

**GENEVA LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (GLEA)
WILLIAMS BAY, WISCONSIN**
The monthly business meeting of the GLEA will be held in Room 108,
in Lowrey Hall on the campus of George Williams College of Aurora University
350 Constance Blvd., Williams Bay, WI 53191.

Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 6:30 pm.

Minutes

Members/ Staff Present: P. Kenny (Virtual) & R. Pappas (Village of Fontana), M.J. Fesenmaier (City of Lake Geneva), J. Weiss (Virtual) (Town of Linn), A. Rasch (Town of Walworth), L. Lundberg & R. Umans (Village of Williams Bay), J. Schmidt (Director), A. Townsend (Admin. Asst.), T. Jochman (Attorney).

Guest Present: D. Malmin, T. Dunn, K. Lieth, C. Colman, J. Happ, & W. Huck.

Members Absent: T. O'Neill (City of Lake Geneva), D. Rasmussen (Attorney), T. Peters (Consultant).

GLEA Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Vice Chairman M.J. Fesenmaier.

Roll Call

General Business:

Public Comments

C. Colman

1. **Motion by R. Umans to approve March 9, 2023. Seconded by R. Pappas. CU.**
2. Monthly Review Items:
 - a. **Motion to approve March 9, 2023, Income Statement by R. Umans. Seconded by R. Pappas. CU.**
 - b. **Motion to approve March 9, 2023, Balance Sheet by R. Umans. Seconded M.J. Fesenmaier. CU.**
 - c. Bookkeeper's March 2023 Disbursement Report was made available for review.
 - d. Bookkeeper's ongoing Donation Report was made available for review.
 - e. Action on Staff Report:
 - **Motion to approve Director's report for March – April 2023 by R. Umans. Seconded by R. Pappas. CU.**

Possible action on the following business.

1. Water Quality/AIS

- a) Water Alliance
C. Colman, Co-Chair of the Water Alliance, discussed a funding request to help with the Lake Management Plan.
- b) Discussion Geneva Lake Management Plan.
Director J. Schmidt should develop a strategic plan for lake management.
- c) Funding Structure District/Commission
Director J. Schmidt reported how expensive lake management has gotten. Yet, the municipalities have only increased funding to this agency by \$25,000 since 1970. However, the agency is still expected to manage the state's wealthiest and 3rd largest inland lake. Yet the board expects one full-time staff person, Director J. Schmidt, to be able to do all the science with this type of funding and is expected to fundraise half of the agency's budget. The current structure of the GLEA is not sustainable, and other options should be explored by the Board. **No action was taken by the GLEA Board.**
- d) GLEA involvement in Lake Management Plan
GLEA will conduct the docked and moored boat count. The GLEA will fund the PI Survey and Nearshore Fish Survey.
- e) Local AIS Ordinances Chapter 30- Update
It is in various stages throughout the local municipalities. It has been presented to the Walworth County Land Use and Resource Committee to be adopted at the county level. Walworth County LURM Staff has been asked to contact Lake Districts for feedback on this proposed ordinance before moving forward.
- f) Potential Wakeboard Ordinance
AIS is a big concern in transient wake boats due to ballast water; another concern is that the downward draft or wake wash has great potential to cause harm to the overall health of the littoral zone. SSW is spreading to the deeper water, and the GLEA plans to work with SEWPRC to see if Wake Boat's downward draft is playing a factor in furthering the

spread of SSW. If we can provide enough evidence that this is causing the furthering of the spread of SSW, several possible actions could be taken via ordinance.

2. Grants

- a) AIS Prevention 4 CD3 Units- Update
The units have not shipped yet. We are currently waiting for an answer about when they will arrive from the Manufacturer.
- b) Environmental Educational Foundation Career Day Grant
The EEF would like to work with the GLEA on Career Day Grant. **Motion for the EEF to fund and the GLEA to facilitate the Career Day made by R. Pappas. Seconded By R. Umans. CU.**
- c) DNR, Fontana Elementary School, Lake Project
The GLEA Director met with our Local DNR Conservation Warden and Fontana School District Administrator about developing a partnership for hands-on experience for students. This could be in the form of Groundwater Monitoring or tributary stream testing, or macroinvertebrate sampling of Van Slyke Creek. **The Board has asked that the Director bring additional information to the board before moving forward.**
- d) Gage Marine 150th Anniversary Grant
GLEA submitted a grant application to Gage Marine for a boat to help cover the cost of the PI survey. We will find out about the grant sometime in May.
- e) Cost share CBCW- Update
The City of Lake Geneva, Williams Bay, and Fontana will hire their own CBCW inspectors. The GLEA will staff the Town of Linn launches. GLEA is working with Walworth County to set up CBCW training.

3. Staffing

- a) Intern
Alyson W will be joining us again this year as our intern.
- b) CBCW Inspector
L. Burchard has been hired to do CBCW for the Town of Linn Launches.

