Rush Lake Association Annual meeting

President Gordy Nichols called the meeting to order at 9:00AM on Saturday June 22, 2024 at St. Lawrence Church. 106 members were present out of 188 paid membership. Agenda was adjusted as the guest speaker had a conflict.

Secretary’s report was review, moved by Doug Lee to approve and seconded by Lowell Siebel. Passed

Treasurer’s report was review, moved by Lowell Siebel to approve and seconded by Peter Dzube. Passed

Guest Speaker: Darren Newville, EOT Soil & Water Conservation Manager. Darren discussed the wetlands, Erosion, Dam projects – 4 completed in 2023, DNR-stocking, slot limits, wild rice, irrigation monitoring, watershed, and nitrate testing for our wells. Darren stated that they are here to provide technical assistance. We can bring our water sample into the Soil and & Water Conservation office for free testing. Catch and Release was discussed which includes all sturgeon caught. In addition he informed us the there is a 70% to 90% fatality rate for catch and release with regards to ice fishing. “We are in a Protection Mode for our Lakes! and We are a part of our eco-system!”

Tim Meehl (Director) informed members regarding OTC COLA meeting which was held June 20, 2024. This meeting is free to all members to attend. Next Meetings are July 18th, 7pm at Ottertail community center - topic Lakes and Rivers and August 15th, 7pm Ottertail community center – topic DNR – Dams.

27 gifts cards each worth $25 were given out from : Central Market, Service Foods, Genes- Perham, Mills Locker, Mills Market, Cenex-New York Mills, and Carrs, Thumper Pond, Woodshed – Ottertail. In addition Lowell Siebel donated a painting and \*Jim Bergerson donated 8 stools

President Gordy discussed the stocking of the lake and the annual survey that the DNR does on Rush Lake to assess the stocking of the lake. He informed the membership that he is not going to continue as President of RLA but will stay on as a Director. Membership gave him a round of applause for all his work for the years. Thank you, Gordy.

Pete Kautto (Director) reported on the water quality testing that is completed two times a year and in two spots in the lake. In addition to Pete, Kevin and Brian are a part of the team. Results are posted on the website.

Carol Almquist (Director) reported on the website. She informed the membership what is on the website and that we pay Go Daddy (5yr contract) to manage the site. Please use the site and if you have any questions or suggestions for the site please go to the site and use the Contact Us.

Elections of Directors was held. Pete Kautto moved for the approval of Gordy Nichols for an additional term, seconded by Jerry Szymonowicz. Passed. Dale Seavert moved for the approval of Pete and Robin Kautto for an additional term, seconded by Gory Nichols.

Cheryl Piotraschke who volunteers for the Pollution Control Agency stated they are looking for volunteers to test the water quality. Her email address is cpio2087@gamil.com if you are interested or want further information.

Membership individuals are finding 10-20 dead fish along the shoreline in a number of different locations. Gordy stated if this continues members should contact the DNR. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

 Secretary Patricia Seavert