

**BIG SANDY LAKE
ASSOCIATION**
2013 Board Meeting Minutes

TABLE OF CONTENTS

February Meeting Minutes	Page 2
March Meeting Minutes	Page 4
April Meeting Minutes	Page 6
May Meeting Minutes	Page 8
July Meeting Minutes	Page 9
August Meeting Minutes	Page 11
September Meeting Minutes	Page 14
October Meeting Minutes	Page 16
November Meeting Minutes	Page 18

BIG SANDY LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING
February 8, 2013, at Grace Lutheran Church

Meeting called to order by President Bruce Johnson at 8:35.

Board members present: Andy Streeter, Ben Gisselman, Vern Awes, Mickey Utech, Karen Trembley & John Pilney.

Members Absent: John Gornick, Brian Herbranson, Janet Hill, Jim Krezowski, Bill Reed, David Schaaf, John Sturner.

Note: We do not have a quorum on 2-8-2013.

A Motion was made by Vern Awes to suspend a quorum that is part of the by-laws, seconded by Ben Gisselman.

Mickey Utech gave the treasurers report. The Credit Union in McGregor needs to have signatures on hand.

President's report: It was discussed who a speaker would be at our annual meeting. The annual meeting will be at Big Sandy Lodge on June 8th 2013. Vern Awes offered to go to the Lodge and make arrangements for the annual meeting.

We will encourage folks to send their yearly dues either by invoice or by other means. The labels for the newsletter need to be done by zip code. Ben G. will be buying software each month for billing, BSLA will own the software. It was suggested we do this for a year, if this will be effective and efficient for what we need.

Andy Streeter asked if the Lake Association would be open to have more supervisors at our boat landings. The new supervisors may have to go to training. Andy and Brian will take responsibility for our access points during the summer. Andy asked how we could reach out to folks that would be interested doing this job. Andy will also be in touch with Tom Peterson. Andy and Brian will keep in touch with our summer boat access program.

New Business: Do we need to spend more time with folks coming onto the lake from the rivers with canoes and such. Andy will talk with the folks at the Corp of Engineers here in McGregor regarding this issue.

The question came up who is attending BSLAWAMP meetings. Bruce Johnson is going to call Jim Carlson regarding these meetings.

Old Business: How are septic systems being looked at? Some ideas would be good.

It was suggested that we have a sign on Bridge road with information regarding the island and how it was developed.

Meeting adjourned.

Karen M. Trembley, secretary

BIG SANDY LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING
March 8, 2013 – Grace Lutheran Church

BSLA meeting called to order by President Bruce Johnson at 8:35.

Board members present: Karen Trembley, John Gornick, Janet Hill, Mickey Utech, Brian Herbranson and Andy Streeter.

Board members absent: John Pilney, Ben Gissleman, Bill Reed, David Schaff, Jim Krezowski and John Sturner.

Guests Present: Bob Griefzu, Jim Carlson, Ron Smith & Sheriff Scott Turner.

Motion made by Andy Streeter to accept February minutes, seconded by Brian Herbranson.

Andy Streeter gave an overview of our potential hiring of 3 folks to work at our boat launches during our summer months. Do we need a contract for these folks, inquire with Ben Gisselman on this issue. The date for grant monies runs from July to July, we should know by June what grant money we would get.

The 2013 budget will be accepted with a line item change of \$450.00, this was for Andy Streeter's advertising. A \$1000.00 line item was added to the 2013 budget for the potential sign on bridge road. Motion made by Janet Hill to accept budget, seconded by John Gornick. Grace Lutheran needs to be paid \$350.00 for BSLA using the church's facility for our board meetings.

Motion was made by John Gornik to accept a short quorum to 7 board members, seconded by Brian Herbranson.

We need a guest speaker at our annual meeting. Brian Herbranson will check on this. Any other ideas for a guest speaker would be appreciated.

New Business:

Janet will put in the upcoming newsletter for folks that may want to be a board member. The board members up for re-election are Andy Streeter, Karen Trembley, Mikey Utech and Bill Reed. A short bio needs to go to Janet for the newsletter.

We have 350 hours approved by the DNR that will be used for folks working at boat accesses.

Ron Smith gave an overview regarding potential roads being raised due to last summer's flooding. The spring cleanup for Shamrock Township will be April 27th.

Scott Turner discussed some of the issues they are looking into due to last year's flood, such as what they could change or do better.

