

**Minutes of the Aug. 26, 2017 meeting
of the Big Swan Lake Association of Todd County**

President Dave Nickolay called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. following the LID meeting with 27 members in attendance at the Hub Supper Club.

The minutes of the May 20, 2017 association meeting were approved on a motion by Sharon Nickolay and a second by Bonnie Alsleben. Treasurer Janet Lind reported a checking account balance of \$2,623.51 and a money market balance of \$47,101.70, both as of July 17, 2017, for a combined balance of \$49,725.21. Members approved her report on motions by Bonnie Alsleben and Jean Harder. Lind added the association has eight new members for a total of 76.

Nancy Hillman on the August bingo session held at Hub, indicating that the turnout of 81 people barely exceeded breakeven. Janet Lind volunteered when Hillman asked for help with selling tickets for future mega-bingo Sundays, run by Swanville Dollars for Scholars with Big Swan support. The lake earns 100 percent of ticket pre-sales, but only 50% of sales at the door. Denny Harder reported on a successful "Lakes" golf tournament with Big Swan netting \$2,982 from this year's proceeds shared with Long Lake.

Speaking in place of Vice President Mark Redding, Dave Nickolay reported the volume recorded this season by the association's new electronic traffic counter at the public landing. Between May 19 and Aug. 6, 1,720 boats entered the lake. High numbers like this will provide data to help determine if Big Swan is receiving adequate invasive-species monitoring at the landing, Nickolay said.

The association president presented a proposal for water quality testing at the lake's creek inlets starting next summer, recognizing that the state's Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) testing will continue another year before it takes any further steps. RMB Environmental Labs of Detroit Lakes, Minn., earlier proposed inlet sampling at an estimated cost of \$5,000. The lake board recommended testing five inlets for 2018, recognizing that similar sampling on Long Lake identified a manure lagoon leak into its waters. Members approved spending up to \$7,500 for sampling and testing inlets on a motion by Sharon Nickolay and a second by Bonnie Alsleben. Lake representatives will contact RMB to fine-tune locations and other details of water quality monitoring next summer.

Denny Harder followed up on his report to the LID regarding RMB vegetation sampling and a proposal to expand Curlyleaf Pondweed treatment to 80 acres with DNR approval. On a motion by Sharon Nickolay and seconded by Greg Hegeholz, members voted to back up the LID's motion to spend up to \$25,000 for treatment of the invasive species, empowering the board to work with the LID should it need help.

In discussion regarding the bylaw passed at the last meeting that moves association elections to the spring meeting to separate it from the LID's fall board election, Nickolay said he and Mark Redding have both volunteered to run again for the two two-year terms open during an even year. Denny Harder, who was elected earlier to the LID board, volunteered to also run for the association board to create more crossover between the two organizations, which serve similar goals. Secretary Steve Richter volunteered to give up his interim board seat next spring, opening up positions for all three candidates. Another bylaw change last May provides that newly appointed boards elect their own officers.

In other business, Al Leinen volunteered to handle buoy storage, maintenance and GPS placement, providing the Todd County sheriff absolves the association of liability. Also, Nickolay said south campground residents will schedule the annual July 4 boat parade on the nearest weekend to encourage better lake-wide participation. Members voted to adjourn on motions by Sue Krippner and Jean Harder.