

Date: Saturday April 26th, 2025

Location: Paul's Cabin

Time: 10am-Noon

Board Members Attended: *Paul Hassing, Jane Jensen, Steve Farnham, Chip Applegath, Dennis Loots, Don Button*

Board Members Absent: *Karen Pavlicek*

Approval of 18Dec2024 BSLA Board Meeting Minutes – Chip

- Approval via board email vote. Vote unanimous by board members that attended the meeting
- Minutes were published on BSLA website & emailed to members via Mailchimp on 1/7/2025

BSLA President, Paul Hassing, called the meeting to order at 10:04 am

Agenda with Minutes:

1. Financial Update – Steve

- a. 2025 YTD: Expenses \$75, Income (Due's paid): \$346. Our account balance is at typical April levels. Contact a board member if you need more details.
- b. ½ of 2025 dues came via Venmo. We encourage payment via Venmo, fast/easy
- c. Steve applied for a debit card for our account to facilitate bills credit card payments
- d. Motion to Approve financial update: Jane, 2nd Steve. Motion passed unanimously

2. 2025 Annual Meeting & Speakers; discussion – All

- a. Date is set: Saturday July 26th for the Annual Meeting 10:00am - ~Noon
 - i. Action: Dennis will reserve the Siren Sr Center
- b. Two possible Speakers & topics:
 - i. **Paul Thompson on Invasive Hybrid Cattails.** 30 mins. Action: Chip to contact PaulT, to see if he can speak at our July meeting.
 - ii. **Amy Thiex from Burnett Co new 911 call center.** Jane, Steve and Chip toured the new 911 center. Amy's husband is a detective, she offered he can also come to talk about burglary prevention. 30 mins. Action: Jane will coordinate their attendance.
- c. Picnic – Confirmed @ Jane Jensen & Don Culbertson's home, after the Annual meeting. Address is 24750 Sand Lake Shores Trl which is on the south side of BSL.
 - i. Action: DonB has a 2nd 3 burner grill he can loan. DonC has a trailer and will pick the grill up from DonB

- ii. Action: Jane will get the food. Dennis will look for the BSLA bin with the picnic equipment and get to Jane
- 3. **BSLA “Ordinance Restricting Artificial Wake Enhancement” – Chip & Paul & Jane**
 - a. Update on Town of LaFollette ordinance discussion at their 4/14 Mtg – Jane & Chip
 - i. Chip and Jane attended the town meeting. The summary is that that town board did not vote on the draft ordinance that night due to concerns stemming from possible litigation being directed at the Town of Scott, who recently implemented a similar ordinance. They decided their next step was to hold a separate board meeting to discuss further.
 - ii. Our Action: Review of our BSLA board insurance coverage - Paul
 - iii. Paul Motioned, 2nd by Don. Paul will draft up a BSLA Board “position statement” on this topic of an ordinance. The board will review, then post the final position statement on our website and send to our membership via email. Paul also will discuss this at our Annual Members meeting in July. Vote taken: Passed Unanimous.
 - b. Summary of discussion, the BSLA board is not going to proceed to sponsor an ordinance to the Town Of Sand Lake - at this time.
- 4. **Update on two 2025 Active BSLA Projects – Chip**
 - a. **Boat Cleaning Station Sign at DNR Landing** – Chip has the sign and will be buying the wood to build the frame. He is also getting the sign amendment bumper sticker (about no Decontamination solution) made. Once the sign is ready, he will work with the DNR to get the sign installed. Target is to have sign up by June.

BSL Invasives Species Surveys – Emily Moore will get Chip an invoice for the agreed-to work. Chip will get a check from Steve to Emily. The Aquatic Invasive Species - Point Intercept Survey is planned to be done in May/June. The Shoreline (plant) survey will be done in June/July. A report will be delivered to BSLA by YE.
- 5. **Welcome Basket initiative** – No info yet. This was tabled indefinitely due to our inability to get the data needed on property sales
- 6. **Update on DNR Ramp Repair** – Jane. Dan (DNR) reported funding is still in play for the 2025 – 2027 timeframe. The project is not yet funded. We may know more about funding by August.
- 7. **Update on Geese Banding 2025** – Jane is not planning on doing this year as the DNR prefers to rotate lakes
- 8. **Spring roadside/lakeside litter clean-up** – Some of the board members will take sections of roads by their cabins and do litter pickup in May. They will take a picture of

the pile, send it to Chip and he will post them on our BSLA Facebook Group, encouraging others on the lake to do same.

9. **Update on BSLA Inlet/Outlets & work with the Yellow River Protection Conservancy (YRPC) – Don & Chip**

- a. Hwy 70 (just east of Sand Bar on 70) is the former BSL Inlet area. Don said that the culvert under 70 was installed too high and may be too small, when the state fixed a 10' dip in Hwy 70 many years ago. This halted water flowing through that area from Warner Lake, which destroyed a natural walleye spawning stream into Big Sand Lake. A visual inspection this week confirmed, even with water tables at higher spring levels, there is nearly no flow under the highway. Don said there is also a 2nd culvert west of Sand Bar also which is blocked completely.
 - i. Paul Thompson from YRPC has set up a meeting on June 4th with key BLS stakeholders to discuss further. Attending will be DNR, Tribe, Burnett County rep, BSLA, & Lafollete Town board chair.
 - ii. Chip motioned that the BSLA act as a host for this roundtable PaulT is setting up. Steve 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Invasive Hybrid Cattails at BSL Outlet into Sand Creek and possible clogged culvert under Sand Lake Road. We will tie these two items into the meeting on June 4th. Don said the Town of Sand Lake used to periodically clear the culvert ~ 10 years ago.
- c. Multiple beaver Dams on Sand Creek, preventing BSL drainage/flow was also quickly discussed.

10. **2025 July Board Member elections. 3 Due:**

- a. **Secretary** (currently: Chip, re-elected Aug 2023). Chip indicated he will run again
- b. **Treasurer** (currently: Steve, elected Aug 2023). Steve indicated he will run again
- c. **Director At Large #3** (Currently: Karen, elected Aug 2023). Chip talked to Karen and she indicated she will run again

11. **Next Board meeting set for June 7th 10am Paul's cabin**

- a. Action: Chip - Invite Paul Thompson to come to our next board meeting to discuss hybrid cattails

12. **New Topics - from around the Room – All**

- a. Don brought up new concern about the use of Road Salt on Sand Lake Road by the marsh area vs something more compatible with the lake. He said In Canada, and on the East Coast USA, using salt near lakes is banned. The next step would be to bring this up at a Town of Sand Lake Board meeting. Don will put together a paragraph or two that BSLA board will review June 7th to decide if we take the next step with Town Board of Sand Lake.

- b. Don has a scientific article he has written, which he will soon be publishing. Chip will get a copy from Don and send to the board for their awareness.

Motion to Adjourn via consensus. Meeting Adjourned at 11:35am

Reminder \$25 yearly BSLA dues can be paid by:

- Mail check Payable to: Big Sand Lake Association and mail to:
Big Sand Lake Association
PO Box 145 Siren WI 54872
- Or give check, or cash, to any board member
- Or pay via Venmo: https://account.venmo.com/u/Big_Sand_Lake_WI_Association

Respectfully submitted,

Chip Applegath

BSLA Secretary