



Higgins Lake Property Owners AssociationSM

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President: Charlene Cornell, **Vice Pres:** Greg Semack, **Secretary:** Herb Weatherly, **Treasurer:** Bruce Carleton
Directors: Wayne Brooks, Jack Cornell, Curt DeVoe, Becky Gibson, Bob McKellar, John Ogren, Fred Swinehart

Higgins Lake Property Owners Association
June 17, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes
Zoom Virtual Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Charlene Cornell at 9:00 A.M.

Board Members Present: Charlene Cornell, Greg Semack, Bruce Carleton, Herb Weatherly, Wayne Brooks, Curt DeVoe, Jack Cornell, John Ogren, Fred Swinehart and Becky Gibson. Bob McKellar was absent.

Agenda: No changes.

President's Comments: None.

April Minutes: The May 20, 2024, Minutes were accepted as written.

Committee Reports:

Secretary/Office: Herb said that he had the AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) and boating regulations pamphlets for the Landing Blitz on June 22, which will be distributed to John and Wayne. Also, Herb will be attending today's SAD (Special Assessment District) meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The May 31, 2024, financials were presented. Bruce noted that we are tracking close to historical performance in most categories; however, we are behind in contributions for both the legal and environmental funds vs the budget. Historically the Environmental Fund contributions tend to catch up during the year, but our Legal Fund may require some fundraising effort on our part to help close the gap on the budget shortfall.

Membership & Communication: Wayne reported that we have 458 members vs our budget of 510. Board members will continue to contact those that have not renewed.

Becky shared that a committee had met with a marketing company for communications & PR purposes, but the company did not meet our needs.

Riparian Committee: John reported the following:

DNR Access Data Collection Update: Inspection of arriving boats at the South State Park is underway. HLF hired three temporary employees and are looking for a fourth employee. They have already started three-hour shifts on Saturday and Sunday mornings and will do the data collection and documentation required.

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Weekly inspecting of parked boat trailers at all seven of the most active access will begin on June 22.

Landing Blitz: Fred and John will greet boaters at the North State Park on June 22, and Wayne & Susan Brooks will greet boaters at the DNR West Launch. Also, Becky informed us that Brian Hill, the new Gerrish Township supervisor, was interested in this project and she will inform him of our participation.

John moved that HLPOA donates \$2,000.00 to the Roscommon County Marine Patrol to assist with the replacement of a patrol craft for Higgins Lake or to augment the frequency of patrols on Higgins Lake for the summer of 2024. The motion was seconded by Bruce. Motion passed unanimously.

Environmental Committee: Fred reported the following:

GLUA (Gerrish Lyon Utility Authority) Support Activities

MDARD \$100,000 Reimbursement w/ \$45,000 Matching Grant Awarded

LANSING – Today, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) awarded 24 Rural Development Fund Grants designed to promote the sustainability of land-based industries and support infrastructure that benefits rural communities.

"Since day one, the Whitmer-Gilchrist administration has prioritized upgrading and investing in Michigan's infrastructure. At MDARD we're awarding grants designed to support infrastructure specifically in Michigan's rural communities," said MDARD Director Tim Boring. "These grant dollars invest in our growing food and agriculture workforce, increase building capacity, improve existing infrastructure and create new economic opportunities within our rural communities. These opportunities demonstrate why Michigan has become a major food and agriculture destination."

MDARD received 91 proposals with requests totaling more than \$7.2 million. Of those, MDARD awarded 24 projects totaling just over \$1.8 million, leveraging a match of more than \$9.8 million:

* * *

Gerrish Lyon Utility Authority- \$100,000 (Roscommon) – To perform hydrogeological investigation and preliminary engineering for the proposed wastewater collection and treatment system.

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High School Sampling and Analysis of Higgins Lake Waters

This program began its seventh year with a gathering of the students, their teacher Gregg Neville and Raven Labs owner John Blizzard at a kick-off gathering on May 22nd. A presentation of this program has been prepared by Gregg and can be seen on the HLPOA website.

