



Van Etten Lake Association (VELA)
FALL GENERAL MEETING
September 9, 2023 – 10:00 AM, Parks Library

MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order** at 10:03am. Seven board members, Charles Bauer, Helen Shastal were excused. Twenty-one stakeholders were present.
 - Pledge
 - Introductions
- II. **Approval of Minutes** (July 2023 Annual Meeting) - approved
- III. **Board President's Comments** – Rick Copland – Thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
- IV. **Presentation from LakePro**
 - Survey and treatment started late due a switching to a different applicator company for the 2023 season. It took longer to receive the permits from EGLE.
 - LakePro suggested VELA keep the same applicator company for 2-3 years. Have the applicator company's contract for the same time frame as the Lake manager's contract.
 - Lake Pro suggested to have all bids to them by the first part of February to start the entire process sooner. Survey could begin earlier in May.
 - Only one cooper treatment can be applied a year, during May/June.
 - Early treatment is a key to help prevent an algae bloom. Green algae is okay to swim in. Blue-green algae stakeholders should not swim or allow pets in the water.
 - Oscoda Supervisor Bill Palmer stated that the township is willing to listen/work with VELA weed committee. Township usually does whatever VELA weed committee recommends.
 - Comment made that maybe have one company be Lake Manager and do the application. Oscoda Township lawyer: One Lake manager, one applicator company to avoid conflict of interest.
 - Comment made that applicator company PLM seemed to be more inconsistent than previous applicator company Clarke.
 - The VELA weed committee will meet with LakePro soon to discuss an action plan for a more effective schedule for the 2024 season and future seasons.
- V. **RAB Update** – Mark Henry
 - Mark gave another informative PFAS update today.
 - Air Force is finally conducting a remedial investigation of PFAS on the south/southeast side of Van Etten Lake.
 - Air Force is interested in collecting lawn and beach soil samples from properties on the south/southeast side of Van Etten Lake.
 - Air Force is requesting permission from private property well owners on the south/southeast side of Van Etten Lake to test the wells. Wells that have not been previous tested MDHHS.
 - The Air Force contractor for this project is Aerostar. Property owners in the target investigation area interested in participating can contact Ryan Morrish, the local Air Force representative at ryan.morrish@cherokee-federal.com or 989-254-8109.

VI. Reports:

- **Weed Committee** – Leonard Brockhahn
(See number IV above)
- **Treasurer** - Leonard Brockhahn
 - Current Financials
 - Saving \$18,671.00
 - Checking \$11,738.00
 - Total \$30,409.00
 - **Endowment Fund**
Spendable amount is \$10,500.00. A presentation on the Endowment fund will be given at a future general meeting.
- **Membership** – Diane Banks
80% of the members have paid their dues
270 current members
Pay Pal for on-line membership dues payment will start in January 2024.
- **Picnic Wrap-up** – Diane Banks
65 people attended the picnic.
Planning on having Rob's BQQ for next year's picnic
- **Lake Monitor** – Dan Stock
Spring Turnover Phosphorus concentration was 20 parts per billion(ppb) 10-year average is 24.4 ppb.
Weekly average clarity sampling for July 6.2 ft. Compares to a July average of 7.2 ft. over the past 10-years.
August average clarity was 4.6 ft (heavy algae bloom) compared to 6.0 ft over the past 10 years.
July average mid-lake water temperature was 74.9-degrees F. Compares to a July 10-year average of 73.5
August average mid-lake water temperature was 70.9 degrees F. Compares to an August 10-year average of 72.3.

VII. Comments/Questions

Meeting adjourned at 11:44 am.

Respectfully submitted by Celeste Creger, Secretary

Upcoming Meetings:

General Meeting: Saturday, June 1, 2024

Annual Meeting: Saturday, July 6, 2024

General Meeting: Saturday, September 7, 2024

VELA 2024 PICNIC

TBD