

August 2017

Crow Wing Lake Association

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Message from our President

By Jeff Lewis

It is hard to believe that summer is almost over and it won't be long before the docks are in and the watercraft stored for the winter. I have really enjoyed watching families around the lake enjoying the lake with the tow behinds, water skiing, fishing and most of all just enjoying being together as families. We don't have the luxury of having grandkids close by so we don't get to see them at the lake very often. I envy my neighbor who has grandkids at their place just about every weekend. What memories those kids will have! With or without the grandkids, we all have memories of the fun times on/at the lake.

I don't know how the weeds were in front of your place, but all in all they didn't seem as bad as in recent years. We did haul a few loads of weeds off the shore line. We are so lucky to have the LID that makes it possible to stay on top of our lake issues. Some of us can recall when the lake association depended on volunteers to contribute to our weed/zebra mussel fund. Remember the year we had someone with a "lake thrashing machine" harvest the weeds? Our lake has come a long way, thanks to all of us helping with the funding.

I guess the most exciting news of the summer has to be the visit from the bears to some bird feeders on the South side of the lake. From a photo that I saw it looked to be a good sized bear. As a DNR guy told me a couple of years ago when we were talking about the bears that we saw on Lennox by the water shed area, "Just remember, the bears were here long before we were!" I guess the bears can complain because we have invaded their space.

In closing, I hope you all have a wonderful winter and we'll be back on the lake before we know it. Yes, I know there are those of you who can hardly wait to walk out on frozen Crow Wing Lake!

Sincerely,

Jeff Lewis, Crow Wing Lake Association President

**HOWDY
NEIGHBOR!!**



PLEASE JOIN US!

SATURDAY, August 26, 2017

**ANNUAL FALL MEETING
St Mathias
Community Center**

**9:00 Complimentary
Brunch**

**9:30 CWL LID MEETING
9:50 CWLA MEETING**

- ✓ **Great Food!**
- ✓ **LID/water quality updates**
- ✓ **LID Election**
- ✓ **Association News**
- ✓ **Neighborhood Networking**

Crow Wing Lake Association Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2017
Fort Ripley Town Hall

Board Members Present: Jeff Lewis, President; Adam Fjeld, Vice President; Jeanne Lindholm, Treasurer; Judy Swanburg, Secretary; Mike Valentine, Rick Pederson, LID.

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Lewis at 9:30. After the pledge of allegiance, Jeff introduced Mr. Rob Haberman from the DNR. Mr. Haberman discussed the rules for bow fishermen. They are required to be licensed, they need to be 150 feet from occupied buildings and are authorized to take rough fish such as carp, suckers and dogfish. As the sport becomes more popular, many boats are upgrading to LED lights which are brighter. Adam Fjeld will post the web site for DNR regulations and contact phone numbers.

Ron and Michelle Duy from Central Minnesota Aquatics were introduced. Weed treatments, DNR permits, and restrictions for swimming and fishing were discussed. Turf watering has a one day restriction. This year the orange signs for the swimmer's itch treatment are on stakes. These signs should be placed on shore by the dock so that it can easily be seen from the water. Central MN Aquatics will be mailing out green stickers for the sago pond treatment. It was suggested we use a 5 gallon pail filled partially with water to be put on the end of the dock facing toward the lake. Affix the green sticker to this pail. These need to be placed by July 16th.

Mike Valentine gave a LID update. He also had handouts from the county for those interested. We will be having 3 groups and a team of college students from CLC doing stream monitoring and clarifying of nutrient ingredients. In the future, this data will be used to help develop a plan and strategy for long-term water quality improvement.

