



59th Annual Meeting

**August 7, 2025
5 - 8 PM
Beach Club**

President's Message

Welcome to the annual meeting of the Three Lakes Association and thank you for your support. At TLA, we believe the most effective way to preserve water quality over the long term is by engaging the community with hands-on projects working alongside academic researchers and water quality professionals. We are privileged to have a growing membership and people willing to get their feet wet!

TLA's tributary monitoring for the first time identified human source bacteria entering our lakes and we are following up with additional testing and support from the Health Department. Nitrogen and phosphorus levels in the Lower Intermediate River have been sampled more than a dozen times over the last two years to assure process changes at the Waste Water Treatment Plant are not adversely impacting our waterways. Locations with Invasive Milfoil in Torch Lake are being treated or hand removed by our joint TLA / TLPA invasives team. Research into the discoloration of lake bottoms by benthic algae continues as the list of plausible causes narrows. Chemical analysis of algal mats is underway to confirm the role that low phosphorus levels and calcium play in making mats durable and resistant to current and waves. The July public event was well attended and began with a silent auction to raise money for the Science and Education Outreach Program, which continues to grow. This summer's Interns are busy on the water every Thursday morning under the guidance of a professional project leader. With help from our volunteer boat captains, they are conducting a comprehensive submergent vegetation survey of Clam Lake and looking for invasive species. And as we have been doing for decades, TLA lake monitors are making water clarity measurements and collecting chlorophyll-a samples on Lake Bellaire, Clam Lake and North and South Torch Lake twice a month over the summer.

Memberships, donations and grants are the key to making our programs a success. Thank you to all of our dedicated members and everyone who has donated time and money to help preserve our precious fresh water resources!

Fred Sittel

Agenda

5:00 PM	Social Hour
6:00 PM	Dinner
6:30 PM	Business Meeting: Approve Minutes of last year's Annual Meeting Treasurer's Report Election of Officers & Directors Ratify actions of the Board of Directors
7:00 PM	ERCOL Dams & Water Levels
7:20 PM	Member questions & discussion

Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting

Three Lakes Association
58th Annual Meeting – August 1, 2024
DRAFT

The 58th annual membership meeting of the Three Lakes Association was held on August 1, 2024, at the Summit Village Beach Club on Lake Bellaire.

Introduction

Executive Director, Lois MacLean, welcomed everyone to the annual meeting, introduced the interns, thanked the businesses that contributed to the Science Education Outreach Program silent auction, thanked the Dole Family Foundation for the just announced grant for the intern program, thanked Summit Village for the use of the beautiful facility, Leslie Meyers for setting it up and Sandy Munoz and her assistants, for the fantastic Mexican Fiesta.

Lois then introduced Rick Doornbos, Vice President and Water Quality Chair, who shared a brief overview of the many projects TLA is working on with added detail on the Golden Brown Algae (GBA) sampling and testing. Rick thanked the volunteers who help with the sampling, interns and the various projects.

Rick introduced Greg Fredericksen, TLA Secretary, who shared an update on the Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) team and status of treatments.

Greg introduced Fred Sittel, President, for the business meeting portion of the gathering.

Fred provided a brief update on the Bellaire Wastewater Treatment Plant and nutrient testing.

Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting

Call to Order:

President Fred Sittel called the business meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and explained the process for the business meeting.

Approval of Preceding Year's Annual Meeting Minutes:

MOTION by Ed Gourley, seconded by Susan Sittel, to waive the reading of the minutes of the 2023 annual meeting of the Three Lakes Association (which were included in the meeting packet).

Motion carried.

MOTION by Ed Gourley and seconded by Bridget Fox to approve the minutes of the 2023 annual meeting of the Three Lakes Association. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report included in the meeting packet. Treasurer, Ed Gourley, commented that the Association is financially strong and offered to respond to any questions. There were no questions.

MOTION by Greg Fredericksen, and seconded by Leslie Meyers, to approve the Treasurer's report for 2023 as presented. Motion carried.

Election of Officers and Board of directors:

The proposed slate of candidates was included in the meeting packet. President Fred Sittel explained the schedule of terms as well as the vacancies we hope to fill.

There being no nominations offered; nominations were closed.

