

**Findley Lake Watershed Foundation  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
January 22, 2022**

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 am by President, Ed Mulkearn.

**Quorum:**

A quorum was declared present to conduct business.

**Present:**

Lex Brumagin, Chrissy Craffey, Marge Freund, Jeff Ireland, Lant Lictus, Ed Mulkearn, and Bill Simpkins

**Absent:**

Bill Bracken and Matt Wise

**Minutes:**

The minutes from the previous meetings of 9/18/21 electronic and 9/18/21 regular were reviewed and approved as presented.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Jeff Ireland presented the treasurer's report.

<b>**Opening Operating Balance (January 1, 2022)</b>		<b>\$ 21,563.48</b>
<b>Deposits:</b>	<b>\$ 120.15</b>	
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 1,272.05</b>	
<b>**Ending Operating Balance (January 20, 2022)</b>		<b>\$ 20,171.28</b>
*Opening Labor Account Balance		\$ 2,985.27
<b>Transfer from Operating acct:</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	
*Ending Labor Account Balance		\$ 2,985.27

- Jeff reported that he has converted the bookkeeping system to QuickBooks.
- Lex Brumagin advised that he is prepping the membership dues mailing list for distribution. He is requesting a list of any members who have already paid the current year's dues to eliminate duplication. Jeff will provide all membership forms to Lex for recordkeeping on members.

The report was accepted as presented.

**President's Report:**

- Ed Mulkearn distributed copies of the Princeton Hydro study to the board. The main recommendation is for aeration. Further discussion will take place later in the meeting.
- Ed also noted that the Town of Mina is proceeding with the prep work regarding the sewer project. The Town has hired an engineering firm to evaluate and recommend a process. The goal is to have a decision before the end of summer, 2022. Of note, there is a consol fund application due no later than June 30, 2022.

**Committee Reports:**

MEMBERSHIP:

- Lex Brumagin reported that there is one (1) paid membership unit to date for this year.
- Lex also reported that the annual membership dues letter is planned for mailing during the week of January 24, 2022.

COMMUNICATION:

- Bill Simpkins reported that he is unable to log into the current go-daddy account for the FLWF website. He is planning to call Isadex this week to obtain help with this problem.
- Bii is also doing research for change options to improve the quality of the website. He noted possible use of mail chimp for email campaigns.
- Marge Freund suggested that constant contact is a vendor also used for customer interaction.

BUILDING & GROUNDS:

- In the absence of Bill Bracken, Bill Simpkins reported that he has recently shoveled the property of the Water Wheel building. He now has lined up help to keep the deck and walkway clear. The cost will be \$20. per event. Bill will notify Jeff Ireland to pay for the services when rendered.
- Lant Lictus inquired if any additional supply of salt is needed. Bill will notify Lant as needed.
- Jeff Ireland noted that he has received the general liability renewal policy. The value on the buildings is listed as \$115K and the aggregate amount is \$1M/\$2M. Jeff will discuss the replacement cost estimates with Erie Insurance agency.
- Bill reported that Lisa Cox from the Corry YMCA has requested approval to hold a fishing tournament in the May/June timeframe at Findley Lake. The board discussed that this would be acceptable, however, suggests that it not occur on Memorial Day weekend. The tournament would be a “catch and release” event.
- The board further discussed concerns about lake access and about possible contamination from invasive species from boats launched for this event. Lex Brumagin suggested the board needs to consider installing a washing station soon for use by all boats being launched into the lake.

LAKE MANAGEMENT:

- Lant Lictus reported he has safety concerns regarding kayak navigation and their safety since there are increasing numbers of kayakers on the lake each year. Lant inquired about posting safety and navigation notices regarding kayaks on the lake. The board discussed that a recommendation of kayaks remaining within 100 feet from shore.

- The board further discussed “kayak etiquette” and the possibility of including information in the VRBO rental packets about navigation on the lake.
- Lant will also contact Sheriff Mike Williams to discuss concerns about this issue.

