

*Lakes Committee - Town of Plum Lake*  
*May 25, 2022, 9:00 am*  
*Town of Plum Lake Town Hall, Sayner WI*

Present: Diane Bilyeu, Jim Haberle, Joe Heitz, Bob Jackson, Doug Pinney, John Richter, Mike Stroh, Tracy Wallace, Lynn Wiggins

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Bob Jackson, Chair. Diane Bilyeu who is working with Sharon Brooker on Town finances, was introduced. Bob thanked the Committee members who had worked on the Committee Report for the Town's Annual Meeting.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 6, 2021 – Upon a **motion** by Doug Pinney and seconded by Jim Haberle the minutes of the October 6, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. Treasurer's Report – Doug Pinney presented the Treasurer's Report showing the year to date budget reports for the Lakes' Committee programs in 2021. Several invoices and grant reimbursements for 2021 are pending. A net positive of carry-overs from several of the programs will be used for Committee programs in this and future years. Upon a **motion** made by John Richter and seconded by Mike Stroh, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.
3. Vilas County Update – Cathy Higley is currently on maternity leave and plans to return in mid-July.
4. Old Business
  - A. Lake Management Plan –
    - i. Implementation Plan – The plan was finalized last fall, incorporating the Committee's suggestions. The Lake Management Plan is available on-line. John Richter will ensure that several paper copies of the Plan are printed. One copy will be placed for permanent use in the Town Offices and one in the Plum Lake Library. On line copies are available for distribution to the lakes and lake associations.
    - ii. Future Direction – Phase 2 of the Plan covering Lakes Laura, Ballard and Irving is close to being finalized. Tim Hoyman will be invited to attend the Committee's June or July meeting to discuss the future direction of the Management Plan and any associated funding needs.
  - B. Status of 2022 Programs –
    - i. BLIMS – Cameras have been installed at all landings except Lake Laura which will be installed tomorrow.

1. Razorback Audio Update – Audio on Razorback is on from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and will be reevaluated in June with the hope of increasing the hours of use to 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.
  2. Land Use Agreements – have been finalized for the six landings.
  3. Enforcement and Video Monitoring – Plum and Ballard Lakes have opted for expanded video monitoring through Environmental Sentry. It was generally agreed to extend additional monitoring to Star, Razorback and Irving Lakes. A revised cost estimate to expand video monitoring to these landings will be requested from Eric Lindberg. The Town included a budget item for additional monitoring
  4. Publicity/Press Release – A “summer’s end” press release highlighting BLIMS activity was published in the Lake Land Times and Vilas County News Review. An additional spring press release describing the program and highlighting the number and use of the videos obtained in 2021 was discussed.
  5. Succession Planning – no report
- ii. Little Star Remediation – Aquatic Plant Management (APM) has provided an estimate of \$5,632.50 for hand harvesting of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) from Little Star in 2022. The contract for the work has been signed. Anticipating that this will be an annual need, funding for similar work in future years will be identified.
- iii. Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CBCW) –
1. General - The CBCW 2022 grant funding for in-person monitoring of lake landings was approved. The contract with the University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh (UW-OSH) has been signed. Interns begin staffing the landings on May 30. The Interns’ schedule will be obtained and distributed to the Committee. Supplemental coverage through paid local volunteers during busy periods will be incorporated into the schedule by Bob Munsen. Additional local volunteers will be recruited and trained. Mitch Pierce, one of the first CBCW volunteers, was thanked for his valuable contributions to the program.
  2. Local Share Requirements and Goals – Donations from individuals and lake associations in 2021 totaled \$13,175.00 and is described in detail in the Treasurer’s report. This exceeds the program’s funding requirements to be obtained through local donations. Currently invoices for the program have been sent to lakes annually, recently with verbiage indicating that funds may be used for Committee programs other than CBCW. Doug Pinney will continue this current practice.
  3. Boat Decontamination Update – Funding for the UW–Osh decontamination program is not available for 2022. Resumption of the program in 2023 is anticipated. Options for continuing the program using existing equipment and staffing from an entity other than UW-Osh was discussed.

