

ESLA BOARD MEETING Minutes. DRAFT
May 15, 2025

Meeting called to order at 9 AM by President, George Seifried

Board Members Present:

George Seifried	Phil Spangenberg	Deanna Seifried	Jan Garvey (by Phone)
Ken Krentz	Ruth Bay	Mary Beth Kazanski	Bob Campbell
Steve Francis	Bob Reider	Beth Wiesenauer	Nancy Covington Schreiber
Bob McCririe			

Absent Board Members:

<u>John Spevacek</u>	<u>Dean Ginther</u>	<u>Andrew Hogarth</u>	
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Support Staff Present

Samantha Ogle, Michael Ogle

Guests/Potential future board members attended – Dennis Reese-Zone C, John Reid- Zone A (by phone).

Agenda Items are in Blue – Agenda Reviewed – no changes requested
Notes from the meeting are in black

Action items in Red

George Introduced Guests – potential for future board members- Dennis and John
(Lisa Layer is no longer interested in joining the board)

Approval of minutes April 17, 2025 board meeting, motion by Bob, Mary Beth seconded - approved

Treasurer's report - Phil reviewed April 30 report (see email summary)- Motion to approve -Marybeth, second Steve, approved
No bill yet for lakeshore.

President comments - George

ESLA insurance program review is ongoing (John, Phil, Jim Parker-ret. Ins. agent)

Looking at legal /insurance needs and will make a recommendation to the board

Antrim County, lake level issues

George contacted Leslie Myers – drain commissioner and dam/water level facilitator

Received letter in March from Clam lake residents on high water /flooding cause by rain and snow melt

Problem with 1 turbine (the ER dam had 4 gates for pass through originally, but there are only 2 existing slots/turbine (2 are closed off) and 1 turbine was not working. This has been repaired.

She is talking to Antrim county commissioners for money to make improvements– there is a lake Level committee (Tom Pierce/George are part of this- meeting next week) - added \$125,000 for improvement in spillways (in 1974 lake levels were established, the county established a special assessments district).

Counties involved: Kalkaska, Antrim, Grand Traverse– may include some of Charlevoix county.

Bellaire dam is working on improvements- county asked for some funds – letter of support provide by George- but this was denied since engineering plans weren't far enough along.

Milton township sent a letter out about dock length and shoreline buffers – reviewing shoreline buffers to be more specific on trees and site on shoreline

Elk rapids overflow facility is working on improvements

Tip of the Mitt is having a meeting June 12- in Petoskey to hear what other lake organizations are doing.

ACTION: Send GEORGE an email of you want information to attend

Zone meetings have been scheduled.

Bouys have been placed in the Torch river – Pat Pierce is still looking for a couple missing ones

75 meeting prep-- finalizing agenda/Guests – need to accomplish some required business at this meeting.

ACTION: Please review ESLA website and ESLA facebook, and hit like on things

Committee updates:

Government Relationships covered in President's comments above

Membership - Deanna

A newsletter was sent out – Bob/Dean and Michael– thanks for the effort on this

Email sent 236 members who have not contributed in 3 years (100 are slip people)– 57% open rate but didn't generate any payments

Packets are ready for new members.

Action: Deanna needs help with membership – maybe a committee?

Action: Let Deanne know how many new member packets you want for your zone

Action: Send note to Michael if you have people/emails to add/update to the database

Business supporters & Bloomerang challenges- George

George sent list of 2024/25 business contributors –

Action: board members to review list and if you use the companies, thank them for being member. If you do not see a business on the list, ask why they are not a member if you interact with them.

Action: Nancy will create a business contributor poster for the 75th anniversary

Environmental- Jan, Sam – 2025 plans – see report sent

Spencer creek – tribe has offered to fund sampling – start in June
QA program plan being built.

Spring sampling in a couple weeks – plankton

Will get pictures of fish shelters

Looking for Algee – south of Elk lake and – none found.

Going to try to drone/map the rapid river for Curly leaf.

Aquatic plant - John Reid – determining the plan

Road end surveys will be completed – looks for erosion

Lake learning tours dates are set-sign up through website- **Motion to set \$10 as charge – Mary Beth, Bob second -approved.**

ACTION: take new member packets onboard to hand out to potential new members

Elk Rapids Shoreline Committee meetings – Spicer group to do work in elk river

Elk rapids news – 75 anniversary notice going out

Mary Beth – a neighbor's daughter is starting at NMC freshwater studying – may want to help Sam as a summer volunteer

Fish shelters – gets the most interest on Facebook – should there be an update on Fish Shelters in the future shore meetings?

ACTION: Any ideas to add/update facebook, let Sam know

Recreation & Safety- Bob M., John

Last Shore thing – safety topic went well – a feedback from Nancy is it went too long

Working on dates for boat inspections by coast guard, will be 4 of them – free at ER Marina- Marina will put safety equipment on sale that day

2 bouys in elk river ready to go

Riverstreet nights all set – purchased a tent and table wrap for ESLA –have hats and totes to sell.

July 23 is lakes and streams night- **ELSA and Marina will be featured that night. Looking for ideas for what ESLA can have to display**

Action – need 3-4 people to volunteer each night (5pm-9). Bob will send out a sign up list.

Torch River Islands & boat ramp dredging- John

Signs were posted, surveys done

Surveys done to identify private property and sheriff prepared, will prosecute

Fisheries- Ken

Brown trout planted in Elk lake (40,000), fins clipped in 1 day – video on facebook

Posted instructions at boat launches for fisherman to report (30+ locations in lakes), also on facebook

There was a 6 year plan – but Heather got it extended for 10 more years.

Biggest bass recorded in MI in a tournament (8 lbs) caught last year was in Elk Lake.

Communications - Bob C.

Production/distribution plans for “75 Years of Stewardship” doc. – Edited

Sent out email newsletter blast (mentioned above)

Need to get others to help capture video/pictures of different events

Will get printed copies of the March Newsletter to zone captains for distribution – these are also in the new member packets.

Updates on ERCOL, Rugg Pond -Mary Beth

New grass river nature area director appointed Emma Fitzgerald
State of MI EGLE gave \$1 mill for Kalkaska for removal of the Rugg pond dam.

75th anniversary update- George, Ruth

Ruth/Nancy working on decorations and food plans, 4 volunteers are identified for drinks, 3 for buffet.

George sent out the agenda draft – confirming speakers and topics, suggestion to recognize past people with major involvement

Bob C. to get with Shorts to provide beer and cider

Bob Kingon to check with Village Market for Wine

Dean / Sam/ Michael to create video

ACTION: Need volunteers for set up and take down.

Wednesday on River Street booth- Bob M. covered above

TC Horse Show promotion & ESLA responsibilities- Bob M.

ESLA has Sunday July 6 to receive receipts– ESLA will advertise all week but will only need to have a table on July 6

ACTION: Should put posters around to advertise in ER, etc.

ACTION: Need a short video for them to put on their ‘jumbo tron’ – could use something from the 75th anniversary video, and some go pro footage from Sam- need volunteer

New Business

Bob – Whitewater historian – Skegemog point – has a map w chain of lakes and homeowners 1963 fold out- could use for 75th display.

Motion to end regular board meeting, Steve, Mary Beth second – approved

Board went into Private session

Meeting adjourned 11: 15 AM

Next meeting- **Thursday, June 19, 2025, 9AM in person at ER Police Station 321 Bridge St.**

ESLA Board meeting May 15, 2025 - minutes submitted by Beth Wiesenauer, Board Member Zone C