

## Bass Lakes Area Environmental Partnership

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### 25 August 2022 - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

- Commence: 1500
- Adjourn: 1625
- Location: Lisa Adams' home and Zoom
- Attendees:
  - President: Lisa Adams
  - Vice-President: Tom Shear
  - Secretary: Heidi Haskins
  - Treasurer: Ruthanne Gilbert
  - Director: Linda Irmischer (Zoom)
  - Director: Jeanne Kavanagh
- Agenda:
  - Debrief from 13 August 2022 Public Meeting
  - T-shirt update
  - Financial Report
  - Earth Gives Day 2022
    - Earth gives and Neon One discussion
    - \$50 registration fee
    - Should we do this?
  - Little Bass Lake milfoil control strategy
    - 5-10 year plan
    - Options for riparians

Tuesday, 20 September 2022

- Ideas on how to incorporate into overall Bass Lakes plan?
  - Ideas for \$7000 GLE grant use
  - Letter from Warner Norcross & Judd
  - Any Other Business
  
- Debrief from 13 August 2022 Public Meeting
  - Approximately 30 attendees
  - Overall tone of the meeting was positive with no significant issues or concerns raised. There were questions regarding Loon Island, but they were re-directed to the Big Bass Little Bass Lake Property Owners Association since it is the owner of Loon Island.
  - The Board discussed reducing the number of public meetings to one per year. Board discussion determined to remain at two public meetings per year.
  
- T-shirts (24 August 2022)
  - Total sold: 134 (as of 24 August)
    - Filled from inventory on hand: 76 (as of 24 August)
    - Ordered: 58 (as of 17 Aug)
      - 14 June 2022: 39
      - 20 June 2022: 5
      - 17 August 2022: 14
  - Ink sets remaining: 10 (as of 24 August)
    - 24 ink sets (21 June) - 14 ordered (17 Aug) = 10 sets remain
  - On-hand inventory:
    - Long-sleeve:
      - S: 1
    - Women's Crew Neck (gray)

- M: 1
- L: 3
- XL: 1
- Total money collected: \$1441.05
- Financial Report
  - Report retained on file with Treasurer
  - Benthic mat donations being re-allocated based on donor preferences. If no responses are received, donation will be allocated to general fund.
  - DASH fund balance \$1025
  - \$980 in donations received so far in 2022
  - Annual LARA filed 26 July 2022
  - Insurance payment of \$573 made, check cleared 25 Aug 2022. However, policy paperwork has not been received. Lisa Adams to follow up with Cole Insurance of Baldwin, MI.
- Earth Gives Day 2022
  - Lisa and Jeanne participated in webinar with [EarthGives.org](https://www.earthgives.org) (501c3 which provides consolidated fundraising platform for environmentally focused 501c3 organizations)
  - Annual fee for fundraising platform services (accepts ApplePay or GooglePay) is \$50
    - Donation surcharge is 5.2% plus credit card administration fee. If total donations don't cover the surcharge and credit card fees, the fundraising organization is responsible for remaining balance
  - Donation period is 16 Sep - 06 Oct
  - NeonOne is the software subcontractor for technical development and support for fundraising platform development
  - Lisa made motion to determine if we wanted to participate in Earth Gives Day via [EarthGives.org](https://www.earthgives.org). Motion seconded. Vote taken: unanimous vote against participation via [EarthGives.org](https://www.earthgives.org) for 2022. Board determined to monitor organization participation statistics and activities as option for future year participation for Bass Lakes AEP.

