

Maple Lake Improvement District Wright County

Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday, August 2, 2025

Location: Maple Lake Township Hall

Attendance: Board members Tom Valenta (Chairperson), Bob Porter (Treasurer), Chad Lashinski (Director), Dan Lagermeier (Secretary), and 36 registered property owners.

Notice for the annual meeting was posted on July 3rd at the Maple Lake Township Hall, published in the Maple Lake Messenger, and included in the property owner's mailing of July 14th. Requisite regulatory bodies were notified as well.

Tom Valenta called the meeting to order at 9:05am. The property owners in attendance were asked if there were any requests for new agenda items. None were requested.

Secretary's Report

Tom Valenta reminded the attendees that the annual meeting minutes are available on the Lake Improvement District ("LID") website, along with the minutes from all board meetings. He then asked for a motion to approve last year's minutes. A motion to approve the LID's August 2024 meeting minutes was made by Chad Lashinski and seconded by Gordon Pauman. The motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Porter presented the treasurer's report highlighting historical cash flow related to weed control, culvert projects (inclusive of the weir project), administrative costs, and approved assessments. Further, Mr. Porter explained that the total approved assessment amount increased to \$47,256 from \$43,805 over each of the prior three years, due to properties added in accordance with the LID's bylaws. Administrative expenses increased \$1,700 in 2024 due to required weir liability insurance and increased by \$5,129 in 2025 due to a third-party audit required by the state of Minnesota every five years. The LID bank account balance as of June 30, 2025, was \$36,848. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Tony Graham and seconded by Betty Thomas. The motion was unanimously approved.

Invasive Species / Lake Treatment Status

Tom Valenta presented the results of the PLM lake weed survey along with the resulting treatment plan. Additionally, a report prepared by Wright County Soil and Water ("WCSW") that tracks three important attributes of lake water quality (phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and clarity) was shared. It shows all measures below the target and improving over the period from 2015 to 2024. Lastly, a picture from the 2024 dive survey showing "Invasive Mystery Snails" was shared. These snails are present in a number of areas of the lake and are common in Minnesota lakes. They do not cause ecological damage. However, they can carry the parasites that can lead to swimmer's itch.

Rainfall, Lake Levels, and Weir Flow

Tom Valenta shared a chart showing the average annual rainfall for the Maple Lake area for the combined months of June and July covering the period of 2000 to 2025. The average is 8.6". In 2024, after the weir was installed, the rainfall total for the combined June and July period was 13.9", and in 2025 the total measured by two lake property owners was 21" and 23.8". In the seven years prior to the weir installation, the rainfall total was at or below the 8.6" average, with a seven-year average of 5.7".

This was followed by an update on the weir's downstream flow restrictions, largely cat tails or bogs, in Mill Creek prior to the Highway 55 underpass. These restrictions were creating backpressure and causing the downstream water level to be higher than normal thereby reducing water flow over the weir. The LID was granted approval to remove the restrictions and did so in mid-July. Before and after pictures were shown as well. The DNR and WCSW reviewed the situation before and after the completed work and in conjunction with the LID agreed to monitor the situation and lake levels for another year or two prior to considering potential weir modifications.

There was discussion amongst all present about periodic LID website postings of lake level height and depth of water flowing over the weir as well as more frequent property owner meetings with the LID.

New Project Possibilities and Annual Assessment Approval

Chad Lashinski led a discussion about potential new projects to divert or reduce lake inflows from its greater watershed area. Potential projects were discussed and Chad requested that property owners present reach out to him about other potential projects they felt should be addressed. Chad also outlined how the current \$150 assessment covered the annual PLM weed treatment program and that new projects would require a special assessment or the current annual assessment could be increased, thereby building a reserve for projects. Either way, projects would need to be approved at future LID annual meeting(s). No further action was proposed. A motion to approve the annual assessment at its current level of \$150 was made by Brian Peterson and seconded by Jim Carriveau. The motion was unanimously approved.

Elections

Tom Valenta opened nominations for the open position of Vice-Chair, and the replacement of Secretary Dan Lagermeier, whose term has expired. He is not seeking re-election. Scott Dose was nominated for Vice-Chair, and Charlton Gildea was nominated for Secretary. There were no further nominations. As such, both candidates were elected by unanimous consent.

With no further business to be conducted, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jennifer Zakes and seconded by Brian Peterson. The motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:55am.