



Lee Lake Association

Association Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order by Tom Parker at 6:30 p.m. 31 were in attendance per the sign-in sheet signatures filed with the minutes. Pledge of Allegiance was performed.
2. Guest Speaker: Steve Hinkley, Calhoun County Sherriff provided information of the marine division which includes the volunteer dive team and two manned sheriff boats. Many volunteers, reservists and part-time staff are temporarily deputized and assist the Sheriff's Department in patrols. Grant funded positions through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are often used in various Sheriff Departments.

The busiest lake in Calhoun County is Goguac Lake. Lee Lake is not as busy but the most common infraction is the failure to carry personal flotation devices (PFD) for each person on board. A grant was used to obtain PFD's and it is up to the Deputy to determine if education is warranted and providing a PFD versus a written citation. There is a zero tolerance for reckless boat driving or driving under the influence.

Sheriff Hinkley referenced Calhoun County legislation which has been in effect since May 2023 regarding off-road vehicles, (ORV), which includes golf carts, being allowed to travel on local roads. Exempt are "M", "I" and "US" roads. Townships were involved in the decisions and some roads are restricted within specific townships. In addition, local city and village ordinances take precedence over Township and County legislation.

Highlights of the legislation require the ORV to have seatbelts and not exceed 25 mph. If the ORV has a roof, a helmet is not required; without a roof, a helmet is required. For more information and a map of roads for ORVs to travel see [Calhoun County, MI \(calhouncountymi.gov\)](http://calhouncountymi.gov).

3. Announcements:
 - a. Kathy Kile volunteered for the Events Committee. A chairperson and members are needed for the Revenue/Finance Committee. A lead is needed for the Road Reps to aide in communication to all reps. **Action:** Please speak with any of the Board members if you are interested.
 - b. LLA Gear Sale: Kathy Doud reported more items were ordered than in 2023. Tumblers and ornaments will be available for purchase at each Association meeting.
 - c. Annual dues of \$35 are now being collected for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Payment at Association meetings, mailings to Cindy Parker or submitting payments to a designated Road Rep are all acceptable.
 - d. Boat Launch Sign: Cindy Parker circulated the sign for attendees to view. **Action:** She announced a DNR representative would be meeting them on May 21st to determine the location of the sign.
 - e. Paperless Approach to Association Meetings: Tom Parker explained that a projector would be used instead of making costly copies for each attendee. Minutes are sent



Lee Lake Association

- as an email attachment and Treasurer reports are posted on the website. A few copies will be provided at the meeting for those without an email address.
- f. Focus on Open Dialogue: In May, a meeting of the Board, Committee Chairs and Road Reps was held. One notable outcome was the need for a more open forum and an opportunity for comments/input by property owners. Tom Parker noted that item #6 on the agenda is intended for such to happen and urged people to speak up.
4. Approval of October 7, 2023 minutes:
- a. There were no changes voiced. Peggy Burkey made a motion to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Larry Vitale. Motion carried.
 - b. Treasurer's Report: As of October 1, 2023, Cindy Parker reported the Association had an available balance of \$2,283.91 for operations. Income of \$97.22 was from the 50/50 proceeds and interest. Invoices were paid for: Newton Township Hall rentals, potluck food, website hosting, LLC annual filing and a Zoom meeting license for a total of \$423.42. Current operations balance is \$1957.71. Lake Quality Fund beginning balance was \$4,396.06. Weed spraying and permit expenses were \$2459.00 with the ending balance \$1937.06. Tom Unger made a motion to accept the report; seconded by Steve Smead. Motion carried.
5. New Items:
- a. Upcoming Events:
 - i. Garage Sales on June 7th and 8th. Signage will be placed on key roads and ads placed in the Shopper and Advisor. Kathy Doud requested the address of participants so they could be included in the ads. Participants are asked to make a small donation to help pay for the advertisements.
 - ii. Boat Parade: Since the 4th of July is on a Thursday, options exist for the parade day. An informal vote was taken for the 4th, 5th and 6th. The 6th was the most popular date. Discussion included on whether Matt Cole would be providing fireworks this year. It was decided to place the question on Facebook for owner input and Theresa Humphries-Oswalt would tally the votes and bring this item back to the June Association meeting. Theresa also asked about a theme for the parade and suggested pirates. This will also be posted on Facebook for input.
 - iii. Potluck: The annual meeting and potluck will be on October 5th at the Newton Township Hall at 11:00 a.m. Elections will be held for the secretary and vice president positions on the Board.
 - iv. Others: Chris Gallagher suggested a rubber ducky race across the lake as a fund raiser. Each participant would purchase a duck and donate \$5 to the Association. Refreshments could be served at the finish of the race. Starting point would be determined by the lake flow but most likely would be west to east.
Theresa is planning a bake sale at her location during the garage sales. She is requesting donations for the sale. Please contact her with the items you will be providing.



Lee Lake Association

Steve Smead suggested we have a Block Party; Lakeside Drive was suggested.

Action: Kathy Kile, Kathy Doud and Cindy Parker will assist Theresa with the events.

b. Possible Future Topics:

- i. Lake Treatment Program: The Lake Quality Committee continues to work with PLM to determine the needs of the lake for weed control and water quality. Steve Smead stated he was glad to see the phragmites dying after the 2023 spraying.
- ii. Shoreline Protection: This could include more on native plantings, wave boat usage, lakefront landscapes, etc.
- iii. Lee Lake Aquatic Survey Results: The survey will be conducted this summer by PLM. It will detail the location and type of both “good” weeds and “bad” weeds. (The 2020 Survey can be seen on the LLA website.) Results will be analyzed by the Lake Quality Committee and subsequently will recommend treatment strategies.
- iv. Lake Level Monitoring: Nora Vaughn alerted us to the implementation of electronic monitoring of the lake level and water temperature by the Calhoun County Water Resources Department. (This occurred at the May meeting of the Board, Chairs and Road Reps.) Goguac Lake’s electronic monitoring is already in place. Lake Information will be available on the internet with a specific URL address. **Action:** Additional information will be reported as it is known.
- v. Others: It was suggested that a boat cleaning station be considered at the public access. Kathy Doud reported this was a topic at the recent Michigan Lakes Association meeting. There are some grants which may be available this fall as the endeavor is expensive and a water source at the public access would be needed. Kathy has experience in grant writing.

6. Open Forum/Questions:

- a. Larry Vitale praised the diligent work of Chris Gallagher as the Lake Quality Chair. He stated he was organized and doing a great job.

7. Adjournment: Larry Vitale made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.; seconded by Shann Leatherman. Motion carried.