- iv. Small Lakes Program/North Lakeland Discovery Center – Grant funding of \$7632.35 from the State for point intercept surveys of Nixon, Wilson, Aurora and Snyder Lakes was not approved. Carryover from the original grant and additional funding from the Committee’s budget will be used to perform the PI surveys through the North Lakeland Discovery Center as planned. The Discovery Center is also providing staffing for CBCW for a total of 160 hours on selected days, 80 hours on Plum and 80 hours on Razorback. A contract for the Discovery Center’s PI Survey and CBCW work has been signed.
- v. Fish Sticks – Grant funding for a pilot program placing three bundles of fish sticks in Plum Lake was approved. Work will be performed in January and February 2023. Site surveys for placement of bundles in Star Lake and Lake Laura have been initiated.  
John Richter is exploring placement of additional bundles using smaller caliber maple, oak and balsam from private and DNR lands using an amphibious vehicle (ARGO) for placement. John is working with Eric Wegleitner, the DNR fish manager for the area, to determine feasibility and placement.

C. Rusty Cray Fish Update – John Richter completed a Rusty Cray Fish survey of Plum Lake last summer. The survey indicates that the rusty cray fish still exists but in diminished numbers generally and with significantly reduced numbers in some locations.

5. New Business – None

6. Other New Business and Citizen Comments and Concerns - None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

The next meeting of the Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake will be held Wednesday, June 22 at 9:00 am in the Town of Plum Lake Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Wiggins, Secretary

Approved 5.25.22

*Lakes Committee - Town of Plum Lake*  
*June 22, 2022, 9:00 am*  
*Town of Plum Lake Pavilion, Sayner WI*

Present: Wayne Ax, Diane Bilyeu, John Douse, Jim Haberle, Joe Heitz, Bob Munsen, Doug Pinney, John Richter, Mike Stroh, Tracy Wallace, Lynn Wiggins

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Joe Heitz, Vice-Chair.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 25, 2022 – Upon a **motion** by John Richter and seconded by Mike Stroh the minutes of the May 25, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

2. Treasurer's Report – Doug Pinney presented the Treasurer's Report. Two corrections/additions were noted. Under Clean Waters Clean Boats – Clark Atwater donation was given for Razorback Lake. Under I-LIDS Monitoring – Sam Patterson's bill for installation of cameras should read 2021, not 2022.

We have now received total funding that exceeds the local share component of the CWCB program. Additional funds will be used for other Committee programs including the Small Lakes Point Intercept studies.

Upon a **motion** made by John Richter and seconded by Wayne Ax, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.

3. Old Business

A. Lake Management Plan –

- i. Implementation Plan – The Committee has not yet received the final version of the Plan. John Richter will contact Tim Hoyman regarding its status. Once received, one paper copy of the Plan will be placed in the Library and one in the Town Hall. Digital copies will be available via the internet.
- ii. Future Direction – Tim Hoyman will be asked to the July Committee meeting to discuss the future direction of the Management Plan, including completion of Phase 2, the possible need for recurrent Onterra AIS sweeps of lakes and future implementation of the Plan by individual lakes.

B. Status of 2022 Programs –

i. BLIMS –

1. Razorback Audio Update – There have been no complaints regarding the audio on Razorback. Several Committee members have noted that the audio is very low and may not be audible to boaters. Bob Jackson will be asked to talk to James Yach about increasing the audio volume.
2. Lake Laura – the large concrete foundation for the I-LIDS camera is still missing. Several committee members volunteered to further search the area for the foundation. Mike Stroh will talk with Mike Olson about an estimate for reinstalling the foundation. John Richter will discuss responsibility of cost of replacement with Will Maines.

Increasing CWCB intern coverage of Lake Laura was discussed. Boat traffic on Lake Laura is currently low. Bob Munsen will continue to monitor traffic and determine if and when additional intern monitoring of Lake Laura is needed.