Jim Carlson gave an overview on the TMDL study. He appreciated that we already have put the Water Institute in our budget. Come to Shamrock's annual meeting.

Get articles to Janet for the upcoming newsletter.

Motion was made to adjourn meeting.

Karen M. Trembley, secretary

Bruce Johnson will bring treats.

**BIG SANDY LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING
4-12-13 at Log Church**

Meeting called to order by President Bruce Johnson at 8:30.

Members Present: Karen Trembley, John Pilney, John Gornick, Vern Awes, Mickey Utech, Janet Hill, Andy Streeter, Jim Krezowski & Ben Gisselman.

Members Absent: John Sturner, Bill Reed & Brian Herbranson.

Guests: Sheriff Scott Turner & Bob Griefzu.

Treasurer's report: A line item was added to the treasurer's report in the amount of \$450.00 for advertising. Treasurer's report approved and seconded.

Minutes approved and seconded.

There was discussion regarding Walt Weisser from the Lone Lake Association invited us to an Invasive Species Volunteer event. After discussion the board agreed that we are not interested at this point. Recommendations will be made to Walt Weisser.

Bruce Johnson had sample pictures for the proposed Bridge Road sign. A sign design was picked. Bruce will meet with Ron Smith to get his thoughts about the location and the sign itself.

Vern Awes made a motion to approve a \$2500.00 donation to the Big Sandy Lake Water Institute for 2013, seconded by Janet Hill. The board discussed gathering more information prior to approving the donation for 2014, to determine whether or not we want to continue making this donation going forward.

The board will be doing road clean-up after the May board meeting , weather permitting.

Old Business:

Ben Gisselman reported that 88 members have paid their yearly dues and the amount so far collected is \$3831.00. There was discussion regarding members who have not paid. This topic was put on the May agenda.

The agenda for the annual meeting will be developed on by Vern Awes and Bruce Johnson. Vern will lead the election of BSLA officers at the annual meeting. Ben will provide a complete list of members who have paid (and those who have NOT paid) their annual dues. Those who have paid will receive a ballot for voting. Those who have not paid their dues can pay at the meeting.

Andrew and Brian will check with Big Sandy Lodge to confirm that we will have the same buffet as we had at last year's annual meeting.

Dick Osgood will be our main guest speaker. Some of the topics will be Big Sandy water quality, the impact of zebra mussels, etc. A motion was made to allocate \$500.00 plus travel fees and seconded. It was also decided to have a question and answer time.

Sheriff Scott Turner and Deputy Dan Guida will be guest speakers. Bruce will invite someone from the DNR, the Army Corps of Engineers and Ron Smith from Shamrock Township. This last group of guests will not be asked to speak, but they will participate in the Q & A sessions. \$250.00 will be given to Karen to buy gifts and Bruce Johnson will give out the gifts. Motion was made by Vern Awes to accept \$241.90 for merchandise to be distributed at the Annual Meeting and Wild Rice Days at the booth, seconded by Ben Gisselman.

Ben is working on a golf package with Don Proulx. Ben is proposing this event for August, so watch for upcoming golf tournament information.

Guest: Sheriff Scott Turner said there has been a spike in burglaries in the area. He suggested getting to know your neighbors is a great deterrent.

Guest: Bob Griefzu asked if we received an invitation from Mille Lacs Lake Association. The date for the event will be the 20th of April.

Bill Pavlick works with a group of local residents suffering from mold issues, lake shoreline issues, etc. A meeting will be held on May 9th at the community center in McGregor. Discussion will include the possibility of monies from the association for those who suffered losses from the flood. This potential money can only be used for flood related issues. Janet, Mickey, Ben and Bruce will attend this meeting.

There was discussion on how to get new board members.

Andy Streeter talked with Kari Hull regarding our invasive species inspections. They will be setting up a schedule for volunteers at our boat landings. Andy stressed we still need volunteers for inspections. Andy said the grant money did help with this project. Ben made a motion to buy four chairs to have for the volunteers at the boat landings, seconded by Mickey Utech. Bruce will buy the chairs. There is money available for shoreland restoration.

Vern Awes brought up the idea that Rio Tinto be watched.

The Run for the Lake 5k fun run at the Lodge will be on May 25th.

Rivers and Lakes Fair will be June 15th at Riverside school in Aitkin.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.
Karen M. Trembley, Secretary

Jim Krezowski will bring treats for the May meeting.