<https://www.HLPOA.Org>

<https://hlpoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/RCCF-Video-Student-Water-Sampling-Project-Roscommon-High-School.mp4>

A separate project, measuring the water flow in the Cut River, was also conducted on June 2nd. The resulting flow rate of about 61 cubic feet per second is shown on the website also.

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<https://hlpoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Flow-Rate-Measurement-in-the-Cut-River.pdf>

This flow rate seemed to be typical for the May/June time period. Using the Students' phosphorous concentration data of 0.17 mg/l for May 22nd, about 56 lbs. of phosphorus was perhaps going down the cut every day during this time. In terms of phosphorous pollution, that would have been about 20 bags of a typical 6-6-6 (Milorganite) lawn fertilizer each day.

EPA Releases Information that States and Tribes Can Use to Protect Local Fish from Toxic Tire Chemicals

WASHINGTON – Today, June 10, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published water quality screening values under the Clean Water Act related to short-term concentrations of 6PPD and 6PPD-quinone (6PPD-q). These chemicals have been found in freshwater ecosystems and linked to runoff from automotive tire dust and debris. Once in freshwater, these chemicals are known toxins that can quickly cause fish-kill events. The EPA's non-regulatory and non-binding screening values provide information that Tribes, states, and local governments can use to monitor their waterways and help protect aquatic life from these harmful pollutants.

"Achieving clean water that protects aquatic life and supports commercial, recreational, and cultural fishing practices takes partnership at all levels of government," said **EPA Acting Assistant Administrator for Water Bruno Pigott**. "6PPD and 6PPD-q can be lethal to fish, so it's important we know where it's polluting waterways. The EPA's screening values provide important information that our partners can use to protect fish populations—especially coho salmon on the Pacific coast. Solutions like storm water treatment and green infrastructure are effective at reducing concentrations of these chemicals in freshwater ecosystems."

HLSIO: Greg reported the following:

It is likely that there may be either 2 or 3 merganser duck broods on the lake this season. One was recently sighted in front of Pine Bluffs and another just south of Flag Point. SIS (Swimmer's Itch Solutions) plans to be on the lake this week in order to capture these ducks.

Preparations for the HLSIO fundraiser dinner are moving along. Our flyer is ready and will be used for advertising in emails and for posting in various places as in the past. Tickets are being printed this week and information about ticket distribution will be available soon.

Snail infection rate studies will be done this summer, and it should be interesting to see how they may be affected by merganser broods remaining on the lake last summer as our trap and relocate program was not allowed to operate. With potentially infected ducks on the lake all summer we expect the incident of SI may be slightly greater than in the past few years, but we hope that the increase will not be significant.

Research will be done this summer to determine more about the gestation period of the parasite within the ducks and we will also continue to study the case reports of SI within the data collected during our water study.

HLPAC: Greg reported the following:

Candidate interviews have been conducted and summaries will be prepared shortly to inform our members of the candidate's positions on issues of local importances. The county clerk reports that there are more people running for various positions in the county than ever before.

SB 662 was voted out of committee and will be voted upon on the house floor shortly. I had a long meeting with attorney Ellison on Friday afternoon, and he doesn't think it will greatly affect our appeal in the dam SAD (Special Assessment District) case. That said, he is also going to be writing some language that we will try to have

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added to the bill. Sam Boumis had a conversation with the original sponsor of the bill after the house hearing and she agreed to listen to what we may think is important to add.

It looks now as though the appeal about the dam SAD will likely be heard in September.

The CHLL (Citizens for Higgins Lake Legal Levels) case about dam oversight has scheduled mediation for July 17th. In addition, a group has filed asking to intervene in this case and they want to have the legal lake level changed (lowered). There is a question about whether they are allowed to be a party to the mediation which will need to be decided in a hearing before they can be included.

Ongoing Business: Charlene reminded everyone about the Sips, Chips & Dips fundraiser on July 5th. It was agreed to send another invitation to our members.

Charlene reminded everyone that the set-up date for the annual meeting is at 9:00 on July 12th.

New Business: For the annual meeting, Becky asked if we should have a speaker about the sewer project. Curt offered to comment on this topic.