3. Enforcement and Video Monitoring – An estimate for additional video monitoring has been received and is covered in the Town’s budget. To date there have been no suspected violations caught on video. There is a new local warden, Audrey Royce. Joe Heitz will talk with Audrey and Chris Bartelt to determine the process for reporting and initiating letters for suspected violations.
  4. Publicity/Press Release – Chris Bartelt will be invited to our July meeting by Mike Stroh to discuss identification of suspected violations captured on BLIMS and subsequent DNR action. Following this meeting a press release is planned. Tracy suggested “Up North at 4:00 on channel 12” as an additional avenue to educate the public about the BLIMS program. .
  5. Succession Planning – Having a Committee member designated to use the Laird app to monitor the status of equipment at each landing is planned.
- ii. Little Star Remediation – 2022 Update and Future Plans – Plans for hand harvesting with Aquatic Plant Management this summer have been finalized. Plans for future years and possible grant funding will be discussed with Tim Hoyman at our next meeting.
  - iii. Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CBCW) – Bob Munsen has several “paid volunteers” to supplement coverage at landings this summer. Doug will determine the hourly rate being paid to the UW-Osh interns so that pay for the paid volunteers will be commensurate. Recruiting for additional fall volunteers is ongoing.
  - iv. Small Lakes Program/North Lakeland Discovery Center –
    1. PI Studies – are being performed through the Discovery Center on Lakes Nixon, Wilson, Aurora and Snyder.
    2. Clean Waters/Clean Boats – Discovery intern schedules have been integrated into the UW-Osh schedule with 80 hours of coverage on both Razorback and Plum Lake Statehouse Point landings.
    3. Evaluation of Failed Grant Application for Small Lakes Monitoring - Doug received a copy of the scoring sheets used in the evaluation of our Small Lakes Program grant. The grant was downgraded because the reviewers felt it was unclear how the data collected would be used in the future. This resulted in the grant missing the cut-off of acceptance by less than two points.
  - v. Fish Sticks – The grant funded pilot program for Plum is on track to be performed in January and February 2023. Further fish sticks projects are planned for Star Lake and Lake Laura. John Richter continues to work with the DNR to place additional bundles of smaller caliber trees this summer using an amphibious vehicle.

4. New Business –

- A. Purple Loosestrife – A large stand of Purple Loosestrife has been found on Star Lake. Control of this invasive will be discussed with Cathy Higley at the next meeting.
- B. Transfer of Lake Property – Providing information to new lake property owners regarding the importance of protecting native shoreline and the existence of zoning ordinances, laws and regulations related to lake property was discussed. The Plum Lake Association is developing a packet for new property owners which Doug will share with the Committee. Having timely notification of property transfers is essential to such a program.
- C. Spiny Water Flea – Continues to be an issue. Identification of and increasing the number of natural predators such as perch continues to be a primary means of control.
- D. Wakes – Shoreline erosion due to boat induced wakes has become an issue for many lakes. Having the Committee address this issue for the Town lakes and potentially pursue grant funding was discussed.
- E. DNR Surface Water Grants – Doug has reviewed the draft application guide distributed by the DNR on June 10, 2022. Several items relevant to Town grants were noted: 1) “Video Review” has been removed from the list of ineligible expenses pertaining to BLIMS; 2) Surface water restoration grants include as an example of an eligible grant “ordinance development.” This may be applicable to wake erosion; and 3) Deadlines for the application process have been moved back two weeks. This year’s pre-application deadline is September 15; the application deadline is November 15.
- F. Introduction of AIS by Dock and Lift Installers – Last year one of the dock and lift installers reportedly attempted to enter one of our regional lakes with weeds later determined to be Eurasian Water Milfoil on its boat. Discussion at the time was not productive. John Richter will address this issue with the vendor.
- G. 2022 Six-County Northwoods Lakes Meeting – Doug shared the agenda for the 2022 Six-County Northwoods Lakes Meeting on July 15 in Rhinelander. Agenda topics include sessions on wakeboats, access and viewing corridors for lake property and AIS.