Big Sandy Lake Association Meeting – 5-10-13

President Bruce Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:30.

Members Present: Vern Awes, John Sturner, Mickey Utech, Karen Trembley, Brian Herbranson, Andy Streeter, John Gornick, John Pilney and Ben Gisselman.

Members Absent: Janet Hill & Jim Krezowski

Guests: Jim Carlson, Bruce Larson, Jack Johnson, Ron Smith & Bob Griefzu

Minutes were approved with one change to Ripple Side School. John Sturner made a motion to approve minutes and Andy Streeter seconded.

Motion was made by John Sturner to accept the Treasurers report, seconded by Vern Awes.

The proposed sign on Bridge Road was discussed. We will continue with the sign. Ron Smith will come up with the wording. Bob Harder has volunteered to help as well as other folks.

The News Letter was discussed regarding labels. It was determined the board will put on the labels.

An invitation will be sent out to be our guests at the Annual meeting which will be Ron Smith, Tammy Johnson, Brian Napstad , Rick Brusewitz. (Are there any others)

Regarding the annual meeting an agenda will be coming out. The member list will be handled by Ben GIs Selman. The guest speaker will be paid at that time. Virginia will be handling the sale of clothes.

Vern Awes made a motion to remove David Schiff from the board for unexcused absences; this was seconded by Bruce Johnson. A vote was taken by the board that David Schaff be removed from the board.

Bruce Johnson thanked Bill Reed for serving on the board, job well done Bill.

John Sterner will talk to Scott Turner regarding the air boat.

New Business: Ben Gisselman will use mass e-mail to get various events that are happening or will be around Big Sandy.

Ron Smith reported on various projects that will be happening around Big Sandy.

Ben Gisselman reported that over 600 folks were billed on membership. Follow-up after the annual meeting will be done. (Ben is this correct?)

The Log Church will not be available in August; another site needs to be looked at.

Aitkin County held a meeting at the Fireside regarding the TMDL study. Janet Smude discussed phosphorous issues.

Andy Streeter gave an overview in regards to the boat launches and who will be working the launches.

Ben Gisselman reported the golf tournament had to be changed to August 23rd ...more details to follow.

Motion made to adjourn meeting.

Karen M. Trembley, secretary

BIG SANDY LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING 7-12-2013

BSLA meeting called to order by President Bruce Johnson at 8:35.

Board Members Present: Mark Johnson, Vern Awes, John Gornick Karen Trembley, John Pilney, Ben Gisselman, John Sturner, Brian Herbranson, Andy Streeter, Mickey Utech, Janet Hill & Jim Krezowski.

Guests: Bill Reed, Jim Carlson, Jack Johnson, Ron Smith, Sheriff Turner & Scott Rian (Long Lake conservation center).

Motion made by John Sturner to accept minutes of 5-10-13, seconded by Janet Hill.

Mickey Utech reported the treasurer's report with some changes. Motion made by John Sturner to accept treasurers report and seconded by Jim Krezowski.

The annual meeting was discussed and it went very well. Next year's annual meeting is tentively set for June 21st 2014. Put on August agenda.

The Bridge Road sign was discussed by Ben Gisselman with various options as verbiage and cost. Address these options at the August agenda.

Ben Gisselman reported that 268 members have paid for 2013, there was 595 invoices sent out. There was discussion how to get in touch with folks who have not paid. A reminder letter will go out via mail to the Big Sandy occupants for the 2013 membership. The label will have the year on it as well.

Bill Reed will be a liaison to the board of directors.

Mark Johnson and Bill Reed will be attending BSALWAMP meetings. Jim Krezowski will cover ACLARA meetings.

Jack Johnson has accepted a position on the BSLA board. Motion was made and seconded to accept Jack Johnson to the board. Thanks Jack.

Andy Streeter reported on the boat landings inspections and how it is going.

Ron Smith reported on various projects that are going on in Shamrock Township.

Sheriff Scott Turner reported on the air boat that Aitkin County has. John Sturner offered to be a volunteer when needed. Scott also reported there has been an excess of break-ins in the Shamrock Township area. Scott reported it has been a good year on Big Sandy Lake.

Ben Gisselman will get flyers out for our August 23rd golf tournament which will be held at Minnesota golf course. Ben will bring us up to speed regarding the tournament.