The final slate of candidates standing for election is as follows:

Two-year terms ending in 2026

President	Fred Sittel
Secretary	Greg Fredericksen
Zone A (Clearwater)	** Open **
Zone B (Milton)	Rick Doornbos
Zone C (Torch Lake)	Casey Wiggins
Zone D (Central Lake)	Brian Hayes
Zone E (Forest Home)	Chris Herb
Zone F (Helena)	** Open **
Zone G (Custer)	Sheri Greenhoe
Zone H (Kearney)	** Open **

One-year term ending in 2025

Zone A (Clearwater)	** Open **
Zone C (Torch Lake)	** Open **

MOTION by Bridget Fox, and seconded by Chris Herb, to cast a unanimous ballot for the proposed slate of candidates for officers and directors. Motion carried.

Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting

Ratification of Actions of the Board:

MOTION by Leslie Meyers and seconded by Lois MacLean, that the membership ratify the actions taken by the Board of Directors since the annual meeting of 2023. Motion carried.

Acknowledgements and Recognition of Retiring Board Members:

Notes of appreciation: Norton Bretz's term as Director at Large ends this year and he has agreed to be a Director Emeritus. Norton has been with the TLA for a long time and has served as Executive Director, our science guy and, most recently, helped with the mussel survey of Torch Lake.

Cheryl Lynn Fields is stepping down as zone director and coordinator of the lake monitoring program. She has been on the board 12+ years.

Carol Fricke is stepping down as zone director and Membership Chair.

Fred acknowledged the passing of two gentlemen who loved Torch Lake and were dedicated to TLA. One is Todd Collins, a long time Membership Chair. Todd took a very active role in fundraising. The second is Stan Dole who had many years on the board. He was Treasurer, Director Emeritus and a great supporter of TLA. We appreciate the continued support of Stan's family through the Dole Family Foundation.

Adjournment:

MOTION Moved by Fred Sittel, and seconded by Rick Doornbos, to adjourn the business meeting. Adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Program:

Rick Doornbos introduced the speaker, Clifford Bloom, of Bloom Sluggett, PC. Clifford specializes in water and riparian rights, real estate law and municipal/public sector law. He shared a lot of valuable information regarding riparian rights and answered many questions.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Fredericksen
Corporate Secretary

Treasurer's Report

THREE LAKES ASSOCIATION INCOME STATEMENT (UNAUDITED)

	December 31, 2024			2023
	Operating Fund	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Revenue:				
Memberships	52,920	4,000	56,920	56,490
Contributions	15,814	1,500	17,314	14,193
Grants	2,300	12,684	14,984	17,669
Other Revenue	271	-	271	147
Releases From Restrictions	10,643	(10,643)	-	-
Investment Income	13,278	-	13,278	11,545
TOTAL REVENUE	95,227	7,540	102,767	100,044
Expenses				
Program Expenses:				
Water Quality	22,108	-	22,108	36,738
Education	10,780	-	10,780	10,134
Internship	7,687	-	7,687	7,752
Membership and Other	5,016	-	5,016	8,151
Total Program Expense	45,591	-	45,591	62,775
Administrative Expenses	33,754	-	33,754	30,589
TOTAL EXPENSES	79,346	-	79,346	93,364
NET INCOME (LOSS)	15,881	7,540	23,421	6,680
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	160,070	178,561	338,631	309,419
Gain (Loss) on Investments	18,529	-	18,529	22,532
ENDING FUND BALANCE	194,479	186,101	380,581	338,632

Proposed Slate of Officers & Directors

Per TLA By-Laws, Article V: Election of Vice President and Treasurer takes place in odd-numbered years. Election of President and Secretary takes place in even-numbered years. Terms run for two years. Terms for Zone Directors and Directors at Large are for two years; terms are staggered so that half the board is elected each year.

Officers:

(Two-year terms ending in 2027)

Vice President..... Rick Doornbos

Treasurer Ed Gourley

Directors at Large:

****Open****

Zone Directors:

(Two-year terms ending in 2027)

Zone A (Clearwater) ****Open****

Zone B (Milton)..... Greg Fredericksen

Zone C (Torch Lake) ****Open****

Zone D (Central Lake) Steven Laurenz

Zone E (Forest Home) Fred Sittel

Zone F (Helena) Mike Haley

Zone G (Custer) Gary Knapp

Zone H (Kearney) Gary Bart

(One-year term ending in 2026)

Zone A (Clearwater) ****Open****

Zone F (Helena) Gary Mayes

Zone H (Kearney) ****Open****