5. Other New Business and Citizen Comments and Concerns - None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

The next meeting of the Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake will be held Wednesday, July 20 at 9:00 am in the Star Lake Pavilion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Wiggins, Secretary  
App 7.20.22

*Lakes Committee - Town of Plum Lake*  
*July 20, 2022, 9:00 am*  
*Star Lake Pavilion, Star Lake WI*

Present: Bob Jackson, Wayne Ax, Jim Haberle, Joe Heitz, Bob Munsen, Doug Pinney, and Diane Bilyeu (for part of meeting).

Also attending: Chris Bartelt (DNR Warden), Rebecca Fogle (North Lakeland Discovery Center), Abby Vogt (North Lakeland Discovery Center).

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Bob Jackson, Chair.

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of June 22, 2022 – Upon a **motion** by Joe Heitz and seconded by Jim Haberle the minutes of the June 22, 2022 meeting were approved.
  
2. Treasurer’s Report – Doug Pinney presented the Treasurer’s Report. The report is very similar to the May report. The Town is late in requesting final reimbursement for the original Other Lakes (Small Lakes) Monitoring grant. The reports describing the results of the survey work appear to have been submitted timely in late 2021 to the DNR but the request for reimbursement was due June 30, 2022. Jill Sunderland, DNR Environmental Grant Specialist, has indicated via email that the request for reimbursement should be submitted as soon as possible. The Town has \$9,100 in funding at risk. Doug reported that Diane Bilyeu will be assisting Sharon with this. Later in the meeting Diane Bilyeu reported that she had assisted Sharon in filing documents related to Lakes Committee activities in recent years and had copies of documents for our use.  
Upon a **motion** made by Bob Munsen and seconded by Jim Haberle, the Treasurer’s Report was accepted.
  
3. Old Business
  - A. Lake Management Plan –
    - i. Implementation Plan – The announcement of the Town-wide Comprehensive Lakes Management Plan with links to the Plan were posted on the Town website on July 6, 2022. The plan is available for public comment through July 30, 2022. Doug Pinney is the Lakes Committee member accepting comments. Lake Associations have been notified of the posting and encouraged to ask their members to review and, if desired, comment on the plan. Once the comment period has ended, the comments will be reviewed with the author of the plan, Tim Hoyman of Onterra LLC, and the Plan will become final. So far, one comment has been received.
    - ii. Future Direction – Tim Hoyman will attend the Lakes Committee Meeting on Wednesday, August 24 to discuss the future projects for the Lakes Committee. In the interim Tim sent a description of DNR grant funding options for our consideration.

B. Status of 2022 Programs –

i. BLIMS –

1. Razorback Audio Update – Despite attempts to reach Craig Dalton, DNR Forest Manager, Bob Jackson reported that Craig has yet to respond. However, sound was previously approved for the hours of 5-7:00 pm. No change has been made to the audio volume that remains too low. Bob has also sent Craig Dalton a letter. [Note subsequent to the meeting, Bob received permission to increase the volume at the Razorback landing.]

Wayne Ax reported that Lakes Committee member Tracey Wallace has attempted to meet the current Razorback Campground managers, but they have not been at campground very much this summer.

Wayne indicated that a new campground manager is expected next year, and we have had contact with this person in the past and have a good relationship.

2. Lake Laura – the large concrete foundation for the I-LIDS camera is still missing. Bob Jackson reported that John Richter has received a replacement part and Bob is hoping the camera can be reinstalled this summer.
3. Enforcement and Video Monitoring – Chris Bartelt stated that he had worked on a letter with Mike Stroh that was intended to be sent to boat owners where a possible violation of state law was noted through video monitoring. He said the purpose of the letter was primarily educational but that, if the violation was serious, personal contact with the boat owner might also take place. Chris stated that Audrey Royce is assigned local warden duties in St. Germain and Sayner. The former local warden, Matt Meade, is also available to help.

Joe Heitz asked who should receive the videos that show potential violations. Chris indicated that he should receive the information as any letter or other contact will come from him. Both Audrey Royce and Matt Meade should be copied on suspected violations emailed to Chris Bartelt.