New Business:

Dick Osgood could not make the annual meeting; he addressed another person to speak at the annual meeting. The \$500.00 will be donated to the Big Sandy Lake Foundation.

Janet Hill discussed the upcoming newsletter and items of interest that will go in the newsletter.

Vern Awes said the bylaws state a motion has to be made elect the new board members. Motion was made and seconded to re-elect the current officers of the board of directors.

President Bruce Johnson asked for a signup sheet for committee's on the board.

Motion made by Jim Krezowski and seconded by John Sturner to adjourn board meeting.

Where will August meeting be held?

Karen M. Trembley, secretary

Big Sandy Lake Association Meeting Fisherman's Bay – 8/9/2013

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Board Members present: Bruce Johnson, John Pilney, Vern Awes, John Gornick, Janet Hill, Mickey Utech, Mark Johnson, Ben Gisselman, Jim Krezowski, Jack Johnson.

Board Members absent: Karen Trembley, John Sturner, Andy Streeter, Brian Herbranson.

Others Present: Brian Napstad, Ron Smith, Sheriff Turner. Also, there were two guests in attendance, and liaisons Bill Reed, Bob Greifzu, and Jim Carlson.

Meeting minutes from the July 2013 meeting were approved. Motion made by Jim Krezowski and seconded by Mark Johnson to approve the minutes.

Mickey Utech presented the treasurer's Report. Motion made by John Pilney and seconded by Jim Krezowski to approve the treasurer's report.

Bruce Johnson welcomed Jack Johnson to the BSLA board. Bruce Johnson went over the organizational structure of the board, assigning volunteers to the various jobs that must be done to protect and enhance Big Sandy Lake. A new task -- addressing the DNR's stocking of fish in Big Sandy Lake -- will be added.

The next annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 21, 2014 at Minnesota National Golf Course. Discussion ensued on the venue, timing, and activities of the annual meeting to attract more and younger members, and changing the day of the regular board meeting to Saturdays in the summertime, to enable more members to attend. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Ron Smith presented wording for the historical sign to be erected on Bridge Road. John Gornick and Cindy & Vern Awes are working with Ron on the wording of the sign, which will commemorate the history of this area of Big Sandy Lake.

President's Report: Update on billing: Dates have been added to newsletter address labels so that BSLA members can keep better track of when their membership year expires. About 300 members have paid their 2013 dues; the remaining 300+ members will receive a letter with this month's newsletter to remind them to pay their dues.

Discussion ensued on how to handle dues and billing. One suggestion was to have dues of \$30 but break it down into a \$20 membership fee and a \$10 optional invasive species fee. Another is to only send newsletters to paying members. We will wait and see how this next billing cycle goes, and address this issue at the next meeting.

Update on boat landings: DNR personnel at the landing near Zorbaz did a fast and thorough job when Bruce anonymously used the landing to launch his boat last month.

The August BSLA Golf Tournament has been postponed to next spring -- late May or early June -- so that it can be held earlier in the season and avoid competition with other golf tournaments around the area.

New Business:

Wild Rice Days: Board members will be at the BSLA booth at Wild Rice Days in shifts from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

John Pilney arranged to meet with Matt Jeschke of Kennicott Mining, which is working in the Tamarack area. Mining operations in our watershed have great potential to adversely affect Big Sandy Lake, and the BSLA board is very interested in learning all it can about this operation. (The main concern for our lake is the byproduct of mining: sulfuric acid). Bruce Johnson, Jim Krezowski, and John met with Matt this summer at his office in Tamarack, where core samples are labeled, and then accompanied him out to the field, where the company is drilling 24/7. Drilling is now possible in summertime as well as winter, with help from pads that enable trucks to drive in boggy conditions. Mr. Jeschke said that the company has been mapping veins since 2002, and are still in the mapping process. They are finding that core samples vary, so at this time, Mr. Jeschke says, it's not a viable mining operation. If they were to decide to start mining, it would take about 11 years to build a processing plant and get an open pit mine up and running. This is the only Kennicott mining operation in MN at this time. Mr. Jeschke was asked if rice paddies would be affected by the mining operations, and he said that the company will exchange land to compensate if rice paddies are affected. (In other words, yes.) Because mapping operations are taking place on state land, the company is required by law to send samples to the state. It was decided by the BSLA board to do more research into the science of mining, with help from academics at the U of M, and then visit the mining company again to find out how they plan to handle ore and settling ponds.

