

Child, Girl, and Woman Lakes Area Association Minutes – June 17, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Jon Stevenson. Board members present: Jon Stevenson, Bob Riesselman, Nancy Schuelke, Bob Hankey, Rich Hess, Gordie Hess, Bill Hornung, Kathy Scharmer. Member present: Debbie VanDenBerg

Changes to agenda: Time for co-chair discussion added to old business – Bob R.

Jon opening comments: Standing committees to submit their reports to Jon and Nancy to be included in meeting minutes. Secretary will read motion to ensure captured correct.

MSP to accept Minutes of the May 17, 2021, meeting. Note annual meeting date and location changed from those noted in May minutes. New date and location approved and communicated. August 14th, 2021, at Salem Lutheran Church.

No questions on the Treasurer's report

Communications: Jon discussed letter received from Child Lake member regarding wake boat incident. Jon tried to contact the member as follow up but has not heard back from them. Jon has also contacted law enforcement and discussed this incident. Currently, there are no legal grounds to pursue regarding wake boats. This is a growing issue for lakes and Rich reminded us that the University of MN is studying effects of wake boats and expects a report to be produced by end of year, 2021.

Bob R. and Kathy will research survey monkey and proposed questions to members to understand magnitude of wake boat concerns. Survey could potentially include general questions related to overall member priorities and concerns. They will present their recommendation on survey process and questions to the board for board discussion and final approval.

Old Business:

- MSP to reimburse two members for half of the \$150 fee for completing the AIS Detector Training.
- Jon will follow up with Sue to make sure we are registered in the Longville 4th of July parade and confirm volunteers to ride in the parade. Jon and Nancy confirmed. Sue will be asked.
- Rich will follow up on options to keep cost, similar to 2019, within reason for the volunteer appreciation dinner on September 9th.

Added: Co-Chair analysis and recommendation – Bob R.

- Bob provided summary of work completed by Bob R. with key input from Kathy, Sue and Linda.
- Board discussed value of co-chairs to aid in long term succession planning and to help share in the leadership's multitude of responsibilities in a collaborative, supportive way.
- Given the depth and importance of moving to a co-chair model, next steps are for Bob to arrange meeting with Jon and co-chair committee to review detailed plan and recommendation. After that, date will be set for a special session board meeting in July.

New Business:

- MSP to accept Joyce Humphreys resignation as Secretary of the CWGLAA. One nay.
- MSP to accept Nancy Schuelke appointment as new Secretary of the CWGLAA.
- MSP to recognize Joyce Humphreys with a \$50 Boulders Restaurant gift certificate. Bill will pick up certificate and provide to Jon.
- Gordie will check on monetary donation amount for use of Salem Lutheran Church for annual meeting. MSP to donate their going rate, up to \$200.
- Move discussion of new directory to July 15th meeting as in alignment with technology discussion. In the meantime, continue to use books available if needed for new members.

Standing Committee Reports: (included as provided by Committee chairs)

AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species)– Rich Hess. As of June 4, 2021, no new infestations were reported for Cass County.

Fisheries

Child Lake Index Survey 2020

Northern Pike were moderately abundant. The Northern Pike gill net catch rate of 7.7 fish per net was within the management goal of between 5 and 10 fish per net. Northern Pike averaged 18 inches long with fish up to 32 inches long in the sample.

Walleye are present in low numbers and an angler may catch one on occasion. The Walleye gill net catch rate of 1.5 fish per net was below the management goal of four fish per gill net. Walleye gill net catch rates in Child Lake have never exceeded three fish per net and have not increased in response to Walleye fry stocking.

Yellow Perch numbers have dropped from near 12 fish per gill net in 2008 to a historic low of one fish per gill net in 2020, which was below the management goal of five fish per net.

Child Lake is best known for **Black Crappie, Bluegill, and Largemouth Bass**. Small Black Crappie were present in good numbers from the 2020 gill nets. In two to three years these fish will reach 10 inches in length and provide good angling opportunities.

Other species sampled were **Bowfin** (dogfish), **Brown Bullhead**, **Pumpkinseed**, **Rock Bass**, **Tullibee** (Cisco), **White Sucker**, and **Yellow Bullhead**.

Girl Lake Index Survey, fall 2020.

Bluegill gill net catch rate was 6.22 (n=56) fish per net. Bluegill mean length was 5.55 inches and the lengths ranged from 3.5 to 8.6 inches.

Black Crappie gill net catch rate of 7.89 fish per net. Mean length of Black Crappie was 7.66 inches and the lengths ranged from 4.7 to 11.2 inches. A total of six consecutive year-classes were represented in the sample. Growth was below average.

...cont. Girl Lake Index Survey, fall 2020

Largemouth Bass gill net catch rate of 2.67 fish per net. The mean length was 12.1 inches, respectively and lengths ranged from 9.1 to 14.8 inches.