4. Projects/Equipment

- a) GLEA Boat
Gordy's Marine looked over the 1977 Mako 19 and found the transom to be soft. They recommended not purchasing this boat; they estimated the repair cost to be \$7,000-\$12,000. I have a lead on another boat. It is an 18-20-foot flat-bottom Jon boat, not ideal for Geneva, but it would be fully donated to the agency. I am making arrangements with the owner to look at it. I am also working with Austin Pier Service on the pier extension and shore station.
- b) Mobile CD3 Unit
At the Water Alliance Meeting, it was mentioned that the Mobile unit should be used in conjunction with the roadside units. No one has contacted GLEA directly. J. Happ asked if the GLEA would like to use the unit again this summer. **The GLEA Board did not take any formal action at this time to operate the mobile unit for this summer.**
- c) Boat Count
The GLEA will conduct our normal annual Docked and Moored Count, and the GLC will utilize drones and aerials count at various times throughout the summer.
- d) Near Shore Fish Survey
This survey will be conducted between the last two weeks of July and the first two weeks of August.
- e) PI Survey Utilizing an ROV
The GLEA would like to work with the Fontana Fire Department by utilizing their ROV for monitoring SSW populations and looking at wake wash impacts on SSW in hopes of possibly developing a potential ordinance.
- f) DuPage County Forest Preserve District- mussel hatchery tour
The GLEA Director was joined by staff from SEWRPC, USFWS, DNR Lakes Biologist, and various biologists throughout the state. I have been investigating federal grant opportunities to build a facility like this for Bigfoot Creek. J. Happ expressed concerns about reintroducing mussels into Geneva Lake tributaries and questioned J. Schmidt about what watershed Geneva Lake is in; J. Schmidt explained that Geneva Lake is part of the Nippersink/ Fox River Watershed. The GLEA Board thanked J. Schmidt for investigating this as a solution for Bigfoot Creek.

5. Marketing/Fundraising/Events/Conferences

- a) Website
Admin. Asst. and the Director have been working on keeping the website updated. Looking into a .gov web address for more credibility with lake management efforts.
- b) Social Media
Social Media upkeep has been a struggle. I am looking forward to Alyson being back.
- c) CD3 Stationary Signs/Vehicle Magnetics
Working with Sass Graphics to develop signs for the CD3 Units and vehicle magnets to be more visible with our fieldwork and lake management efforts.
- d) Wisconsin Lakes Convention

The Director attended the Wisconsin Lake Convention and learned about new monitoring equipment and some additional grant opportunities for additional funding.

e) Southeastern Wisconsin Lakes Forum

The Southeastern Wisconsin Lakes Forum will specifically focus on SE WI lakes and will take place on May 19 at the UWM School of Freshwater Sciences, Harbor Campus. The GLEA will be presenting the Local Chapter 30 AIS ordinance.

f) Advanced Lake Leaders

In September/October, an advanced lake leader session will examine erosion control methods along the Mississippi River in the Lacrosse area. J. Schmidt would like to attend this session if time and budget allow.

g) GLEA Newsletter Board Members Bio

The Director and Admin. Asst. are working on developing a new quarterly newsletter. Would like each board member to write a short bio about themselves for the public to learn more about the board members for the newsletter or our website.

h) Annual Mailing

Admin. Asst. is currently working on the Annual mailing. It will be mailed out in June.

6. Office

a) Lease/ Office Space

No new updates at this time.

b) Meeting Location

Holiday Home Camp has offered us free meeting space at the Camp. **Tabled until next meeting.**

7. Budget

a) Option 1

As requested by the board, The budget has been redrafted in the areas of concern.

b) Approval of Budget

Motion to approve the budget with adjusting the room rental amount and removing the grant from Gage Marine by R. Pappas. Seconded by R. Umans. CU.

8. Technology/Equipment

a) IT Consultant

This is a priority project. J. Schmidt is working on enrolling in the agency in the Government Service Administration system. This will allow us to utilize already negotiated contracts.

9. Board Elections Discussion

Board Elections will be happening in May. J. Lovell has resigned from the GLEA board, and A. Rasch has been appointed by the Town of Walworth. Board appointments will not be official until May.

10. Municipalities Updates and Reports

a) City of Lake Geneva – no updates.

b) Town of Linn – no updates.

c) Village of Fontana – no updates.

d) Village of Williams Bay

1. HWY 67 update – used filtering bags.

2. Dredging - SW Creek will be done with dewatering filtering bags.

e) Town of Walworth

Shodeen Development – proposal of homes and a hotel.

11. New/ Other business items

DNR stocked 1,200 muskies in Geneva Lake.

12. Next Meeting Date

a) May 25, 2023

Motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm by R. Umans. Seconded M.J. Fesenmaier. CU.

Dated May 2, 2023. Upon approval, posted at the GLEA office and website <https://www.gleawi.org/>.

These minutes were recorded and transcribed by Jacob Schmidt, Director. Aimee Townsend, Admin. Asst.

Approved 6/15/2023