



Watchic Lake Association
Board of Directors' Meeting Summary
September 26 2023 at Agnes and Rick Wiggin's Home

Interested in joining the board or attending a meeting? We are looking for new members. To learn more about what we do, or how to become a member, please use our Contact Us page: <https://watchiclake.org/contact-us/>

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Paul McNulty. A quorum was established with 11 directors present. Minutes of the August 23, 2023, meeting were approved by consent. Agnes read the **treasures report** and recommended evaluation of higher interest accounts. There were no questions or concerns.

It was reported that **the social event at the Outpost** on the 30th was well attended with about 20 people, some new to the WLA. The board agreed we should continue with similar events in the future. Bill suggested we resurrect the **"Watchic Lake Regatta"** in 2024. The board liked the idea and will check in with Kiwanis on their interest.

David reported that DEP is making new **"clean, drain and dry" boat inspection signs**, and providing them at no charge. David will order six to try with interested property owners. Paul will include info in an upcoming newsletter.

To **reduce the risk of invasive infestation**, Stephanie has identified 17 rental properties on the lake where we should focus our "clean, drain and dry" messaging. The board agreed it would be good to bring together these property owners for an informal gathering to learn from each other and also to encourage them to encourage renters clean their watercraft and fishing gear.

Rt 113 Runoff Remediation System. Various quotes have been secured for repairs at the Watchic Road 7 culvert. Construction, engineering, and a trash guard will be about \$6,000. The contractor has agreed to complete the work by October 30. The trash guard has been ordered and is due in late October. Revised maintenance plans have been circulated to the property owners for review.

There were multiple reports of **Cyanobacteria blooms** around the lake over Labor Day. Cyanobacteria occurs naturally in the lake, but blooms increase in warmer weather and due to phosphorus rich runoff. Ingested in large quantities, Cyanobacteria can cause stomach distress and diarrhea. All agreed that this Cyanobacteria incident can be used to raise awareness of the importance of good shoreland management. David, Owen, and Stephanie will come up with criteria for property evaluation, raising awareness, and potential grants for remediation. Paul will help with DEP connections.

Travis asked how DEP felt about **paving camp roads**, as some road associations have asked about this. Travis will contact DEP to get their opinion on paving and possible grant opportunities.

Membership: Paul noted that we have 165 members at 106 properties as of September 26.

Rick raised some ideas on increasing our **fund raising** and report back later this year. There was a feeling among the board the smaller fund-raising activities are time consuming to manage, and do not generally bring in significant donations.

Several board members will "term out" in 2024. Rob has begun to develop plans to help identify board needs and potential officer candidates. Rob will bring **succession plan** recommendations to our next board meeting,

Annual Project Inspections: Owen completed the inspections of WLA funded remediation projects around the lake. One possible issue was raised about erosion around a tree at Dorothy drive, which we will keep an eye on.

Dam Building Maintenance is being managed by Owen and planned for September 30 (weather permitting).

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.