Brian Napstad added that non-permitted activities under the Dept. of Agriculture are polluting our state's rivers at an increasing rate. With commodity prices rising, more people are putting land into crops, and in turn adding more chemicals to our waters without regulation, as they are exempt from discharge limits. The BSLA board will consider sending a letter to the president of the Environmental Quality Board, Bob Patton, asking what is being done about explosive growth in nonregulated water pollution.

Ron Smith, Shamrock Township director, reported: New reclaimer equipment has been acquired for mowing along the roads and improving the shoulders. Township has installed white survey posts at three areas on Bridge Road, to measure the need for lift -- to raise the road from 1 foot to about 30 inches -- if funds allow, to alleviate problems with potential flooding. Discussions will continue on this issue at the township level.

Lift work on The Narrows is also under consideration. If approved, the process would begin September 2014.

Township Cleanup Day will be September 7, 2013 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Minimal fees will apply for disposal of items such as tires, televisions, and items containing freon.

Guest Bill Laing owns property on Prairie River that was damaged in the flood of 2012. He has been working to fix the erosion damage, and received funds from Aitkin County SWCD to help with bluff stabilization. Mr. Laing came to the meeting to see if anyone knows of a contractor to help with this project. No one had any suggestions to offer. He has a list of contractors from the Aitkin County SWCD that he is in the process of reviewing.

Jim Carlson reported that his wife has found purple loosestrife on their shoreline, and they suspect it is a result of last year's flooding. Everyone needs to be aware: if you find purple loosestrife, cut off and burn the flower heads before they go to seed, and call the DNR. Rich Rezenka of the Brainerd DNR can conduct spraying.

Brian Naptstad, Aitkin County Board, reported: Brian has been urging the DNR to focus on aquatic invasive species (AIS). A vacation rental ordinance is now in place to address noise and other issues. The Lake Improvement District (LID) is up for election by eligible voters around Lake Minnewawa.

Sheriff Scott Turner reported: Things are quiet on the lake, especially compared to last year. The DNR has had a big presence with AIS. Sheriff Turner feels that a focus on AIS education is needed, as boaters who are non-lakeshore owners appear to be less invested in the problem of AIS than lakeshore residents are.

There has been an increase in calls of property line disputes on area lakes. Most disputes involve lake access, especially on riparian lands that were designated in the early part of 20th century to allow public use on some of the land adjoining lakes. The sheriff's office received three calls on the 4th of July holiday weekend, but all were calls of thanks.

There is no game warden yet on Big Sandy, but game wardens do come and check licenses now and then on the lake. Burglaries have diminished in the area around Big Sandy Lake. Some of the hazard buoys on Big Sandy need to be reviewed and improved; Sheriff Turner is working on this problem.

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 -- motion made by Vern Awes and seconded by Mickey Utech.

The next meeting will be held at Grace Lutheran Log Church, September 13, 2013 at 8:30.

BIG SANDY LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH – 9-13-2013

BSLA meeting called to order by President Bruce Johnson at 8:30.

Guests: Don Halloff, Bill Reed, Ron Smith, Bob Griefzu, Sheriff Scott Turner, Brian Napstad and Cindy Awes.

Members Present: Jim Krezowski, John Sturner, Vern Awes, John Gornick, Mickey Utech, Mark Johnson, John Pilney , Brian Herbranson, Andy Streeter, Janet Hill, Karen Trembley and Jack Johnson.

Members Absent: Ben Gisselman

Motion was made by John Sturner and seconded by Jim Krezowski to accept minutes 8-9-2013.

Mickey Utech gave an overview of our Treasurers report. A motion was made by John Sturner to accept Treasurers report and seconded by Mark Johnson.

Bruce Johnson discussed the Wild Rice Days. It was discussed that we get out of the clothing business. Motion was made by John Sturner and seconded by Don Halloff to discontinue clothes. It was suggested cheaper items can be given out or sold such as cup holders, key chains, BSLA glasses, pads of paper with our logo etc.

Bruce Johnson reported that our membership is going well.

It was suggested that we have a resident's corner in our newsletter.

Bruce Johnson suggested he would like more feedback from the annual meeting.

Old Business: It was discussed the possibility of various subjects or new ideas that could be in the newsletter.

The road sign on Bridge Road is up and running and should be put up soon. Motion made by John Gornick to expend \$2050.00 for the sign and seconded by Vern Awes.

Several folks from the board will be attending a tour of Kennecott mining...keep this on the table.