Adjournment: Herb moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bruce. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:47 A.M.

The next meeting will be August 19, 2024, at 9:00 A.M.

**HIGGINS LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
JUNE 30, 2024**

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 129,522
Accounts Receivable	\$ -
Total Current Assets	<u>129,522</u>
Other Assets	
Rent Security Deposit	-
Prepaid Expense	-
Restricted Cash	33,217
Total Other Assets	<u>33,217</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 162,739</u></u>

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ -
Accrued Payroll and Withholdings Payable	358
Accrued Expenses	-
Unearned Revenue	-
Total Current Liabilities	<u>358</u>
Total Liabilities	358

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted :	
Unrestricted	129,164
Temporarily Restricted	33,217
Permanently Restricted	-
Total Net Assets	<u>162,381</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u><u>\$ 162,739</u></u>

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Higgins Lake Property Owners Association

June 30, 2024

Statement of Income

INCOME:	<u>Members @</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u> <u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>
Members' Dues	469 \$	115 \$ 53,935	\$ 58,650	\$ (4,715)
Directory Advertisements		\$ 9,345	\$ 7,000	\$ 2,345
Map/Stationery Sales		\$ -	\$ 100	\$ (100)
Legal Fund Contrib's (Restricted)		\$ 2,290	\$ 11,000	\$ (8,710)
Environmental Fund Contrib's - (Restricted)		\$ 4,625	\$ 18,000	\$ (13,375)
General/Lobbyist Fund Contrib's (Non-Restricted)		\$ 3,875	\$ 10,000	\$ (6,125)
Fundraiser Income		\$ 7,250	\$ 5,500	\$ 1,750
Interest/Miscellaneous Income		\$ 1,370	\$ 1,800	\$ (430)
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 82,690	\$ 112,050	\$ (29,360)
 EXPENSES:				
Contract Services				
Accounting Fees		\$ 4,095	\$ 4,500	\$ 405
Legal Expenses			\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Lobbyist		\$ 13,500	\$ 30,000	\$ 16,500
		\$ 17,595	\$ 44,500	\$ 26,905
Facilities and Equipment				
Property Insurance		\$ -		\$ -
Office Rent		\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,500
		\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,500
Memberships				
Huron Pines		\$ 200	\$ 100	\$ (100)
Chamber of Commerce			\$ 50	\$ 50
Rosc Co Comm Fndation			\$ 100	\$ 100
Mi Lakes and Streams		\$ -	\$ 584	\$ 584
Michigan Riparian		\$ -	\$ 85	\$ 85
Muskegon Watershed		\$ -	\$ 65	\$ 65
Mi Waterfront Alliance		\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100
		\$ 200	\$ 1,084	\$ 884
Misc Expense				
Marine Patrol Support& Rosc Foundation		\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -
		\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -
Operating Expenses				
Bank Service Charges		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subscriptions, Books, Advertising		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance		\$ 446	\$ 1,400	\$ 954
Postage, Mailing Service		\$ 1,219	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,581
Printing and Copying		\$ 6,136	\$ 6,500	\$ 364
Supplies		\$ 434	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,066
Miscellaneous		\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100
Telephone and Internet		\$ 1,136	\$ 2,350	\$ 1,214
Web Site Maintenance		\$ 352	\$ 800	\$ 448
		\$ 9,723	\$ 15,450	\$ 5,727
Payroll Expenses				
Salaries and Wages		\$ 6,386	\$ 13,000	\$ 6,614
Payroll Taxes		\$ 492	\$ 1,200	\$ 708
Workers Comp		\$ 14	\$ 50	\$ 36
		\$ 6,892	\$ 14,250	\$ 7,358
Travel and Meetings				
Confernces, Conventions, Meetings		\$ 439	\$ 750	\$ 311
				\$ -
Other				
Environmental Expenses		\$ 3,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 17,000
GLUA Support		\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Michigan Sales & Use Tax		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		\$ 13,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 17,000
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$ 51,349	\$ 111,034	\$ 59,685
NET INCOME		\$ 31,341	\$ 1,016	\$ 30,325

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