



**Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Group**  
*Healthy Land, Healthy Lake*

**Minutes of Meeting Friday, April 25, 2025. Corrected.**  
**Wahkon Community Hall, 151 2nd Street E., Wahkon, MN 56386**

Present: Margaret Vos, Chair; Jake Janski, CoChair; Barb Eller, Sec/Treas; John Pearson, Communications; Todd Haas, Camp Lake Assoc; Dick Maroni, Isle Airport, Lion's Club; Guy Haglund, ML Compass Cheerleader; Cynthia Johnson, Platt Lake; Ann Brucianni Lyon, MLACF, Keep It Clean; Bob Janzen, Aitkin SWCD; Pat Murphy, ACLARA.

**1. Meeting called to order at 1:30 pm.**

**2. Welcome and Introductions**

**3. Agenda – Approved as listed.**

**4. 2/10/25 Meeting Minutes:** M. Guy 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Approved.

**5. Financial Report (Barb):** Updated 25 April 25. Attached. M. Jake 2<sup>nd</sup> Ann Approved.  
Reimbursed John Pearson for Website, WP Forms, and 2 months Zoom expense, total \$457.90  
Previously approved.

- Reimbursed Aitkin SWCD for payment of our domain renewal, total \$23.17. Previously approved.
- \$100 to Aitkin SWCD, fiscal agent for ML Trash Tracker project. Previously approved.
- Received invoice for MLR Member renewal, total \$125. We had just paid \$100 for membership October 2024. Margaret will talk with Jeff Forester r.e. Timing for payment.
- Balance: \$1523.75 less \$100 for payment of ML Trash Tracker done today. Includes donations for HLHL from Margaret Vos, Dick Weber, Barb Eller: Total \$750.

**6. Organization**

- 2024 annual review and annual report: John TBD July/Aug
- Fundraising opportunities and planning: Group suggests annual late fall giving cycle. Donations will be requested at HLHL, May 3.
- Political issues: Margaret as Chair will not support legislation as the MLLWG. We can provide information on an issue to our members for their individual decision and response.
- 501(c)(3) planning: (Barb and Cynthia):
  - Cost: \$345. Secretary of State registration, \$70. Articles of Incorporation per MN Statute, Chapter 317A. IRS Form 1023-EZ, application for nonprofit status, for organizations with less than \$50,000/year income, \$275.
  - Articles of Incorporation may follow, but are not the same as Bylaws. Barb recommends including the ability to assess membership dues and clarifying dissolution of assets.  
**M. Barb 2<sup>nd</sup> Cynthia to present draft articles of incorporation to the group for approval and to continue the process to achieve 501(c)(3) status.**
  - Todd notes that pursuit of a status such as a Watershed Management Organization or a Watershed District would allow taxing authority. There are Upper and Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organizations, but they do not include the northern parts of the watershed.

**7. 2025 Healthy Land, Healthy Lake Expo**

- Subcommittee update and finishing touches: FB ads are live, posts continuing, Mille Lacs Messenger ad running. John ordered pavement bases for our feather banners, thank you sign for sponsors and give-a-ways, signs for sandwich board.
- Tech support for speakers: Screen, projector, HDMI connector on stage.

- Drawings: Each participant will have their own container for entries. John will provide entry chits to all.
- Credit card contributions handling: Not at this time. See Barb's previous email r.e. PayPal account pending future approval.

#### **8. Continuing Projects and Activities**

- Mille Lacs Compass Program
- Rum River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Jake): Molly Clyne ill today. Lydia Godfrey will be at HLHL May 3.
- Get the Lead Out (John): HLHL May 3.
- Lake clean-up updates (Ann):
  - Mille Lacs Trash Tracker: Website goes live next week [MilleLacsTrashTracker.org](http://MilleLacsTrashTracker.org), Previewed the site. Based on Adopt-a-Drain program. Congrats Ann!
  - Perry Bunting is helping with the 25-26 funding for Keep It Clean campaign around the lake.
  - The debris containment boom at the mouth of the Rum River may be funded by a Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Service grant in partnership with the MLBO.

#### **9. New Business and Open Discussion**

**10. Next meeting: June 16 meeting is canceled. Next meeting July 21 via Zoom.**

**11. Meeting adjourned 3:37 pm.**

**Tulibee Tavern Expo site visit completed by Members.** Barb provided billing information to Rob Dubbs, requested table setup per diagram, and IT support for speakers if needed. He will provide complimentary coffee and water. Margaret will purchase donuts from Isle Bakery.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Eller, Sec/Treas

Attachment 1. Financial Report Update

MLLWMG Financial Report UPDATE 25 April 2025

DATE	MLLWMG FUNDS INCOME	Budget Balance	Spent Previous Periods	Income	Spent This Period	Current Balance
25-Mar	Balance Forward		\$794.36			\$1,504.73
23-Mar	Donation, Eller for HLHL			250		
04/11/25	Donation, Vos for HLHL			250		
04/25/25	Aitkin SWCD reimburse for Domain Renewal				\$23.17	
04/25/25	John Pearson, reimburse for Website, WPForms, Zoom 2 months				\$457.90	
31-Mar	Savings Interest			\$0.09		
	<b>Subtotal</b>	\$-	<b>\$794.36</b>	<b>\$500.09</b>	\$-	<b>\$1,523.75</b>

**EXPENSES PROJECTED THIS PERIOD**

Keep it Clean Trash Tracker Website	100.00
2025 Website, WPForms PlugIn, Zoom 2 mos, Domain PAID	
HLHL May 2025-includes Gen Op Funds plus \$750 donations HLHL	1,060.00
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>1,160.00</b>

**BALANCE AFTER PROJECTED EXPENSES: \$363.75**

04/25/25	\$813.52
Blaze Share/Savings Account 04/22/25	\$710.23
<b>BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$1,523.75</b>

	Expense	Income	
<b>Update 04/01/2025</b>			
03/04/25 Confirmed MLCV Grant		\$1,000.00	
MLLWG Gen Operating Funds		\$310.00	
03/03/25 Weber Donation for HLHL		\$250.00	
03/23/25 Eller Donation for HLHL		\$250.00	
04/11/25 Vos Donation for HLHL		\$250.00	
03/04/25 Projected Fiscal Agent Expense	100.00		
Marketing & Promotion (social media, website, radio, print)	\$1,200.00		
-flag stands			
-foam core signs			
-printing			
-FB boosts			
-remittance envelopes, self addressed.			
MLLWMG Website/Social Media Consultant	\$500.00		
Host venue rental Tulibee's	\$300.00		
Coffee, donuts, snacks	\$60.00		
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$2,060.00</b>	<b>\$2,060.00</b>	<b>0 +/-budget</b>