4. Publicity/Press Release – A discussion of the role of a press release took place. Chris Bartelt indicated that he would be available to provide a quote or other information for a press release but the process for the DNR to issue a press release was cumbersome. Joe Heitz noted that we have only had three instances of potential violations and only one this year so we may need to use a stock photo in whatever press release we use. Chris indicated they have some examples that could be used but the Lakes Committee will need to take the lead on developing the release.
5. Succession Planning – No discussion took place.



- ii. Little Star Remediation – 2022 Update and Future Plans –Bob Jackson reported that the recent survey on July 8 by Onterra LLC identified only four Eurasian water milfoil plants. The grant was awarded for work through 2022 and plans for future years and possible grant funding will be discussed with Tim Hoyman at our next meeting.
- iii. Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CBCW) – Bob Munsen said that Mac McCoy was working Thursday through Sunday to supplement the work of other landing monitors. Mac is deployed to the landing where coverage is most needed. We have received some favorable comments about Mac from some boaters.
- iv. Small Lakes Program/North Lakeland Discovery Center –
  - 1. Abby Vogt, North Lakeland Discovery Center, stated that they had surveyed Snyder and Nixon so far and expect to complete their work and a report by August 20 when their work assignment ends.
  - 2. They have identified 7 species in Snyder and 27 species in Nixon Lake.
  - 3. A dwarf pond lily has been detected in Nixon Lake. Abby said this is identified as a “species of concern” by the DNR.
  - 4. Bob Jackson said he would like to continue this program for other small lakes in the town. He hopes we might be successful with a grant application next time. Doug Pinney commented that help from Cathy Higley might increase our score next time. Bob will try to identify what other small lakes need to be surveyed.
- v. Fish Sticks – The grant funded pilot program for Plum is on track to be performed in January and February 2023. Further fish sticks projects are planned for Star Lake and Lake Laura. John Richter continues to work with the DNR to place additional bundles of smaller caliber trees this summer.
- C. Purple Loosestrife – Jim Haberle reported that the DNR has surveyed the infestation at Star Lake. The survey has been referred to a DNR committee and that all work on this will be performed by the DNR since the infestation is all on state land.
- D. Transfer of Lake Property – Doug distributed a draft of the packet of information that the Plum Lake Association will distribute to new lake property owners to Committee members last month.
- E. Wake Erosion –The Plum Lake Association highlighted wake boat issues at its Annual Meeting on July 16, 2022. Chris Bartlet stated that two municipalities in the state have adopted ordinances designed to restrict wake boats; Chris stated that the DNR believes these ordinances to be in conflict with state law and they will not stand up to a court challenge. The ordinances have not as yet been challenged.

Chris Bartelt did indicate that a provision in Chapter 30 of the Wisconsin statutes does provide for penalties for hazardous boat wakes and wash, but he stated this would not apply to wake erosion.

- F. Introduction of AIS by Dock Lift Installers – After investigation by John Richter, the incident discussed last meeting was determined to have happened over four years ago

and was satisfactorily resolved. Doug Pinney also talked with Greg Byrn, owner of Nortech, and determined that Nortech does not handle dock and lift installations. Further, Greg Byrn stated that they follow DNR guidelines for their rental boats.

4. New Business –None

5. Other New Business and Citizen Comments and Concerns - None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.

The next meeting of the Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake will be held outside on Wednesday, August 24 at 9:00 am at the Pavilion next to the Sayner Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Pinney, Acting Secretary

Approved 8.24.22

*Lakes Committee - Town of Plum Lake*  
*August 24, 2022, 9:00 am*  
*Sayner Pavilion, Sayner WI*

Present: Wayne Ax, John Dowse, Jim Haberle, Joe Heitz, Bob Jackson, Bob Munsen, John Richter, Mike Stroh, Lynn Wiggins

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Bob Jackson, Chair.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 20, 2022 – Upon a **motion** by Jim Haberle and seconded by Joe Heitz the minutes of the July 20, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. Treasurer's Report – Doug forwarded a written Treasurer's report and the Year to Date Project Analysis (both attached) to the Committee prior to the meeting. In addition to the income listed in the report, Bob has collected \$400.00 from Lake Laura which will be added to CBCW.

Upon a **motion** by Mike Stroh and seconded by Joe Heitz, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted.

