



Minutes of Meeting Monday, March 17, 2025 | 10 - 11:30 a.m. CT

Present: Margaret Vos, Chair, east Mille Lacs; Jake Janski, CoChair, Chair ML SWCD; John Pearson, south Mille Lacs; Pat Murphy, Pres. ACLARA; Ann Brucciani Lyon, Keep It Clean, MLACF; Perry Bunting, Dir Environmental Programs, MLBO; Dick Weber, Big Pine Lake; Ellie Jonig, Aitkin SWCD, Watershed and Wetland Specialist; Bob Janzen, Supervisor, Aitkin SWCD; Dianne Jacobsen, Supervisor Crow Wing SWCD; Marie, Clear Lake; Aaron Schultz, Climate Change Fisheries Biologist; Bonnie Goshey, MPCA; Greg Berg, DNR Fisheries Supervisor, ML Lake; Todd Haas, Camp Lake Association.

1. Welcome and Introductions -

2. Approval of the Agenda – Approved as sent.

3. Approval of 2/10/25 Meeting Minutes: Add Ellie Jonig. M. Ann 2nd Jake Approved as corrected.

4. Financial Report: \$1000 grant received from MLCV. HLHL budget will be adjusted pending Blaze request. See Attachment 1. M. Jake 2nd Ann Approved.

5. Organization

6. 2025 Healthy Land, Healthy Lake Expo

- Press release done. Layout done. ML Messenger notified. Facebook posts rolling on MLLWG and MLACF, please like and share. 4 Birdhouses ordered from Isle school. John completed draft Flyer. 20 presenters and guest speakers scheduled. Free Lake Country Journal subscription pending. Tulibee's ready to go. Need follow-up meeting for budget planning after final grant received.
- Birdhouse orders maximum is 30. Ann to followup with Isle to do order deadline.
- Budget: Pending Blaze grant notice 1 April. Ann notes we found our Flags, Pat has them. Margaret notes we received donation from Dick Weber for \$250. Thank you very much.
- Projected participants: Est. 100, but with new venue, format unknown.
- Outreach to Commissioners and Legislatures: Reminders needed. Pat invited Commissioner Leiviska who is proposing changes to shoreland regulations. Barb has invited others. Dianne is communicating with Crow Wing.
- Plant sale, MNL: No orders yet. Jake will bring examples of kits. Jake can take on-site orders. Need more visible link on MNL: Go to on-line shop, specials and events, HLHL. Deadline for plant order is April 27. <https://mnlcorp.com/product/mlwlg-preorder/> Or If folks go to MNL's website and type MLLWG in the search field, it take them right to the order form.
- On-site Fundraising option(s) (John): To committee agenda. Finalize April 25 in person meeting.

7. Continuing Projects and Activities

- Mille Lacs Compass Program : Jake notes south Mille Lacs project, DIY projects. Need additional landowners for projects. Funds are remaining. Shoreline restoration work, well sealing, forest stewardship plans. Well testing for nitrates April 7-11 throughout the watershed.
- Rum River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Jake): Mille Lacs SWCD website, Rum River Watershed has resources for public use. Events coming up. Is funded via Legacy funds every 2 years. Aaron notes funds are available via MLBO from GLFW, Great Lakes

Partnership. Projects funded \$20,000-\$30,000.