Rick Pederson presented a LID finance update:

Balance as of January 1, 2017: \$61,921.98

Expenses:

State admin fee	\$250.00
RMB environmental testing	\$210.00
MN County Trust Insurance	\$1392.00
DNR permit	\$2500.00
Central MN Aquatics:	\$14,900.00

Income:

Final County assessments from 2016:	\$632.10
Insurance refund	\$254.00

Balance to Date, June 3, 2017: \$43,556.08

Secretary's Report:

Motion was made by Jeff Lewis, seconded by Pat Altrichter to approve the Fall 2016 minutes as printed in the Association newsletter. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:

CD Milfoil Account Balance as of May 31, 2017:	\$2952.72 (includes \$.74 interest)
CD #2 Balance as of May 31, 2017	\$7088.09 (plus \$2.08 interest at 07.31.17 maturity)
Checking Balance as of June 2, 2017:	\$9832.28

Expenses since the fall treasurer's report:

- Food for fall brunch \$139.87
- St Mathias rental \$100.00
- PO Box rental \$50.00
- LARA (Lakes and Rivers Alliance) \$50.00

Motion moved and seconded to approve the report as presented. Motion approved.

Joyce Grant reported that the fall meeting will be at the St Mathias Community Center with a breakfast brunch being served at 9:00 with the meeting following. JoAnn Lewis will be in charge. King's Ransom will be playing at the point again this year on Sunday the 2nd. Donations will be accepted. The 4.4 walk, run, will be on the 4th starting at 8:30.

Adam Fjeld spoke about the CWLA website: www.crowwinglake.org. Dues can be paid on-line and a resident lake map can also be found there. We have 2 Facebook pages. The public page is [crowwinglakeassoc/fb](https://www.facebook.com/crowwinglakeassoc/fb). There is also a private Facebook page for lake residents (and their families) **Crow Wing Lake Community**. He encouraged its use—log into Facebook and search!

Announcements:

- Jeff Lewis reminded us that everyone riding in a boat needs a life jacket that fits. There also must be an accessible throw ring life preserver/seat cushion.
- Margaret Kochmann has t-shirts with the lake logo for sale. Rick Pederson sells his lake topography signs.
- Drawings were held. Thank you to Rick Pederson and Ron and Michelle Duy for donating the prizes for the drawings.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Swanburg, Secretary



CROW WING LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 27, 2016

The meeting was called to order by LID President Mike Valentine.

Minutes: Because the Minutes of the August 26, 2015 were published and previously distributed, by general consent the reading of the minutes was waived.

Election of Officers: Because of the retirement of Lyle Bourdon, the Secretary/Treasurer, ballots were distributed via newsletter to all LID members, with additional ballots available at the meeting.

As a result of these ballots:

- Rick Pederson, LID Board Member at Large, accepted the position of Secretary/Treasurer.
- Randy Bunney was elected to LID Board Member at Large. He introduced himself to the membership and outlined his vision for improving Crow Wing Lake.
- A brief ceremony was held honoring retiring Secretary/Treasurer Lyle Bourdon for his many years of dedicated service to Crow Wing Lake.

Rick Pederson presented a summary of the 2016 expenditures and revenues and outlined anticipated 2017 expenses. These are as follows:

2016 Financial Summary

January 1 2016 Balance	\$59,908.57
Deposits	\$20,570.25

Expenses

County Admin Fee	\$250
Mn County Intergov Trust	\$1,598 (insurance)
Contractor Weed Treatment	\$14,900
DNR Permit	\$2,500
Contractor Swimmers Itch	\$3,638
Contractor Weed Treatment	\$7,573.50
Total Expenditures	\$30,459.50

Predicted LID Expenses in 2017	
County Admin Fee	\$250
MN County Intergov Trust	\$1,700 (insurance)
Contractor Weed Treatment	\$15,000
DNR Permit	\$3,000
Contractor Swimmers Itch	\$3,700
Contractor Weed Treatment	\$7,700
Total Projected Expenditures	\$31,350

Balance as of 8-1-16 \$50,019.32

As a share per property owner, 145 in 2016, this projected budget equals \$216.21 per owner. There was discussion concerning the assessment for each property owner. Because of the projected increases in expenses, a motion was made and seconded to have an assessment of \$215 to each property owner for 2017. After additional discussion during which the membership was reminded of our already sufficient LID balance, this motion was not passed.

A new motion was then made, seconded and subsequently approved to maintain the assessment at \$210 per property owner.

