

Lake Vermont Lake Association  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
June 14, 2014

LVLA Board Present – Paul Jennings, President, Vi Buhl, Vice President, Sue Kugler, Secretary, Mike Kellen, Director, Jim Kontz, Director

Paul called the meeting to order at 10 am.

- Welcome & Brief Announcements – Paul Jennings
  - The board members introduced themselves – their role and where they live
  - Mike Kellen is taking checks for dues – thank you, Mike
  - We have extra copies of the bylaws if anyone wants one
    - No bylaw changes have been made or plan to be addressed today
- 2013 Treasurer's Report
  - Operating - \$1,358.60
  - Clean up - \$2,325.00
  - Total - \$3,683.60
  - Will ask Terry to speak to treasurer's report next year
- Board member status
  - Sue Kugler is continuing for another three year term
  - Still need one more board member
- Lake Vermont Lake Association member information
  - Had 47 Lake Vermont Lake Associate members in 2013
    - Up from last year – we were averaging between 30 to 36
  - Association membership is tied to property lots
  - One vote per lot
  - Today we will use a show of hands when voting
- Thank you's
  - Hospitality – Thank you to Paul & Maureen Diedrich for opening their home for our meeting
  - Board members – Sue Kugler & Dan Wittmer
    - Thank you to Dan for pick-up day
    - Thank you to Sue for capturing information as Secretary
  - Webmaster – Barb Jenson
    - LVLA website - [www.minntesotawaters.org/lakevermont/lake-vermont-lake-association](http://www.minntesotawaters.org/lakevermont/lake-vermont-lake-association)
    - \$25 annually for website

- Website includes -
  - Notes of past meetings
  - List of officers
  - Pictures
  - Anyone who wants to put content on sites, please contact Barb – her email is on the site
- Judy Jaskowiak for water clarity testing – thank you
- Wildmans have been doing water samples – thank you
  - Water testing background
    - Go to certain points in the lake and draw samples
    - Why is this important – if we came up with high bacterial reading, a septic system might be leaking or farmer may be having a problem
    - Samples are taken from lake, refrigerated and shipped to lab
      - They tell us all is good or if something is abnormal
        - If abnormal, they tell us what we need to do
    - Douglas County Lake Association coordinates testing
    - Annual cost is \$200 for testing and pay on a per member basis
      - We annually pay \$100 for members
    - Douglas County Lake Association sends LVLA President monthly meeting notices
  - Mike Kellen has agreed to do the samples going forward
- Water testing update – Ron Tschaekofse
  - Testing
    - Develops a quick alert of water quality
    - Douglas County Lake Association wants us to develop a statistical basis for grants – after 8 to 10 year period our data is legitimate
    - Asks for minimum of four tests per year
    - May reading – 19.5 feet - clarity
  - Question was raised by Blake Jaskowiak
    - Does the continued testing done by Jaskowiaks in front of access count towards the eight plus year timeframe required by Douglas County Lake Association to make data legitimate?
    - Ron said no. They want us to test the deepest part of the lake, so in front of the access doesn't fall into that criteria
- Lake levels – Judy Jaskowiak
  - Handout contained three charts covering the history of the lake levels
    - Highest – May 12, 2002
    - Lowest – 1998
    - Difference of almost 3 feet
    - Ordinary high water level
      - Boundary of water basins – vegetation changes from aquatic to land
      - Lose lakeshore to the lake

- As of 6.13.14 – 1434.26
  - Change from last fall to this spring – almost 10 inches
  - April to now – 10.7 inches - rainfall
  - Can look at lake levels on the DNR website
  - Formula on the website and also explained on the handout provided
- Door prize name drawn
- Stream from Lake Vermont to Lake Miltona
  - Plowed under by farmers during the dry years of the 1930's
  - Hard to get stream open
  - Lake Miltona group might be opposed because water from Lake Vermont would then flow into Lake Miltona and make levels higher
- Sue Kugler called for approval of the minutes
  - Motion to approve – Blake Jaskowiak
  - Second to motion – Barb Jenson
  - Motion passed
- Introduction of new members or attendees to the meeting
  - Live on lake less than four years
    - Jim & Tracy Amsden
- Survey of members - Paul Jennings
  - Purpose to gather thoughts to assess where we are currently and give a better picture of where we are headed
  - 12 questions
  - Paul will compile information and share at a board meeting in the fall
    - The board will use information when planning for 2014/2015
- Election of Board Members
  - Last year we changed bylaws and wrote in three year terms
    - The terms are staggered
  - Nomination for Sue Kugler for three year term
    - Seconded by Blake Jaskowiak
  - Nomination for Jim Amsden to fill the other open three year term
    - Seconded by Patty Benkusky
  - Call for vote
  - 1<sup>st</sup> – Dale Wildman
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Matt Kugler
  - Both nominations passed
  - The 2014/2015 Lake Vermont Lake Association is as follows –
    - Paul Jennings, President
    - Vi Buhl, Vice President