County Rd. 14 clean-up will be conducted after the next meeting.

Ron Smith reported on the cleanup day for Shamrock Township. Ron thanked all the folks that helped on this project. Ron Smith also reported on proposed road improvements in Shamrock Township.

Brian Napstad reported on various rental properties, hearings are underway on this subject. There is more and more agriculture coming into the area. The area being looked at is very close to a

wild life management area. This area includes 763 acres. There is a difference of opinion on this subject that is classified as Ag.

Sheriff Scott Turner reported on various burglaries in the area. Neighborhood watch is very important to the area. Be the eyes and ears for the county. It has been a good year on area lakes.

Bob Griefzu reported that signatures need to be on our CD's.

Rick Brusewitz chatted with Jack Johnson regarding the stocking of fish in Big Sandy. As of this time there is no need to stock....that could change at a later time.

New Business: it is reported that the ranger tower on Big Sandy is in need of some repair. Bruce Johnson will contact the DNR forestry Division. The forestry folks will need to check on this before anyone could make any repairs.

Andy Streeter asked for a few more hours at boat landings. Andy gave an overview on the coverage at these boat landings throughout the summer. Kudu's to Andy and folks that played a part covering boat landings in 2013.

The flowering rush and purple loosestrife has been found in Big Sandy. Bruce Johnson will be checking on these weeds, now that he knows where they are.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn meeting.

Karen Trembley will bring treats in October.

Karen M. Trembley, secretary

BIG SANDY LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING – 10-11-2013 At Grace Lutheran Church

The Lake Association meeting was called to order by President Bruce Johnson at 8:30.
Board members present: John Pilney, Brian Herbranson, Andy Streeter, John Gornick, Vern Awes, Janet Hill, Jim Krezowski, John Sturner, Karen Trembley, Mickey Utech, Jack Johnson, Mark Johnson....Liaison Jim Carlson.

Guests Present: Len and Bethal Anderson, Scott Turner, Rick Bruesewitz, Ron Smith, Howard Bass and Tom Peterson.

Motion was made by John Sturner and seconded by Mark Johnson to accept minutes 9-13-2013.

Mickey Utech reviewed the Treasurers report with the board. Motion was made by John Sturner to accept treasurer's report and seconded by Jim Krezowski.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Bruce Johnson viewed the flowering rush on Wabun Bay. Bruce will keep an eye on this.

Bruce Johnson asked how we could get family history articles for the newsletter. We will have a request for family stories in the upcoming BSLA newsletter.

There was discussion regarding the annual meeting in June and how we can get more folks to attend. This was tabled with more discussion to follow. We will be requesting feedback from members in the upcoming BSLA newsletter, asking for ideas to increase attendance.

OLD BUSINESS:

John Gornick and Vern Awes will put questions together for the Kennecott mining tour. Get as many folks you can for this tour. A meeting is scheduled with Matt Jeschke, PR from Kennecott, who will be arriving from Salt Lake to meet with us. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 11AM, Oct. 22 at Fireside. Bring your questions and suggestions. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP by Monday 10/21 to Jim Krezowski.

There was discussion regarding paid members, this will be reviewed again.

It was requested minutes that are approved be put on the BSLA Web site.

There were some complaints from folks requesting the newsletter be put on the BSLA Web Site. Brian Herbranson said he always puts the minutes on the website after they have been approved and the newsletter as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was discussion regarding speeding boats, blaring music and noise on Big Sandy Lake, additionally there has been garbage left on folk's docks, this is an unacceptable activity. Please be aware of folks that are water skiing, boating, swimming, fishing etc. that are enjoying the pleasures of Big Sandy Lake. There will be an article in the spring newsletter reminding folks to be good stewards on Big Sandy Lake.

There was discussion regarding the blinking tower on Big Sandy Lake, this is very annoying to folks that live in and around the tower. Janet will check with Brian Napstad on this issue.

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

Mark Johnson reported on various grants that are available to folks that have been affected by the flood of 2012. Janet Smude is working on grant money for watershed clean-up. Thanks to Mark Johnson for attending watershed meetings.

John Gornick reported the Historical sign on Bridge Road is tentatively scheduled for the 18th of October.

