

**Crooked Lake Texas Association**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**6/25/2017**

(to be approved at the 2018 Annual Meeting)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Jim Roberts.

The minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were read and approved.

**The President's Report:** Jim introduced a guest for the evening, Texas Township Board Member Tim Brown. He then reported that our lake level was 16 inches above the level at our last Annual Meeting. That represents 76 million gallons of water more than last year. He also reported that two bald eagles had been sighted by numerous residents over the last weeks.

He told about Eagle Lake doing a goose roundup with township board and DEQ approval. Many members attending indicated they wanted the board to investigate the possibility of doing the same.

The bad news in his report was that zebra mussels have been found in the west basin.

One last item in Jim's report concerned the Texas Township Board creating a new zoning district for lakes. He said that members of the Crooked Lake and Eagle Lake board have met with the Planning Commission.

**The Treasurer's Report:** Rodney Nimtze reported that our current cash balance is \$14,764.99. He included a spreadsheet in the agenda booklet for this meeting with budgeted as well as actual expenditures for 2016 and thus far in 2017. The report was approved.

**The Membership Report:** Vice-President Russ Walters said that we had 98 members as of this meeting. He reminded members that the best benefit is being able to use the Crooked Lake Market boat ramp and that each year the board is adding new activities and services to build a sense of community around the lake.

**The Welcoming Committee Report:** Chair Lesa Newby asked members to notify her if they get new neighbors. The committee will bring them an official Crooked Lake T-shirt, a bottle of wine, and information about our lake community.

**The Boat Parade/Fun Day Committee Report:** Co-Chairs Jen Abnet and Lesa Newby said that the Boat Parade will be Saturday, July 1 with plenty of prizes and incentives to enter. Fun Day will be Saturday, August 5. There will be a Game Station again this year at the Crooked Lake Market, but there is no potluck picnic. Instead, there will be a Lake Social from 3:00 - 5:00 P.M. with some games, snacks, and the market open for beverage and food purchases. There will again be a band, but it will start earlier and end earlier than last year. The band has agreed to play Sunday in the event of rain.

**The Ad Hoc Committee on Short Term Rentals Report:** Chair Chuck Buxton reported that his committee was created by the board to see what could be done about the problem with the short term rental properties on the lake. They have been the sources of extreme noise and poor

behavior during over-crowded occupations. Glenn Stieg, another committee member said that some of the renters have access to boats but don't know the boating rules and operate boats unsafely. Chuck told how he'd made some presentations to the Texas Township Board and was making progress when State Representative Brandt Iden told the board that the legislature was working on zoning bills related to rental properties. These state legislature bills would stop local governments from controlling short term rental zoning. Chuck had handouts with the legislators' addresses and some suggested wording for a letter and urged lake residents to contact Representative Brandt Iden and Senator Margaret O'Brien to let them know that we lake residents expected to live in a residential neighborhood, not next to a hotel. Trish Roberts had spoken with Texas Township Assessor Gruizenga who believes that absentee landlords could lose their personal resident exemption.

**The Laminar Flow Aeration Report:** Our limnologist, Jennifer Jermalowyz-Jones, Ph.D. of Restorative Lake Sciences, reviewed our project objectives and the tools used to make measurements, and showed photos from the project beginning 2 years ago. She reported that the invasive weed, Eurasian Milfoil, had exploded in the Cove from 2015 - 2016. Her opinion was that we can't just let it go. RSL will supervise the spot application of herbicide. There will be a 24 hour swimming restriction. She said that Curly Leaf Pondweed and Starry Stonewort are also problem invasives. Her company will do a scan before and after treatment to determine the number of acres reduced.

She also reported that lake bottom firmness had improved and that her company will use a new method to measure muck: depth contour mapping.

She said two years wasn't enough time for Laminar Flow Aeration to show strong progress, and she wants to analyze our lake well as a possible source of nutrients that is feeding weed growth.

A positive note was that we have fresh water jelly fish now which have been noticed by some residents and which are an indication of clear water.

Doctor Jermalowyz-Jones is working with a CLTA Board Committee to revise our matrix of performance criteria. She is now working with 80 lakes doing LFA, but she noted that most don't evaluate their lake's improvement, instead relying on anecdotal evidence. She noted that the CLTA Board wanted to get scientific data and put the matrix in the contract with LFA provider Lake Savers.

There were questions and comments from lake residents present about the herbicide spot treatment plan. Jim Roberts told the meeting that the board hadn't wanted to use herbicides but they agreed to follow Jennifer's recommendation. She hopes it will only need to be done once. Resident Brent Bassett told the meeting about his experiences owning a cottage on Pickerel Lake. There were so many weeds, no one could use their water craft. That lake board didn't act fast enough. Doctor Jermalowyz-Jones said that it takes 7 weeks for the Eurasian Milfoil to absorb the herbicide and to be affected by it.

Jim Roberts commented that John Tucci of Lake Savers has provided lots of extra service to the lake at no charge, for example he moved the compressor on the Middle Basin and repaired damaged compressor hoses over the last two years. Jim said also that Tucci felt badly that LFA hadn't controlled the milfoil. By the end of the report, only two lake residents present were still opposed to the herbicide treatment.

**The Purple Loosestrife Report:** Committee Chair Arleigh Smyrnios asked residents to let her know if they find plants with square stems and pretty purple flowers on their property. That's the invasive Purple Loosestrife. She and her volunteers will target these plants with beetles that only eat Purple Loosestrife and are doing a great job of managing this nasty plant for us. She related that since she wades through swamps to dig up plants for breeding the beetles, the cost to CLTA is \$40 per pot of beetles instead of \$45. A number of residents at the meeting donated money to buy more pots.

**Outgoing Board Directors:** Jim recognized Neil McCormick, Dan Shugars, and Susan O'Connell who are leaving the board for their many contributions to the lake community. Neil and Dan were instrumental in the creation of our matrix of performance criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of LFA.

**The Election of Directors for the Crooked Lake Texas Board:** Russ Walters, Dot DeYoung, Jennifer Abnet, Lesa Newby, Joann Potts, and Rod Krapf had been nominated for board vacancies. There were no other nominations from the floor. All were elected.

**New Business:** Bob Page, who publishes Texas Township Living, said he wants to work with our Welcoming Committee to build a sense of community. He encouraged residents to notify him of special events and family occasions that he can put in the magazine.

Several residents said that a hard copy directory of lake residents is needed. Russ Walters pointed out that phone numbers and email addresses could involve issues of privacy. But, a committee from the board is working on producing a paper directory.

Arleigh Smyrnios reminded residents of how important it is to obey the No Wake buoys, especially with the high water level. She has noted increased erosion on her property fronting the channel.

Chuck Buxton reminded residents to stay 100 feet from other boats, rafts and docks when operating a boat, and that within 100 feet of the shore, boats should not produce wakes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rod Krapf, CLTA Board Secretary