jean Schatz asked everyone to go around the room introducing themselves by name, location on the lake and how long they've been on the lake. She also asked each person to say what is unique about their property. It was an interesting round of introductions with many more people present from Hay Lake than last year. One interesting fact is that the Theisen family will celebrate their 100th year on the lake this year. The owner of the now closed Fin & Feather Resort on Hand Lake has owned the property for 45 years. And, of course, Duane Larson (Lars to us all) has owned property on Hand Lake since 1959.

Cheryl and Clint Lindberg have sold their place on Hand Lake so she is resigning as treasurer and he as director of Shadywood Shores. They don't live far away so they promised to visit.

Deb Samuelson resigned as secretary so Barb Courneya agreed to take notes for the meeting. Copies of last year's minutes were provided. Barb Courneya moved to accept the minutes; the motion was second and passed.

The agenda was reviewed and nominations were accepted for all four officer positions:

President - Zella Mirick
Vice President - Caryl Allan
Secretary - Barb Courneya
Treasurer - Gary Gabe

Sue Hagen moved to elect all those nominated by acclamation; and, Barb Courneya seconded the motion which was approved.

There were four open director positions for Hand Lake and two for Hay Lake. Loren Hanson volunteered to finish out Clint Linberg's term for Shadywood Shores.

Loren Hansen - Hand Lake Shadywood Shores
Ken Reinecke - Hand Lake Indian Point
Mary Gabe - North Bay
Scott Samuelson - Hand Lake at large
Mark Nordstrom - Hay Lake

One Hay Lake position was left vacant for lack of volunteers

Duane (Lars) Larson moved that all volunteers be elected by acclamation; and, Barb Courneya seconded the motion which was passed.

The treasurer's report was reviewed. A motion was made to accept it by Barb Courneya, seconded by Schatz and passed by all present.

Lars provided the township report and announced that after 35 years, he will be retiring from the township board. He received a round of applause in appreciation for his service.

Lars reported that the helipad next to the Long Pine Store so far has had one medical landing. The parcel of land it is on was donated, effective in September. The board wants to enlarge it but needs to wait until the donors remove some firewood they wanted to keep.

Additionally, Lars reminded everyone of the annual Memorial Service at Ponto Lake Cemetery at 11AM on Memorial Day. The Baptist Church pastor will be the speaker; and there will be a bugle ceremony. He told everyone to come early as the Backus buglers come to the cemetery immediately following a 10AM ceremony in town. Coffee and other refreshments will be served.

Lee Theisen, the person who usually talks about water levels was absent; but, it was volunteered that the Hand Lake level was very low at least in part because the beaver dams were not removed. Blair Whitnah who usually had the beaver dams taken out passed away last year of cancer. The resort was closed last fall; and future ownership is currently undecided.

Dave Haag spoke about walleye stocking. The DNR is planning to stock walleyes in Hay Lake and has approved private stocking of up to 140 lbs of walleye fingerlings over two to three years on Hand Lake. The DNR further said that if they see even one more walleye in Hand Lake than they found in their last netting when they net again in 2019, they will stock Hand Lake, as well. The fin-

gerlings cost about \$1 each with about 900 fish per stocking over three years. Dave found a company that will do the stocking this fall with no delivery charge. In the past, the association has participated in three stockings of fry which did not work well. It is believed that the 4" fingerlings will have a better chance of survival. The DNR has recommended releasing the fingerlings in the main portion of the lake, not the public access, again for better survival rates. A private, easy access area was needed for the truck to get to the water. Lars volunteered his property for this purpose. The point was made that it was a hard winter for fish stocking. A recommendation was made that a sign be placed at the access encouraging Catch and Release of walleyes. The DNR has approved that action and can provide a sign. A motion was made for one third of the amount of each year's stocking (\$300) to be paid from the association general fund. Further a friendly amendment allowed the association to cancel private stocking in year two and three in case the DNR finds more walleyes in the netting and will do stocking. In each of the three years, the association will vote on whether the stocking should continue. Stocking in fall of 2018 is approved as part of this motion. The motion seconded and approved by a voice vote. Additional funds will come from private donations, already being collected by the association. There is sufficient money in the stocking fund to pay for the additional cost of the 2018 stocking. Ken Reinecke will submit the paperwork for a stocking permit which the DNR has already agreed to approve.

Two speakers presented their programs. First, the Cass County Sheriff provided a report on their 2017 activity. The sheriff will put together a quarterly report and make it available to be posted on the lake association website so we can see where and what crimes are happening.

Barb Courneya spoke about the Pine River Watershed and also provided an overview of the Pine River Watershed Alliance (PRWA). Finally, Barb addressed the current status of the Enbridge Line 3 pipeline.