Andy Streeter will put together an article for the newsletter regarding the boat landings that were manned by folks checking on invasive species and such.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Len Anderson gave an overview of various mining issues that could be starting soon. Len shared issues that have developed throughout the country that are not good. It is critical that we keep a watchful eye on Kennecott. Once a permit is issued from the state, mining will happen very quickly. The most important role is the DNR (lands and minerals) as well as fisheries. Sulfide mining around Tamarack deems watching as their waste is sulfide/sulfate which is the by product and is our enemy.

Scott Turner commented on the noise issues around Big Sandy Lake, this is a tourist area and everyone needs to be good stewards on the lake. Scott will be addressing this issue in the BSLA newsletter.

Ron Smith commented that the ball diamond is ready to be used. Ron said a lot of gravel has been hauled. Ron encouraged feedback on the various roads throughout Shamrock Township.

Rick Bruesewitz of fisheries discussed how fisheries are important to the State. The DNR will be an ally with the mining issues. Rick was happy with the fish population on Big Sandy. Walleye numbers were good as well as crappies on Big Sandy Lake.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn meeting.

Karen M. Trembley, secretary

Mickey Utech will bring treats to the November meeting.

BIG SANDY LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING 11-8-2013

Held at Shamrock Town Hall

Meeting called to order by President Bruce Johnson at 8:40.

Members Present: Andy Streeter, Brian Herbranson, John Gornick, Mickey Utech, John Sturner, Vern Awes, Karen Trembley, Ben Gisselman, Mark Johnson, Janet Hill, Jack Johnson & Jim Krezowski.

Guests: Jim Carlson, Bob Greifzu, Cindy Awes & Sheriff Scott Turner.

The October minutes were changed to read the DNR will be an ally to mining. The October minutes were approved and seconded.

Mickey Utech reviewed the Treasurers report. Motion was made by John Sturner to approve treasurer's report, seconded by John Gornick.

Ben Gisselman will be looking into how we could invest our money on hand.

Presidents Report:

Bruce Johnson reported on the workshop he attended. There was discussion regarding invasive species will not be going away and the potential of the species may get worse. Bruce Johnson suggested that we get Steve McComas to come to our annual meeting as our speaker. Bruce will get in touch with Steve McComas. John Sturner will be checking with Jackie Dilley regarding the food at are annual meeting.

Discussion regarding the Rio Tinto –Kennecott meeting that was held at Fireside restaurant. Mark Johnson reported that we should get a baseline on their numbers. The BSLWAMP meeting has on their agenda to get more data on Kennecott's water quality etc. Vern Awes felt that Rio Tinto is not giving us all the correct data and warrants watching over them. Jim Krezowski reported on the meeting as well. Jim suggested getting the Minnesota Pollution Control agency involved in the mining spectrum. John Sturner will get in touch with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to make them aware of our concern about mining. Vern Awes suggested we get a position paper together regarding the mining. Ben Gisselman volunteered to start the position paper regarding the mining's plan with more discussion at the December meeting. Vern Awes made a motion to allow Ben to start the position paper, seconded by John Gornick.

John Gornick and Vern Awes will be putting up the Historical sign on Bridge Road today.

Bruce Johnson reported on our membership and how we should do the billing. It was decided that mailing will be sent out in January 2014 and we would appreciate action by March 1st. Cindy Awes and Bruce Johnson will put a letter together regarding our membership billing.

Sheriff Scott Turner reported that the Conservation Officer is still open and potentially the position will be filled by next summer. In the meantime there are folks out there to cover this open position. Scott Turner reported the buoys are out. Scott reported to be respectful of your neighbors. Also, be aware of suspicious activity around you; call the Sheriff if such activity may be happening.

Guest Jim Carlson discussed Operation Christmas and how this helps children during the Christmas Holiday.

Bruce Johnson reported on the Highway 14 clean-up which will be accomplished next spring.

Regarding winter plans: The next BSLA meeting will be held in December. Ben Gisselman will be taking care of the mail for three months, January, February & March.

New Business: There was discussion regarding the pipeline coming through McGregor and the potential of seeping oil and breakage of these pipelines. We want to make it known that we disapprove of the pipeline coming close to Big Sandy Lake and the Watershed. This pipeline will be called the sandpiper.

Jim Krezowski discussed the potential of donating property and for property owners to take this into consideration.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn meeting.

Karen M. Trembley, secretary

The next BSLA meeting will be held at the Log church on 12-13-13.

Janet Hill will be taking the minutes for December.

Bruce Johnson will be bringing treats for Dec. meeting.