(2016 LID Minutes Con't)

- After discussion about various treatments to control excess and/or nuisance vegetation, it was pointed out that the Minnesota Pollution Control agency has already studied the area watershed and had information on sources of excess nutrients which contributes to our vegetation problems.
- Kent Montgomery, from the Central Lakes College, shared with the membership their data from 3 years of sampling water quality in Crow Wing Lake. This information will be accessible from our web-site, including details on how and when samplings are made and the linkages between various levels of nutrients and plant/fish growth in the lake. Generally, he suggested that nutrient in-flow be better managed at the Lennox Road site and the ditch on the east side of the lake. This will require reaching out to other agencies and landowners. The Soil and Water Conservation District would be a good partner in these activities.
- Mike Valentine outlined that the LID would stay in touch with and pursue partnerships with all relevant organizations that may help us in our goal of improving water quality in Crow Wing Lake.
- Mike also observed that there had been a limited presence of watercraft inspectors at the public landing this summer. Their role is to inspect boats coming and going at the landing for invasive species and to educate the public on how to stop the spread of these invasive species.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the 2016 Fall LID meeting.

Submitted by Rick Pederson, Secretary/Treasurer, Crow Wing Lake Improvement District



Thank you to the Stadum's, King's Ransom and all who made the 4th of July a BLAST!

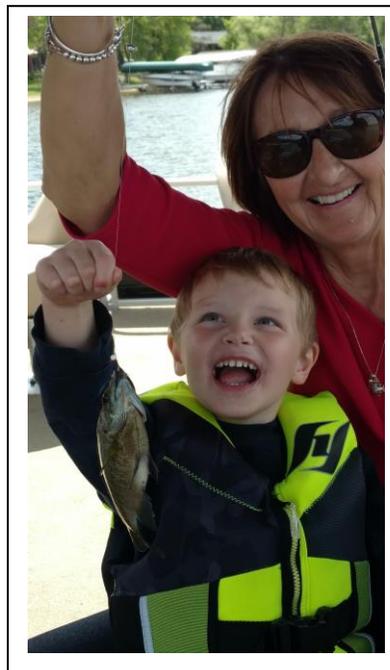
Fall 2017 Crow Wing Lake LID Update: Water monitoring and Watershed Management

By Michael Valentine

This summer has been another active time for water and watershed studies on and around Crow Wing Lake. Our local lake volunteers have sampled water quality, water clarity and for zebra mussel veligers all summer long. Our data has been submitted to the County and to MPCA by RMB Labs. Central Lakes College (Kent Montgomery) has continued its 3-year monitoring program. And MPCA has been studying the upstream watershed this summer. Unfortunately, we have limited results from these studies as of the writing of this update. I have invited Kent Montgomery (CLC) and Bonnie Finnerty (MPCA) to attend our fall meeting, but neither have confirmed yet. We do have interim results from the MPCA, but no update yet from CLC. We will have copies of the MPCA data at the fall meeting. All of the results we receive will be shared on our Facebook page or other means, as appropriate, when we receive them.

According to the MPCA findings, Crow Wing Lake still exceeds target levels for total phosphorus; but, the trend is improving. Meanwhile, there is other evidence of better water quality. Fishing activity this summer has been extraordinary. Walleye and bass fishing has been especially strong on the east side of the lake. (Don't tell anyone, we want to keep it a secret!)

Lastly, I want to remind folks that there is an enormous collection of information about Crow Wing Lake that is posted on various internet sites. In particular, I suggest that you take a look at the MPCA web site: www.pca.state.mn.us/; the DNR website: www.dnr.state.mn.us; the Crow Wing County site: <http://crowwing.us/>; and RMB Labs, Inc.: www.rmbel.info/. Refer to the code number 18-0155-00 for our Crow Wing Lake.



Just like in the "good old days!"