[The contents of the speakers program are posted in a separate report]

Paul Courneya spoke about the tree program. The program was established last year to encourage members to plant more trees, bushes, and plants for wild life. The lake association made available free tree seedlings. Each member was entitled to five free trees but could buy more for one dollar each. Sixteen individuals took advantage of the program and most ordered additional trees. The association distributed 345 tree seedlings.

The program cost more than expected, largely due to an unexpected price increase for the trees from the supplier. The association bought \$595 worth of trees and collected \$268. The cost to the association was \$327. A motion was made and seconded to continue the program for another year but to focus more on berry bushes and prairie plants rather than trees. The motion passed.

The 2018 boat parade will be held on Saturday, July 7. In case of rain it will be held on Sunday, July 8. All boats must be in Samuelson's Bay by 1PM for judging. The three judges this year will be Mary Gabe, Loren Hanson and Shelly Haag. Judging this year will not be split between boats and pontoons. The top three entries will receive a trophy.

Fall clean up will be on October 6 at 9AM with the board of directors meeting to follow.

It was brought up that the public access road is in ill repair. Jean Schatz volunteered to notify the DNR for repair.

Darlene Conrad found the old loon nesting platform when cleaning out Pete's garage. It has been placed on the south side of the island. There is a second loon nest in the Reeds in Samuelson's Bay.

Several door prizes including a Hand Lake sweatshirt, a croquet set and a Godfrey's gift care were given to attendees in a drawing before the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:45AM.

Barbara Courneya (Secretary)

[continued from page 3]

the old Line 3 in place, and the argument that MN needs this pipeline at this time. Honor the Earth will be inviting Water Protectors from across the country to camp across the proposed new pipeline corridor to protest the route. More information about the camps can be found on their website.

www.honorearth.org

If you are a Water Protector with concern about the New Line 3 Route, there are other good websites you can use to become educated or updated:

www.friendsoftheheadwaters.org Friends of the Headwaters, Park Rapids

www.MN350.org MN350 – Climate Change, Twin Cities office

FYI Fact

The most common boating violations cited by Minnesota conservation officers are:

Stowing life jackets where they're not readily accessible And not having a throwable flotation device readily available.

There must a life jacket for each person and there must be easy access to them. It is OK if they're stowed in unlocked compartments. Children younger than 10 must wear a properly fitted life jacket while a boat is underway meaning not tied to a permanent mooring or dock. In addition to life jackets, approved cushions or other throwable devices are required on boats 16 feet and longer.

The Hand/Hay Lakes Property Owners Association was formed in the spring of 1987. Its primary function is to preserve the health, safety, welfare, and prosperity of Hand and Hay Lakes and the adjoining properties. The association has one general meeting on Saturday at 9:00 am during the Memorial Day weekend at the Ponto Lake Town Hall. All are welcome. Yearly membership dues are \$15.00 per household and payable at the general meeting. Or, send your check to the office of the treasurer with your name, address, phone number, and email. The Treasurer's address is: Gary Gabe, 10610 48th Av N, Plymouth, MN 55442. Make check payable to Hand Hay Lake Association

All Hand/Hay Lakes property owners are entitled to receive the Lake Waves, the official organ of the association. The Lake Waves is also available on the association's website, <http://HandHayLakesAssoc.org>. The Lake Waves is published four times per year in March, June, September, and December. Material for the newsletter should be sent directly to the editor. Editor's address is: Paul Courneya, 1388 Shadywood Shores Drive NW, Pine River, MN 56474

Past Presidents

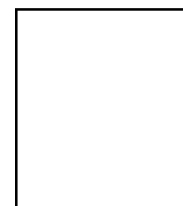
Duane Larson, *Dennis Haley*, *John Waters*, Dale Johnson, Dustin Mirick, Dick Stensrud, *Pete Kampa*, Wayne Lee, Andy Droen, Scott Parr, Arlan Hagen, Sandi Theisen, Jean Theisen Schatz

Officers		
President	Zella Mirick	2020
Vice President	Caryl Allan	2020
Treasurer	Gary Gabe	2019
Secretary	Barbara Courneya	2019

Hand Lake Directors		
Shadywood Shores	Loren Hanson	2019
Haley's Haven	Mary Martin	2019
Indian Point	Ken Reinecke	2020
North Bay	Mary Gabe	2020
Norway Shores	Lee Theisen	2019
At Large 1	Scott Samuelson	2020
At Large 2	Wayne Lee	2019

Hay Lake Directors		
Director 1	Scott Parr	2019
Director 2	Mark Nordstrom	2020
Director 3	Vacant	2020
Director 4	Paul Anderson	2019

Paul Courneya
 1388 Shadywood Shores DR NW
 Pine River, MN 56474



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