3. Old Business

- A. Lake Management Plan – Tim Hoyman was unable to attend today's meeting.
  - i. Implementation Plan – The Plan was posted on the Town website. Two comments were received which were forwarded to Tim Hoyman who will finalize the Plan. Once final, hard copies of the Plan will be placed in the Plum Lake Library and Town Offices. A digital copy of the Plan will be posted on the Town website.
  - ii. Future Direction – Tim sent a list of potential grants relevant to the implementation goals and actions of the Lake Management Plan. These grants have been updated and will be incorporated into the final Plan document. Future grant funding will be sought for 2024. John Richter suggested reviewing the final plan to ensure that all proposed implementation items are being undertaken.
- B. Status of 2022 Programs –
  - i. BLIMS –
    1. Razorback Audio Update – Subsequent to the July meeting Bob Jackson received permission from Jim Yach to increase the audio volume on Razorback Lake. This will be done tomorrow and the hours of operation increased from 7 am to 5 pm to 7 am to 7 pm.
    2. Maintenance Issues –
      - a. Lake Laura – The concrete foundation will be replaced tomorrow and the camera reinstalled Friday. The Town is expected to pay for the repairs.
      - b. Ballard Lake –The sensor on Ballard appears to be triggered by nearby electrical interference. Wisconsin Public Service

(WPS) has offered to disable a nearby electrical control box to determine if this is the cause.

3. Enforcement and Video Monitoring – There continues to be only one suspected violation caught on video year to date. The violation was handled through personal contact with the potential violator by Chris Bartelt.

The educational and deterrent rather than regulatory objectives of the cameras were discussed and will continue to be emphasized.

4. Publicity/Press Release – Doug Pinney prepared a press release regarding BLIMS which was sent to the Vilas County News Review, the Lakeland Times and channel 12 on August 16. Publication is pending.

5. Succession Planning – no discussion

- ii. Little Star Remediation – Six relatively small colonies of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) were present in Little Star during the Onterra survey this summer. These were removed in a single hand harvesting dive by Aquatic Plant Management (APL) resulting in a cost under budget. These savings will be used to offset cost for surveying and hand harvesting in 2023. Tim Hoyman is updating the grant to pay for these services in 2023.

- iii. Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CBCW) – Mac McCoy, our newest paid volunteer, put in 276 hours monitoring Star and Ballard/Irving during the latter part of July and August. He is meticulous in his monitoring and is willing to continue his activities. Additional paid volunteers are being recruited for fall coverage and Mac will be asked to provide the volunteer training.

In the past CWCB data from the work of the paid volunteers has been entered into the Surface Water Integrated Monitoring System (SWIMS) by Sharon Brooker. Sharon will be asked to enter data into the SWIMS database again this year and will be paid on an hourly basis from the Committee's budget.

- iv. Small Lakes Program/North Lakeland Discovery Center –
  - PI Studies have been completed on Lakes Nixon, Wilson, Aurora and Snyder and a report submitted by the Discovery Center. All four lakes are healthy and no aquatic invasive species were found.
  - Small Lakes – Bob Jackson is preparing a list of additional lakes to be studied in 2023. Funding will be proposed in the Committee budget.
- v. Fish Sticks – The grant funded pilot program for Plum is still on track to be performed in January and February 2023.

John Richter continues to work on placing additional bundles in Plum, Star and Lake Laura and will develop a budget for needed equipment.

Specific sites for future projects have been identified in Star Lake; identification of specific sites in Lake Laura will be identified after Cathy Higley returns from maternity leave.