- Little Bass Lake (LBL) Milfoil Control Strategy
  - Currently no specified timeline
  - Initial review of options:
    - Do Nothing - no formalized, coordinated action
      - Independent action determined per riparian
      - Hand pull at each riparian discretion
    - Contract with PLM to treat
      - 2023-2026 treat entire lake at one section of lake per annum to prevent excessive biomass decomposition in lake preventing LBL ecosystem damage
        - Lake would be treated 1/4-1/3 of lake at a time annually
      - 2027 - TBD maintenance treatment via herbicide spot treatment annually
      - Estimated annual cost years 1-4 is \$6000, TBD maintenance cost in year 5 and beyond
      - Riparians are responsible for cost
        - SAD safest way to ensure cost is funded and shared equally across riparians
          - SAD proposal must be supported by riparians, majority of residents must sign petition, petition is then submitted to Elk Township board for review and approval. If board approved funds are collected via special assessment included in annual property tax payment.
  - Diver Assisted Suction Harvest (DASH)
    - As of September 2021, 30-45 days of DASH were required to mitigate milfoil lake-wide. Daily cost of DASH, as of Sep 2021 was \$1300-\$1500 per day.
    - Methods to accomplish DASH:
      - Purchase boat and hire or use volunteer divers to accomplish
        - Estimated cost to purchase boat is \$60,000 plus cost of for-hire divers
          - estimated time to facilitate fundraising and purchase is two years
          - student internship partnerships are option to support manpower requirements

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- Estimated time to initially clear LBL (after fundraising and boat purchase) is up to two summer seasons, based on diver or volunteer availability
- Contract with MTT DASH divers
  - Using estimate of 40 days of work to clear LBL, contract for 10 days of DASH per summer commencing summer of 2023, concluding summer of 2026.
    - Estimated cost at end of 2026 season is \$52,000
  - Annual maintenance DASH at rate of 3 days per summer from 2027 on
    - Estimated future cost per year from 2027 on is \$4000 per year
- DNR & MSU Extension Partnership
  - Plan development and monitoring would be in conjunction with DNR & MSU Extension. DNR/MSU extension would execute advisory role with fiscal responsibility and coordinated plan execution by LBL riparians.
  - Would be combination of hand-pulling, herbicide application and DASH
  - First two to four years of plan would be execution of DNR/MSU Extension developed guidance focused on preservation of Cisco and other fish habitat and overall lake ecosystem
    - Estimated plan timeline
      - 2023-25 DNR & MSU extension direct actions, riparians fund required contracting vehicles
        - First step in coordinated plan is DNR continuous Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature readings in deepest point of LBL from ice-off spring of 2023 to ice-on winter of 2023
      - 2026-29 continue plan trajectory, consult with DNR & MSU extension as needed, riparians fund required contracting vehicles
      - 2030 and on transition to maintenance treatments and actions, riparians fund required contracting vehicles
  - Funding and contracting responsibilities remain with riparians for plan execution across all years

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- Methods of funding: fundraising, SAD
  - Board determined that more detailed discussion is required before presentation to LBL riparians. Lisa to create draft document for submission to DNR and MSU extension, as well as request additional meeting with DNR and MSU extension POCs to finalize information presented to LBL riparians for consideration and approval. All board members will be invited to participate in future meeting with DNR and MSU extension.
- Great Lakes Energy Grant project ideas
  - Discussion of grant funds projects tabled to future meeting due to time constraints of this board convening
- Warner Norcross and Judd letter
  - Letter received from Warner Norcross and Judd explaining potential data breach in October 2021. Letter stated that breach of documents in October event was not indicated. Letter received retained in Bass Lakes AEP 2022 file maintained by Secretary.
- Any Other Business
  - Ruthanne to distribute email to board for grant clearinghouse services for board member review and future discussion.

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- In-progress tasks:
  - Assign POC within group for each grant we may be eligible for.
    - Assigned POC conduct provide summary of grant, review to validate criteria met for grant, and generate initial draft of grant application paperwork required.
  - (Lisa Adams) State Representative Constituent meeting schedule
  - Internship development discussion
  - Michigan Anglers and Boaters pamphlet acquisition and placement locations.
  - (Lisa Adams) Bass Pro Shops - Cabela's Outdoor Fund report due upon conclusion of grant period