Northern Pike gill net catch rate of 8.67 fish per net was within the management goal of 5.00 to 10.00 fish per net. Historically, gill net catch rates ranged from 5.80 (1982) to 18.33 (2012) fish per net. Northern pike mean length was 17.96 inches and the lengths ranged from 9.9 to 33.0 inches.

Walleye gill net catch rate of 2.78 fish per net was below the long range management minimum goal of 4.00 fish per net. Walleye mean length was 19.66 inches and the lengths ranged from 13.8 to 24.4 inches. A total of nine year-classes were represented in the sample. Growth was above average.

Woman Lake Index Survey 2020

Northern Pike gill net CPUE of 6.33 fish per net, was within the management goal (5.00 to 8.00 fish per net). Northern Pike CPUE has remained below eight fish per net since 1987. Lengths ranged from 16.9 to 32.2 inches with a mean length and weight of 22.38 inches and 2.46 pounds.

Walleye gill net CPUE of 13.00 fish per net exceeded the long-range management goal (6.00-10.00 fish per net). Walleye lengths ranged from 9.4 to 23.9 inches, with a mean length and weight of 14.72 inches and 1.16 pounds.

Yellow Perch gill net CPUE of 12.00 fish per net was below the management goal (13.00 fish per net). Yellow Perch catch rates decreased substantially in 2007 and have remained below the management goal since 2016. This change in mean catch rate may be attributed to seasonal effect, as survey timing was changed from August to September. Perch ranged in length from 4.7 to 10.2 inches with an average length of 6.61 inches.

Black Crappie gill net catch per unit effort (CPUE) was 1.13 fish per net. Lengths ranged from 4.5 to 10.7 inches with a mean length and weight of 6.36 inches and 0.2 pounds.

Bluegill gill net CPUE was 0.93 fish per net. Lengths ranged from 3.7 to 9.6 inches, with a mean length of 6.74 inches.

No **Muskellunge** were sampled during the 2020 fall gill net survey.

Smallmouth Bass gill net CPUE was 1.13 fish per net. Lengths ranged from 7.3 to 18.6 inches, with a mean length and weight of 12.76 inches and 1.83 pounds.

Tullibee (Cisco) gill net CPUE of 4.80 fish per net exceeds the lake specific management goal (2.00 fish per net). Lengths ranged from 8.1 to 18.2 inches with a mean length and weight of 14.45 inches and 1.3 pounds.

Other species sampled included **Black Bullhead, Bowfin, Brown Bullhead, Greater Redhorse, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, and White Sucker.**

Membership – Bob and Cindy Hankey. Here is the latest status of membership: 545 paid members, 37 unpaid members. Total: 582. Of the 582 members, we communicate with 439 by email and 142 by postal. We still get a few renewals each week. We sent out a reminder notice about 3 weeks ago. The spring newsletter was emailed out last week. Members receiving the newsletter by mail should be receiving it this week. We asked for 20 paper copies to be mailed to us.

Newsletter – Linda Kane. The spring newsletter went out - thanks to all for the support! I will be sending an updated volunteer list to Bob and Cindy to update our records. Also, working with members of the board and newsletter committee to prepare for fall issue.

Road Signs – Jon Stevenson. Installed four replacement member signs. Four members wanted signs. Reinstalled three signs, members renewed memberships. Members moved, removed eight signs. Removed five nonmember signs.

Social Media – Kathy Scharmer. No report but reminder made that board members can get authorization granted to post on Facebook if desired. Contact Kathy to gain access approval.

Water Patrol – Gordie Hess. Water patrol activities resumed on Memorial Day weekend. So far in June we have patrolled three weekends (6 days). In addition, we met with a deputy of the Cass County Sherriff on June 10th to learn and review patrol activities and guidelines. The Sherriff's office is very appreciative of our patrol efforts. Training of new volunteers is ongoing.

Water Quality – Ann Stevenson. Our four locations for the water monitoring samples were done and turned in to the RMB pickup van on June 7th. We will draw more again on June 27th and turn them in on June 28th. The water clarity was very good this spring. We will see how it goes with all the very warm temps we are now experiencing.

Lake Reps – Bill Hornung. As follow up to May meeting, Bill met with contacts in Walker to understand current status of decontamination availability process and to continue to encourage bringing the decontamination unit to the Longville/Hackensack area lakes. Long term goal is to ultimately get one from the county. No other lake rep reports.

Other: Rich will reach out to Steve Yang, from Get the Lead Out, to be our featured speaker at our August 14th Annual meeting.

Next meeting will be July 15th, 6:30 PM at Woodrow Town Hall.

July agenda topics to include:

- Technology and new member directory
- Annual meeting

MSP to adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Schuelke, Secretary