#### 4. New Business –

##### A. 2023 Budget and Grants –

- i. Budget – Doug and Bob J have discussed the proposed 2023 budget for submission to the Town Supervisors. Included in that budget are:
    - CBCW - \$3000 Town share;
    - Fish Sticks - \$1648 Town share of grant;
    - ILIDS - \$17,050 for ongoing monitoring, maintenance, installation, removal and insurance costs;
    - Small Lakes - \$10,000 for 2023 Point Intercept studies through Committee budget;
    - AIS remediation fund (multi-year) - \$10,000;
    - Little Star AIS Quick Response – \$1000. Harvesting significantly under-budget this year due to fewer EWM colonies with these additional funds potentially now available for 2023.
  - ii. Grants –
    1. Clean Boats Clean Waters – Doug and Bob J will determine grant application deadline and ensure preparation of grant application.
    2. Small Lakes Point Intercept Surveys – cost for 2023 allocated in Committee Budget request.
- B. Mission Statement – Mike Stroh suggested simplifying and broadening the first sentence of Committee’s mission statement to read “The mission of the Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake is to protect *and enhance the health of the lakes and watershed* in the Town of Plum Lake ~~from Aquatic Invasive Species that are currently in our town lakes , and those that pose a threat to us.~~” The remainder of the mission statement remains unchanged and reads “We will do this through monitoring our town lakes, providing education, and creating public awareness. We will work with the Town of Plum Lake’s Town Board, state government, community, and lake property owners to obtain funds and to seek other assistance needed to keep our lakes clean for now and the future.”

Upon a **motion** made by Mike Stroh and seconded by Bob Jackson, the revised mission statement was approved unanimously.

5. Other New Business and Citizen Comments and Concerns - None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:24 am.

The next meeting of the Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake will be held on **Thursday, September 22 at 10:00 am** in the Sayner Pavilion next to the Sayner Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Wiggins, Secretary

Approved 9.22.22

*Lakes Committee - Town of Plum Lake*  
*September 22, 2022, 10:00 am*  
*Town of Plum Lake Town Hall, Sayner WI*

Present: Wayne Ax, Jim Haberle, Joe Heitz, Cathy Higley, Bob Jackson, Bob Munsen, Doug Pinney, John Richter, Mike Stroh, Lynn Wiggins

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Bob Jackson, Chair.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 24, 2022 – Under 3.B.iv.-Small Lakes the phrase “a grant application is planned for 2024” was deleted.

Upon a **motion** by Bob Munsen and seconded by John Richter the minutes of the August 24, 2022 meeting as corrected were unanimously approved.

2. Treasurer’s Report – Doug reported on activity occurring during the past month. Additional contributions for the Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CBCW) Program were received from Razorback and Lake Laura. Payments for work this summer were made to paid volunteer Mac McCoy and to the North Lakeland Discovery Center. Program income from the contributions of lake associations and individuals was approximately \$11,000, exceeding CBCW budget by approximately \$6,000. This additional income will be used to offset expenses of other Lakes Committee programs.

Going forward it is planned that the Town’s budgeted funding for Lakes Committee projects will be “closed out” at the completion of each project. Unused funds will be returned to the Town’s general funds and not designated for carry over for Lakes Committee projects in future years. A discussion followed regarding outstanding invoices and income for the current fiscal year. Both appear to be well within budget.

The potential for additional expenses related to repair and maintenance of ILIDS equipment in future years as equipment ages was discussed.

Upon a **motion** by Mike Stroh and seconded by Joe Heitz, the Treasurer’s report was unanimously accepted.

3. Vilas County Update – Cathy Higley
  - A. Vilas County Lake Partners Conference – will be held Friday, October 28 at the Boulder Junction Community Center.
  - B. Wake Boats – Michigan has put out a position statement on wake boats with regulatory recommendations for operation and restrictions.
  - C. Plum Lake Phosphorus and Chlorophyll a – Cathy completed an analysis of phosphorus and chlorophyll a trends for multiple lakes in Vilas County using data from the past decade. Plum was the only lake in the Town with adequate data to perform this analysis. There has been a statistically insignificant increase in phosphorus and a small but significant increase in chlorophyll a which is consistent with trends in the majority of other Vilas County lakes.
  - D. Phragmites on Razorback – Phragmites were hand harvested from Razorback this summer. The amount found was less than last year. Future harvesting is planned to control this invasive species.

E. Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CBCW) 2023 Budget – See 4.B.iii.3. below.