- Terry Tancabel, Treasurer
  - Sue Kugler, Secretary
  - Mike Kellen, Director
  - Jim Kontz, Director
  - Jim Amsden, Director
- Old Business - Ron Tschaekofse
  - Update status on proposed black topping lake access road
    - The Miltona Township is not moving forward with the black topping because the project was not chosen to be included in a grant
  - Matt Kugler – Miltona Township shared -
    - The township plans to not take action unless get grant from state of MN or DNR
    - Township will resubmit to state for grant in 2015
    - Proposed project description includes -
      - Black top of Lake Vermont Lake Access road up to access
      - DNR would decide if the actual lake access would be black topped and go to lake
      - Project consists of more than blacking topping the road
        - There needs to be work done on ditches and road sides
        - Township looking into fixing these areas before black topping
- New Business
- Motion proposed by Ron Tschaekofse
  - I move the Lake Vermont Lake Assoc both; post a high water alert at the state access so as to alert all lake residents, (the alert would impose a total no wake zone for all boaters, pwc users etc and would remain in affect until the Lake Vermont water level drops 6" below the designated high water level of 1434.5 feet), and the board then seek a permanent ordinance with appropriate legal authorities to get a permanent high water ordinance
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> motion – Mark Fuhrman
    - No wake – no more than 5 mph
    - Post at access
    - Ordinance on books when hit high water mark each time it hits
  - Discussion question raised
    - How do we notify residents when water is below the six inch mark?
    - Many who use the lake recreationally aren't at today's meeting
    - How do you keep up with the changes and communication?
  - Blake Jaskowiak
    - Homeowners should know how to operate safely with lake in mind
    - Tell visitors how to operate water vehicles while on the lake
    - How do you enforce the motion?

- Mark Forhrman
  - Introduced himself to the group - grew up on lake and own couple lake lots
  - Joined Lake Vermont Lake Association to talk about high water
  - His shoreline is eroding because of high water
  - He can no longer graze his cattle on peninsula part of his property
  - There currently is a no wake on Lake Minnetonka - \$150 fine
- Dan Ness
  - The motion is problematic
  - Many offenders don't use public access to land water craft
  - Difficult to reinforce
  - If we can't reinforce – don't do
- Ron Tschaekofse
  - Suggests posting of no wake information at access
  - Suggests sending out postcard so property owners alerted
  - Up to board to communicate differently
  - Looking at hard core enforcement three or four years down the road
- Question raised - how do we know when no wake ban is lifted?
- Ron Tschaekofse suggests establishing a permanent spot where any of us can see the lake level
- Clarification – the no wake prohibits skiing, tubers - no wake is entire lake
- Judy Jaskowiak
  - Current rules and regulations states fast moving boats must be 150 ft from the shore – boating guide from the DNR
- Blake Jaskowiak
  - With the size of our lake jet skis can't maintain the distance mathematically
- Jim Amsden
  - The proposal says anytime the lake level is within six inches of the high level mark, the restrictions would go into effect. Looking at the handout shared earlier, the motion could restrict use of the lake much of every year.
- Mark Forhrman
  - Hard to go with high water edge because the water only gets so high and then goes elsewhere
  - Don't suggest no wake the entire year

- Question asked of Paul Jennings
  - As a lawyer, can we tell people what they can and can't do?
- Paul Jenning's response
  - Sense of the first part of the motion is to post an advisory
  - Don't have legal right
  - Second part of the motion is to go through lawful authority for support and create permanent ordinance
  - A motion was brought forward to revise original motion and take action only on posting high water alert and no wake restrictions at the Lake Vermont access when the water level is six inches below 1454
- Hand count was taken
  - In favor – 18
  - Opposed – 14
  - Revision passed
- A vote was taken on the original motion
  - The original motion needs to pass in order for the amendment to effective
  - The vote and role call was done by lot and paid members
- Original motion vote
  - No – 12
  - Yes – 11
  - Abstain – 2
  - Motion did not pass
- Newsletter
  - Anyone interested in championing the newsletter see a board member after the meeting
    - Responsibility includes layout, high water information, articles, new members, wildlife, etc.
- Picnic
  - Looking for someone interested in holding a picnic if the survey information leads us in that direction
- Other ideas
  - Each board member is available to capture comments and bring them to the board
- Door Prizes winners drawn and prizes distributed
- Meeting adjourned by Paul Jennings at 12:10 pm