

**Findley Lake Watershed Foundation  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
June 18, 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 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Jeff Ireland presented the treasurer's report.

<b>**Opening Operating Balance (May 1, 2022)</b>		<b>\$ 48,106.00</b>
<b>Deposits:</b>	<b>\$ 11,933.50</b>	
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 7,121.72</b>	
<b>**Ending Operating Balance (June 14, 2022)</b>		<b>\$ 52,917.78</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 the treasury is “in good shape” at this time. He has performed a comparison of receipts and expenses for a two (2) year period. He notes a slight decrease in the balance from last year. Jeff also noted that no money has been received from the Town of Mina to date.

The report was accepted as presented.

### **President's Report:**

- Ed Mulkearn reported that the Lake Management Committee is being divided into an “operations” committee and a “water quality” committee. Lant Lictus will chair the operations committee which will manage the dam, lake water levels and related issues. Chrissy Craffey will chair the water quality committee which will manage the RFP, aeration and other testing projects.
- Ed noted that he spoke with Matt Wise about his board participation going forward. Matt is working out of state for an extended period but states he wishes to remain on the board and participate as he is able until he returns to Findley Lake full time.
- Ed also noted being in touch with Ben Fergus who is interested in joining the Watershed board. Ed will discuss a board position with Ben and report back to the board on the outcome of their discussion.
- Ed noted that harvester operators Paul and Barry will arrive at 9:30 am along with John May from May Farms to evaluate a truck system to haul weeds. The board will suspend the agenda to see a demonstration when they arrive.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### MEMBERSHIP:

- Lex Brumagin reported that there are 147 paid membership units to date. Twelve (12) are new members. Last year's total membership was 150 units. At the 2021 annual meeting twenty-one (21) memberships were paid
- Lex also reported that the annual membership dues letter is planned for mailing very soon. Lex will edit the list to reduce duplication to members already paid.

#### COMMUNICATION:

- Bill Simpkins reported the financial reports have been posted on the website.
- Bill will edit and post Marge Freund's summary document regarding the Findley Lake Community Foundation (nee Quality Findley Fund established in 1999) and water quality donations.
- Bill noted the Paypal access is open. There have been occasional problems with this portal.

#### BUILDING & GROUNDS:

- In the absence of Bill Bracken, updates are provided by Chrissy Craffey.
- Chrissy Craffey reported that she is working on an Educational Garden project for planting near the fish statue at the dam area. She has posted a diagram online showing the layout and plants.
- This project has been supported by a grant plus private donations. Chrissy is working with Carol Markham from the Chautauqua Watershed on design and planting of the garden.
- Chrissy noted that Findley Lake Landscaping has donated topsoil for the project. Triple E manufacturing is donating a sign. Mark Craffey will rototill the ground in preparation for the planting.

#### LAKE OPERATIONS:

- Lant Lictus reported the lake water level is slightly elevated at this time.
- Lant reported that no signage will be posted on the small island at present.
- Lant also noted that a bass fishing tournament took place last week at Findley Lake.

- Lant inquired about posting banners on the railings at the dam notifying about events such as the boat parade.

LAKE MANAGEMENT:

- Chrissy Craffey reported doing research on various entities regarding the water quality management. She is seeking analysis of new tech options to manage water quality.
- Chrissy noted that 35% of the phosphorus load is internal which would be amenable to aeration. As such, 65% is external. Ongoing research is important at this time.
- Ed also that Terry Cascioli helped Chrissy Craffey write the RFP for the lake management program. The Princeton Hydro report was one source used in the preparation of the RFP.
- Chrissy is also looking into possible grants and private pledges as part of the funding plan for the water quality management.

HARVESTER:

- In the absence of Matt Wise, Ed reports that harvesting continues without any issues.

**The agenda was suspended to allow the Board to view the demonstration on the truck system by John May from May Farms.**

John May presented a demonstration of the Switch-N-Go truck system which has a roll off dumpster. He distributed literature and answered questions regarding capacity, ease of use and any modification options for the equipment.

The Board will review and consider this as an option for future use to remove weed mass from the conveyor pad area.

**At this point, the Board returned to the regular meeting agenda.**

**Unfinished Business:**

UPDATE ON AERATION

- Ed Mulkearn reported that research will continue on viable options for aeration of Findley Lake.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT

- Ed noted that the Town of Mina continues to move forward on matters related to the sewer district.

**New Business:**

POSSIBLE LAKE CONTAMINATION

- Ed Mulkearn reported being advised of possible clandestine release of a chemical substance into the lake. Ed has discussed this matter with the DEC representatives. There does not appear to be definitive evidence to support this such as fish kill.
- The current action plan is to be vigilant in observation for any developing criteria to support confirming an event.
- Ed also noted that Sherry Hamilton contacted him about requesting Chautauqua County to test the lake water for Legionnaires' disease.
- Ed also noted that fifteen (15) years ago a hepatitis infection was detected near the Noble property on Main Street.

## ANNUAL MEETING

- Marge Freund reported the Annual Meeting has been scheduled for Camp Findley on Saturday, July 16, 2022. The Meet'n'Greet is scheduled for 7:00 pm with the business meeting scheduled for 7:30 pm.
- The board will meet at 6 pm prior to the Meet'n'Greet.
- Ed will coordinate food with Gordon Post as in the past.
- Chrissy Craffey reported that Andy Johnson may be a speaker on septic and sewers at the meeting. Ed is waiting on contact from the DEC about a possible presentation also.

### **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, 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 10:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Freund  
Secretary