

EMILY LAKES AND RIVER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 19, 2025, 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Russ Boverhuis at 7:04 pm. This meeting was hosted by Randy Manlick at his home. A potluck dinner with spouses preceded the meeting.

Board members present – Russ Boverhuis, Doug Humphrey, Randy Manlick, Mark Seifert, and Ray Wagman. Absent – Tori Ell, Jean McLeod.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda was distributed to participants and also sent via email prior to the meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's Report from the July 17 board meeting was distributed in-person as well as electronically prior to the meeting. No changes were made to the report. Doug made a motion, seconded by Randy, to approve the report. Motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

Randy M. distributed and presented the Accounts Transactions. A total of \$3,360 was spent on annual meeting expenses and Freshwater Scientific and RMB Environmental Laboratories services. We received a new membership (\$50) at the annual meeting (boosting our membership to 101) and donations for a new buoy (\$175) and key chain sales (\$31) totaling \$256. We have a current balance in checking of \$3,463.03 and \$2,386.72 in savings. Randy created two new lines in our budget: Buoy Donation and Awareness Sales. \$175 was added to the Buoy line and \$31 to the Awareness line (key chain sales). We will receive 100% reimbursement for the AIS survey and \$200 (of the \$240 cost) for veliger testing. Total expenditures to date were \$4,944.64. Mark made a motion to approve the Treasurer's reports. Doug seconded the motion. Motion was carried. Russ received an invoice from Constant Contact, our email service, and stated that we need to re-commit funds to it if we wish to retain its service next year. Randy made a motion that we retain this service. It was seconded by Mark and the motion was carried. Russ will take care of this.

2025 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Randy reiterated that our membership was now 101 (82 paid via mail or cash; 19 via Paypal). Ninety-five members was our soft goal. We will discuss potential strategies for increasing membership at the January meeting. We will follow previous years' routine regarding our membership form and mail out. Doug made a suggestion that we provide pieces of reflective tape that can be applied to members' docks or boat lifts that would be visible to indicate from the water side members of the Association. This will be discussed further at the January meeting.

MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH

a. Logtober Fest

We will discuss in January whether we wish to participate at this event.

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2025 ANNUAL MEETING

a. Things we did right/Things we need to improve

Overall, we thought we needed improvements in meeting support equipment; a projection screen, a wireless microphone and sound system. Perhaps we should also look for a better room/location that is easier to hear in?

b. Action Items

There were no action items *per se*. However, we did receive an email from a member asking if there was anything that could be done to avoid damaging propellers when entering/leaving Emily Lake due to the shallowness of the water at the mouth of the Little Pine River. Russ was planning to call the water patrol to obtain their thoughts.

AIS ACTIVITIES

a. EWM Discussion

PLM has asked Russ to keep an eye out on the lily pads for signs that they are dying back so they can come out to treat for milfoil. Russ prepared a summary of where the Association stands regarding EWM expenses and our available funds. Total expenses for EWM are \$13,768 (includes lake surveys and treatment). Funds from the City of Emily (\$6,952) and Crow Wing County (\$3,500) will cover most of these expenses. ELRA will pay \$3,316 to cover the remainder. Treatment will be done sometime in early October.

b. Veliger Test Results

Results came back as negative, however, Russ and Ray, who collected the water samples, questioned the reliability of the results given the challenges and amount of algae in the water they collected. Perhaps taking water samples earlier in the summer would be better.

c. Starry Trek

There is interest by lake advocates to test for starry stonewort in July, August, and September. Russ got a special rake for collecting weeds and obtained and examined several weed samples taken near the boat launch and near the dam on Lake Emily. He did not find any starry stonewort.

FISH STOCKING

We should revise how we budget and schedule fish stocking as the current formula leads to confusion and may be at odds with recommendations from the DNR regarding frequency of stocking. The permit has been submitted and the fish will be stocked out of the Fun at the Lakes Resort sometime near the end of October. For this year we will spend \$3,100 on fish stocking.

LAKE MONITORING ACTIVITIES

a. Water Quality

Randy reported an improving September Secchi reading for Lake Mary at 6 ft with very little algae bloom. The reading on Emily was 2 ft with a lot of algae.

b. Lake Level

No report for this month.

c. Schedule Buoy Removal

Ray, Randy, and Mark will meet at Russ's cabin on October 4th at 11am to go out and take the buoys in.

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d. Loon Nest Boxes

Ray spoke with someone at the National Loon Center and they suggested we first identify where the active loon nests are found on our lakes. Because the loons have long since left their nests, we are unsure where their nests were earlier in the summer. Russ suggested we contact someone from the Loon Project, which was studying loon nests when they discovered purple loosestrife in the water on the south side of Emily Lake. Ray will reach out to someone there for further information. Ray will build a nest box this winter.

2026

a. Election of Board Officers

Randy made a motion, seconded by Mark, that we keep the same officers. Motion was carried. This will be the last year of Russ's tenure as President.

b. Schedule January Board Meeting

Our January meeting will be an in-person meeting (host TBD) on the 17th at 1:00pm.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Website

Russ will reach out to Jack, the individual that set up the City of Emily's website, to see if he would be interested in assisting us with ours.

ADJOURNMENT

Doug made a motion for adjournment and was seconded by Ray. Meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Seifert