#### HARVESTER:

- In the absence of Matt Wise, Ed reports that the harvester is at the south end site on the lake bottom.
- Ed also reported that Paul Fellingner will likely be the lead operator for 2022. Barry is also planned as a staff member.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

##### UPDATE ON PRINCETON HYDRO STUDY

- Ed Mulkearn noted the Princeton Hydro study recommendations are primarily undertaking lakebed aeration and the use of alum. Ed noted that using alum is illegal in New York.
- Ed plans to create an ad hoc committee to research the use of aeration in other lakes and to seek possible vendors for the project. Of note, Princeton Hydro can be part of this process. Karl Kimmich is interested in participating. Chrissy Craffey will also be part of this committee.
- The goal will be to have a presentation of progress for the annual meeting in July, 2022.
- Chrissy noted that there are “prism” grants for New York state which could contribute to revenue for the project. She will do research on the prism grants relative to Findley Lake.
- Marge Freund inquired if the report can be added to the FLWF website. Bill Simpkins will handle this posting.

##### WATER WHEEL OVERLOOK BUILDING

- Ed opened discussion about the long term status and management of the Water Wheel building.
- The board discussed that the building is an “asset of the community” and exists on FLWF property. The mission of the FLWF is “stewardship of the lake.” As such, management of the water wheel building is not in the scope of the mission. When the building was constructed, the FLWF made a commitment to the donors who supported and underwrote the building to not sell the property. The use of the building, its maintenance, utilities and repairs have changed since the original construction. Default of lessees has placed the preservation and maintenance of the building under the FLWF.
- Annual donations from local businesses help to underwrite the operating costs. However, a new long term plan needs to be developed including how to effectively use the display room and a potential for long term sponsorship of the building. Further discussion on this topic was tabled for a future meeting.

##### BOARD VACANCY

- Ed Mulkearn discussed that Chrissy Craffey is available and willing to join the FLWF board.
- ***M: Marge Freund moved to appoint Chrissy Craffey to fill an existing vacancy on the board. Lex Brumagin seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.***
- The Board discussed seeking additional interested and qualified candidates for open board seats.

#### STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE FLWF

- Ed reported that the Town of Mina is requesting a strategic plan from entities with which it conducts business and disburses funds.
- The board discussed creating a strategic plan going forward.
- Ed noted that Don McCord, former Chautauqua county planner, is familiar with strategic planning and is willing to assist with developing the FLWF strategic plan.
- Ed plans to contact Don McCord about his input for a strategic plan, with a goal of having a definitive plan by the annual meeting in July, 2022.
- ***M: Chrissy Craffey moved to develop a strategic plan for the FLWF. Lant Lictus seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.***
- The board consensus is that a strategic plan needs to include a long-term focus on water quality of the lake and aeration, among other concerns.
- Ed will contact Don McCord and invite him to attend the March 19, 2022 board meeting.

#### RECOVERED LOG CABIN

- Ed updated the board on a conversation regarding the recovered log cabin from the Findley Lake Assembly era. The materiel is currently in storage and is the property of the Historical Society. A previous plan considered reconstructing the cabin on FLWF in the vicinity of the gazebo property on Pleasant St.
- The board discussed options to participate in any future reconstruction plan. Lex Brumagin noted that the condition of the materiel is poor, with many pieces having rot and degradation. As such, reconstruction could be problematic.
- Lex suggested that the location previously considered be used to construct the much-needed boat wash area for the lake.

#### Announcements:

- The schedule for Board meetings for 2022 is as follows: Meetings will be at the Water Wheel Overlook Building. The Annual meeting will be at The Camp at Findley.  
**Saturday, March 19, 2022 at 8:30 am**  
**Saturday, April 30, 2022 at 8:30 am**  
**Saturday, June 18, 2022 at 8:30 am**  
**Saturday, July 16, 2022 at 6:00 pm** (pre-annual meeting) at The Camp at Findley  
**Annual meeting Meet 'n' Greet at 7:00 pm**  
**Annual business meeting at 7:30 pm**  
**Saturday, September 17, 2022 at 8:30 am**

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Freund  
Secretary