**Check out the CWL
interactive map!**

www.crowwinglake.org

Meet your Area Reps:

Area 1; Pat Altrichter

Area 2: Lyle Bourdon

Area 3: Jeanne Lindholm

Area 4: Joyce Grant

Area 5: Jeff/Joanne Lewis

Area 6: Rick Pederson

Area 7: Chad Stadum

Area 8: Judy Swanburg

Area 9: Adam Fjeld

**You can still support YOUR
Lake Association by paying
your \$15 dues**

Dues may be paid at the Fall Meeting, on-line or mailed with the registration form to:

CWLA
PO Box 136,
Brainerd, MN 56401
ONLY \$15.00

CROW WING LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The 3 Year term of our 5 current LID Board of Directors is expiring. To be in compliance with state statute and county policy, we must ask membership to vote by secret ballot for our LID officers for the term 2017-2020. **We welcome other nominations, so please submit nominations to crowwinglake@gmail.com** If you are unable to attend our annual meeting on August 26, please mail your ballot to us at PO Box 136, Brainerd, MN 56401

Thank you to retiring directors, Randy Bunney and Pat Altrichter

August 2017 Board of Directors Ballot Crow Wing Lake Improvement District (LID)

_____	Mike Valentine, President	_____	Rick Pederson, Sec't/Treasurer
_____	David Hermerding, Past CWLA President	_____	Lyle Bourdon, At-Large
_____	Kristine Altrichter, At-Large		

Write in Candidate: _____

You may bring the ballot in person to the Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 26, 2017, or we'll have ballots available at the meeting. If you are unable to attend the Annual Fall Meeting, please mail this ballot to:

Crow Wing Lake Assn/LID
PO Box 136
Brainerd, MN 56401

NOTE: Mailed ballot must be received prior to Friday, August 25, 2017 to be counted.

Meet our candidates:

- **Mike Valentine:** 3rd generation lake resident for 61 years. Recently retired from environmental consulting.
- **Rick Pederson:** Lake resident since 1999. Recently retired; has served CWLA in numerous leadership roles.
- **David Hermerding:** Lake resident for 11 years. Past CWLA president. Kathleen and I have 6 kids...love this lake!
- **Lyle Bourdon:** Lake resident since 1960. Retired banker; has served CWLA in numerous leadership roles.
- **Kristine Altrichter:** Lake resident for 5 years. NDSU grad student, studying natural resources management.

What is the difference between our Lake Association and our Lake LID?

The Crow Wing Lake Association has existed for MANY years (who can tell us how many? 1970's??) and works to serve its members, advocate for lake water quality and all around safety of its residents. Membership in the Association is voluntary and your \$15 annual dues help support our newsletter, and a number of social lake activities. We meet as a group twice a year, which offers its members an opportunity to get to know lake neighbors. Before the establishment of our LID, the Association engaged in much important work to improve the CWL neighborhood. We worked hard to see that property septic systems were all up to code; we campaigned for establishing an emergency fund to help control the invasion of invasive species. Over time, we have advocated for paved roads in our township; encouraged lake shore restoration grants; we've sponsored neighborhood garage sales, boat parades, community breakfast meetings, and always are promoting safe boating, biking, driving and hiking. Ultimately it was the Association that began the process of establishing our current Lake Improvement District, (LID) which now is the organization that works specifically on water quality and lake improvement issues.

The Crow Wing Lake Improvement District (LID) was established in September, 2006 and is separate from the Association, but we work together to advocate for the lake. A LID is a local governmental unit, which allows for greater local involvement in lake management issues. Our LID is managed by our own board of directors, who propose the annual budget, set lake improvement goals, collaborate with other governmental agencies, and implement the projects related to lake improvement. We dedicate the bulk of our LID funds to vegetation control. These projects are funded by the annual assessment fee, set at our fall annual meeting by lake residents.

CWLA publishes two newsletters a year and will send occasional, informative email notices out to those who share their email address with us. We have a great website with many photos, lake history, and informative related links. We share photos and events via our public Facebook Page and our private Crow Wing Lake Community Facebook page. We encourage you to become involved and join in the effort to keep Crow Wing Lake the best little corner of our world! Please check out the website and LIKE our FACEBOOK pages. PLEASE GET INVOLVED! We always are looking to engage lake residents in our volunteer efforts!

AND IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SUPPORT THE CWLA WITH YOUR PAYMENT OF THE 2017 ANNUAL \$15 DUES.

You may mail your dues to CWLA, PO Box 136, Brainerd MN 56401 or pay them on-line at www.crowwinglake.org
Or better yet, come to our August 26th complimentary brunch and annual LID meeting at the St. Mathias Community Center...you can join then!

www.crowwinglake.org



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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1754840094758076/>