F. Fish Sticks, Lake Laura – see 4.B.v.2 below

#### 4. Old Business

##### A. Lake Management Plan –

- i. Implementation Plan – Tim plans to finalize the Plan within the next two weeks. John will arrange for printing of copies of the plan. A digital copy will be available on the Town website. John will develop a budget for two complete copies, one to be placed in the Town Hall and one in the town Library, as well as a lake specific copy for each lake association.

A **motion** made by Mike Stroh and seconded by Doug Pinney to approve printing of two full and one lake specific copy for each lake passed unanimously.

- ii. Future Direction – no new discussion

##### B. Status of 2022 Programs –

- i. BLIMS –

1. Maintenance –

- a. Lake Laura – The concrete foundation has been replaced and the camera reinstalled.

- b. Seasonal ILIDS Removal – John and Sam Paterson plan to remove cameras and equipment from the landings mid-October with a projected date of October 13. Several Committee members offered to assist. Secure storage of the solar panels, batteries and other components will be arranged by John.

2. Enforcement and Video Monitoring – no report

- ii. Little Star Remediation - Aquatic Plant Management was able to remove Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in two rather than the three planned dives this summer. Cost savings will be used to cover harvesting in 2023.

- iii. Clean Boats/Clean Waters (CBCW)

1. Paid Volunteers – Mac McCoy is the current sole paid volunteer and has been monitoring the six landings for approximately 60 hours per week. Monitoring will end October 9.

2. Data Entry - Sharon Brooker has agreed to enter the paid volunteer data into the Surface Water Monitoring System (SWIMS).

3. CBCW 2023 Grant – Cathy prepared the preliminary budget data for 2023. Coverage will continue to be provided by the UW-Oshkosh, the Discovery Center, and paid volunteers. The hourly pay rate for monitors has increased. To remain within the State's maximum grant allowance, the budgeted hours of monitoring has decreased by approximately 500 for 2023. The grant application is due November 15.

A **motion** made by Doug Pinney and seconded by Jim Haberle to apply for the 2023 CBCW grant passed unanimously.

iv. Small Lakes Program/North Lakeland Discovery Center – Bob Jackson has identified three potential lakes for Point Intercept studies next year, which will complete studies on the Town’s accessible public lakes. Cost of the program will be placed in the Town budget.

v. Fish Sticks –

1. Plum Lake – Plans for grant funded placement of three bundles in January and February 2023 continue on schedule. Bundles with increased density using selected hardwoods supplemented with Balsam will be used. John will develop a budget for the Towns portion of the project. Future bundle placement not using grant funding is planned.
2. Lake Laura –Cathy prepared a draft plan and budget for Fish Sticks on Lake Laura which was distributed to the Committee this week. The plan is for a total of six clusters with three placed off the Munsen property and three adjacent to DNR property. These locations have been approved by Erik Weigleitner of the DNR. The total cost of the project is \$5730 with the DNR providing 75% of the funds. Project implementation is scheduled for January and February 2024.

A **motion** made by Joe Heitz and seconded by John Richter to approve the submission of Fish Stick plans for Lake Laura and the associated grant was unanimously approved.

3. Star Lake – Identification of potential Fish Stick sites will occur next summer.

C. 2023 Budget and Grants –

i. Budget –total \$42,698,00 to include

- CBCW - \$3000 Town share;
- Fish Sticks - \$1648 Town share of grant;
- ILIDS - \$17,050 for monitoring, maintenance, installation, removal and insurance costs;
- Small Lakes - \$10,000 for 2023 Point Intercept studies;
- AIS remediation fund (multi-year) - \$10,000;
- Little Star AIS Quick Response – \$1000.

Doug and Bob will present the budget to the Town Supervisors in October.

A **motion** made by Mike Stroh and seconded by Jim Haberle to approve submission of the proposed budget to the Town Supervisors passed unanimously.

ii. Grants –

1. Clean Boats Clean Waters – see 4.B.iii.3 above
2. Fish Sticks – see 4.B.v. above

5. Other New Business and Citizen Comments and Concerns - None



There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 am.

The next meeting of the Lakes Committee for the Town of Plum Lake will be held on Thursday October 13 at 10:00 am in the Town of Plum Lake Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Wiggins, Secretary

Approved 10.13.22