

**Big Fish Lake Association September Board Meeting  
September 25, 2024; 6:00 p.m. at Mark's home**

Mark Backes, Kit Ferber, Doug Adamek, Nancy Van Erp, Allen Schmitz, Matt Peters, Megan Johnson, and John Ronning

1. Call to order (6:06 p.m.)
2. Financial Review
  - a. The Board currently has three CDs getting a 5% interest rate. Upon expiration, the rate may go to 4.5% with the Fed rate change.  
***John made a Motion to roll CDs that expire in November and December into two additional 6 month CDs, Doug 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, and it was approved.***
  - b. The current BFLA checking balance is \$23,172.98.  
Recent expenditures include \$1000 each to MN AIRSC and MN Lakes and Rivers and \$770 spent on lake maps for members.
3. Boat inspections  
Boat inspection hours have been cut back over the last two years, and no staff in October. In 2025, the same fee will be charged from the county at \$30.50 per hour of coverage. The total cost for lake association will be around \$25,000.  
  
***Kit made a motion to agree that 2025 boat inspection hours requested will be same as the BFLA 2024 request, expected cost is \$25,000, Nancy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, and it was approved.***
4. Membership update, Kit
  - \$43,841.91 raised from membership drive in 2024 with an 81% participation rate.
  - The association sold 87 laminated lake maps.
  - The association has about \$12,000 available for "additional research" designated by members on their membership forms.
  - Kit will prepare the 2025 membership letters in November.
5. Review of educational opportunities  
The Board discussed putting together an educational packet for all lake association members to continue promoting being stewards of the lake. The cost for a mailing would be \$4 each, and shoreland books would cost around \$3 each. To send something to all BFLA member would be approximately \$1400. The mailing should include a cover letter highlighting the major points from the packet and electronic versions should be posted to the lake website.
6. 2025 BFLA member events
  - The BFL annual picnic will resume in 2025 on the property of Patty and Doug Carnes.
  - Albie Kramer is interested in doing a day on the lake fishing event for people with disabilities. Members would need to volunteer for an afternoon with their pontoons/boats.
  - Social committee questions: Do we need a social committee or a social chair? What would we as members like to promote? What would we like that committee to do?

7. BFLA involvement in MN Lakes and Rivers and Stearns COLA

The board discussed how the lake can get consistent representation on these committees and organizations.

8. Other topics

- Allen noted that if the fall is dry we can move forward with excavation of outlet.
- The next newsletter should include something about not blowing leaves into the lake.
- Steve McComis is scheduled to inspect the lake this fall for AIS.

9. Adjourn (7:08 p.m.)

Future meetings:

October 16

November 13

No December meeting

January 15