

NSTLRA Board Meeting Minutes

September 5, 2018

1. Call to order

In attendance: Joe F., Mike W., Bob B., Roger G., Peter G., Glen D., Susan P., Dennis B. and Jay W. by telephone

2. Approval of minutes of the August 15, 2018 meeting

An addition to the minutes was made by Susan as suggested by members to record in the minutes the 4 days of DASH for the removal of milfoil added to lake management actions in 2018. This motion was made and sent to all Board members via email and was approved by all members via email.

Motion was made to approve the minutes and it was passed.

3. Treasurers Report

Bob submitted the August treasurer's report via email. Question was raised about the budget whether or not it was approved in August. Discussion followed and it was agreed that the budget and spending had already been approved at the August Board Meeting. A motion was made to approve the report and it was passed.

4. Lake Management Actions update

Jay reported his concerns about EWM in North Twin and its consequences on the economics of the area. EWM is aggressively growing in some areas of North Twin which were treated last year with 2-4-D. Over 1000 sq. yds. Of EWM were harvested from North Twin via DASH. They came over two 4-day periods. Residual fragments were observed on the second trip which is a major concern for regeneration of EWM. The cost of the DASH treatment was \$20,000 with 2/3 of segment C were covered by the DASH actions. This area was chosen to treat mainly because of active boating activity and fishing. Another area of North Twin near the South Twin passage has matting and is of concern. Jay suggested restricting boating in this area and other areas where EWM is approaching the surface, mainly through education or buoys in the future to reduce fragmentation of EWM.

Jay is aware of an individual who does GPS mapping with drone which could significantly assist with identifying the areas of North Twin that contain milfoil. (Zero Gravity.com- aerial detection and precise mapping.) He is suggesting that this company is considered for hire to give a better picture of where and how aggressive the problem is prior to finalizing a plan for treatment on N Twin.

A motion was made to support aerial surveillance of North Twin to determine the extent of EWM in North Twin. The motion passed. This money will come from the existing AMEN fund being held by the Association prior to transfer the remaining monies to the Lake District. This money promised via the resolution passed through the NSTLRA Annual meeting will be in dollars or services in kind that are financed by the Association or the Lake District for removal of EWM.

Recreational boating in South Twin and to some extent North Twin, is a major reason why the spread of EWM has been so consistent. Somehow limiting or even banning boating/waterskiing through milfoil patches should be considered in future years, through education, and/or signage and buoys marking the areas.

Question was raised about using a cutter to remove the upper layer of milfoil so that as boats go through the EWM beds, motors will not continue to chop it up and spread it. Discussion raised concern that this increases fragmentation risk for spread of EWM. Peter commented this seems to be a last resort vs management of the lakes. Jay suggests that DASH continue to be a very active practice on a regular basis. For next year: DASH should happen earlier in the year. Specific areas of North Twin requiring attention may need to have a large-scale chemical treatment considered since DASH is not going to be effective enough. South Twin needs to have a full-scale treatment is the continued strategy the Board believes is most critical.

South Twin is the most significantly compromised lake in the nine-county district according to the DNR official that has recently toured our lakes (Kevin). Therefore, South Twin is believed highly likely to qualify for DNR grants for treatment. Follow-up communication has been initiated to the Pioneer Lake Association and to the Tribal leaders to receive their feedback regarding chemical treatment.

The economic cost of this treatment for both lakes is going to be greater than has been so far shared with the members of the Lake District. Information regarding this should be considered once fall data from Onterra is compiled to all property owners very soon to inform them about the severity of the milfoil in South Twin and the concern spreading to North Twin.

5. NSTLRA.com usage report

Mike W. shared data of the usage statistics for www.nstlra.com. For the month of August, there were an average of 44 visits per day from many different countries. He also shared the Lake District website for the month of August which has also had a fair number of views for a new website.

6. Discussion on NSTLRA By-laws changes

Changes were suggested at our August 15 meeting and members were asked to review. Changes were approved and a motion was made to accept the changes of the by-laws. The motion passed. Joe will post the proposed changes in color on the website highlighting the changes that will come into effect.

7. 2019 Annual meeting

The Lake District meeting is already scheduled for the Saturday after July 4. Discussion was held as to whether or not to hold both meetings on the same day. July 6 was chosen as the date and

to once again have it at the Phelps park and followed by the Lake District meeting at the Phelps School.

8. Peter Gloede attended a meeting regarding swimmer's itch. Main focus of this meeting centered on White Sand Lake but the information also pertains to the issue on North/South Twin Lakes. The amount of ducks at the lake one year will determine the severity of the next year. Mergansers are the primary culprit of ducks (diving ducks) and 4 species of snails. Michigan allows for trapping of the young merganser and relocation but it must be done prior to when they learn to fly. Freshwatersolutions.org(net) is where the information can be found. They recommend creams but they should not contain lanolin. Shower in cool, not warm water because it opens your pores.
This information is already posted on the Lake District website under education.
9. Musky Tournaments on our lakes
Do we want to do anything regarding Clean Boat Clean Water for these tournaments? These fisherman will be cognizant of the milfoil and will not fish in milfoil areas. It is difficult at this time of year to get volunteers at the boat landings. It was suggested we do additional signs but board members felt it was not necessary immediately as the boating season has mostly concluded for 2018.
10. Misc.

All buoys are in their rightful place. Lights have been mounted on the buoys by Eagle River Dock. Fund has now been depleted.

The Mission Statement will be revised to reflect the wording on the By-Laws. Joe will rewrite and distribute via email so members can approve along with the By-laws. Question was raised whether the Association needs to retain its 501 (C) (3) status. The issue remains unsettled.
11. Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 10:28.