- Dakota County SWCD has good video on shoreland conservation. Also series of classes on native plants. Ann send Jake link.
- Get the Lead Out (John): Will be at HLHL.
- Lake clean-up efforts (Ann)
 - Keep It Clean and Clean Up the Lake: KIC Campaign 34,000 impressions via pop up ads. Waiting on demographics. Ann and Eddy Lyback did interview with Bret Amundsen, Prairie Sportsmen TV and Sporting Journal. Included KIC and Clean Up the Lake. Comes out end of April/May. Fund raising for '25-26 starts. Businesses around the lake and bait/fish house rentals use banners. KIC stickers, lanyards are popular. Media coverage is high.
 - DNR Parks and Trails controls public accesses which would be good place for KIC signage. Greg to email POC Carrie Hall to Ann.
 - Todd notes: Camp Lake has put out KIC information, they've been cleaning up fireworks debris
 - Legislature: Bill is in Environmental Committee. If it continues, the DNR will take pressure off the 4 volunteers who are managing the KIC program statewide.
 - Mille Lacs Trash Tracker: Donation request to MLCV done, to Garrison Commercial Club, and Isle Lions Club. Still need \$3400. Pat notes fundraising is needed, labor intensive, and tough. Pat to send donations envelope to Dick/others for ideas.
 - Adopt-a-Drain program is statewide plus other states. ML Trash Tracker is based on this. Cross promotion is possible.
 - Trash Boom Collector: No additional info.

8. New Business and Open Discussion:

- Please check out these free webinars from Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership.
<https://midwestglaciallakes.org/resources/webinars/> This one caught my eye. April 8 In the weeds: A closer look at interactions between fish and aquatic plants in the Upper Midwest Zach Feiner and Robert Davis [Register](#)

9. Plan for April 25 in-person meeting:

- 1-4:30 pm, Wahkon Community Center.
 - Time for walk about at Tulibee's.
 - End of year review with look forward to future.
 - Discussion of legislative activities. Individuals can do whatever, however we need to discuss how we act as a group. Pat notes it's important to keep officials aware of the Group.
 - Discuss fund raising campaign. Pat notes November is the giving month.
 - Nonprofit status. June/July topic.
 - Molly Clyne overview of Mille Lacs potential funding. Jake to follow up.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Eller

Sec/Treas, MLLWG

Attachment 1. Financial Report

MLLWMG Financial Report March 2025		Budget Balance	Spent Previous Periods	Income	Spent This Period	Current Balance
DATE	MLLWMG FUNDS INCOME					
1-Mar	Balance Forward		\$794.36			\$1,254.64
	Donation, Weber for HLHL			\$250.00		
31-Dec	Savings Interest			\$0.09		
	Subtotal	\$-	\$794.36	\$250.09	\$-	\$1,504.73
	EXPENSES PROJECTED THIS PERIOD					
	Keep it CleanTrash Tracker Website	100.00				
	2025 Website	450.00				
	Subtotal:	550.00				
	BALANCE AFTER PROJECTED EXPENSES:					\$954.73
	03/10/25					\$794.59
	Blaze Share/Savings Account03/10/2025					\$710.14
	BALANCE:					\$1,504.73
		Expense	Income			
	Update 03/04/2025					
03/04/25	Confirmed MLCV Grant		\$1,000.00			
	MLLWG Gen Operating Funds		\$46.00			
03/03/25	Weber Donation		\$250.00			
03/04/25	Requested Blaze Community Giving Programs		\$1,300.00			
03/04/25	Projected Fiscal Agent Expense	230.00				
	Marketing & Promotion(social media, website, radio, print)	\$1,500.00				
	MLLWMG Website/Social Media Consultant	\$500.00				
	Host venue rental Tulibee's	\$300.00				
	Coffee, donuts, snacks	\$60.00				
	TOTAL:	\$2,360.00	\$2,596.00		236 +/-budget	
	Projected Volunteer time HLHL '25		Hours			
	Write and update website		3			
	Create and post ads on Facebook		4			
	Write and send email invitations to regular email list		2			
	Create and submit ad to Mille Lacs Messenger		4			
	Write, submit, and follow up press releases to Mille Lacs Messenger, Aitkin Age, Brainerd Dispatch, and NewsHopper		4			
	Write and design flyers		2			
	Mille Lacs, Aitkin, Crow Wing SWCD Supervisors		9			
	MLLWMG member volunteers, site & coordination		30			
	Total hrs.		58			
	36.31/hr Minnesota rate 2024		\$2,105.98			
	Minnesota Volunteer Rate: \$36.31 Independent Sector					