

Horsehead Lake Association Meeting  
October 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order – 10:00am

Roll Call

Terry Bakewell	Present	Charlie Foster	Present	Erin Munich	Excused
Karen Bakewell	Present	Dave Haywood	Excused	Mike Munsell	Present
Dan Carpenter	Present	Fred Kuebler	Present	Donna Rutter	Excused
Larry Conn	Present	Frank Masotta	Present	Tracey Thelen	Excused
Bruce Costen	Present	Paul Mercieca	Excused	Dom Theodore	Present

**Introduction of Guests:**

Debbie Hill  
Larry Harrington  
Lee McFall

**Public Comments** - There were no public comments

**Review and approval of prior meeting's minutes** – *Motion was made by Bruce Costen to approve the minutes, Support by Fred Kuebler, Unanimous*

**Review and approval of Treasurer's report -**

General Fund Balance- \$6,162.14  
Fish Management Balance - \$7,290.58  
Fireworks pass through -\$14,452.50  
Reserve Fund-\$5000.00

Items paid for in September were- projector A.V. system in the amount of \$602.36 and a donation to the fish fund in the amount of \$500

*Motion to approve September Statement – Dom Theodore, Support – Bruce Costen, Unanimous.*

**Lake Ecology/Fish Management** – Terry Bakewell attended the Inland Lake Conference in September and said it was a well-attended conference and that it was very informational. Terry provided a PowerPoint presentation that was very helpful in detailing some of the information he saw at the conference. Terry attended many breakout sessions. Below is a summary of a few of those sessions.

**Panfish Management-** A survey of 30,000 fishermen show that 95% of fish caught are panfish, mostly Bluegills and Crappie. The reasons why fishermen target bluegills are to fill the limits and target Crappies are for the large size of the fish.

It has been shown in tests by the D.N.R in Minnesota and Wisconsin that if the limits are reduced and adding slot limits the results are larger and more fish. Wisconsin started a test on 10 lakes in 2022 with great results and now will be testing 100 lakes next year.

If large Sunfish males are continuously caught the dwarf males dominate the nests resulting in small gills. There has been tests to close the season of gills during spawning (May and June) with great results. Most state fisheries support this closure.

**Climate Change-** The studies are showing that the summer season is lasting longer and is wetter than prior years. Studies on Gull Lake in southern Michigan tracked the temps for the last 100 years and it does show water temp have increased.

**Invasive Species Watch-** There are several new invasive species that are now being carefully watched by the DNR. Some are European Frog-bit, Water Hyacinth and Water Hydrilla. If anyone thinks they see these on the lake let the board know.

Terry talked to Steve from Lakefront Solutions and based on studies of other lakes it is **NOT RECOMMENDED** to skip a year of weed control. We could lose control of the evasive on the lake.

**Community Outreach Items for Newcomer Flyer** – No update

**Communication/Newsletter** – No update

### **Carryover and new Business**

**President Search Committee** – Mike will be resigning his position of president of the board in August of 2025. A search committee will be established at our April 2025 meeting. ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD, THANK YOU MIKE FOR EVERYTHING YOU HAVE DONE FOR THE LAKE ASSOCIATION.

**Raising membership dues in 2025**- After much discussion a motion was made by Frank Masotta to raise the yearly dues from \$25 annually to \$35 annually. The reasoning is that board costs are going up and the possibility that the newsletter printing and mailing costs would be covered by a longtime sponsor of the association. The motion was supported by Dan Carpenter, 14 Yea, 1 Nea. Motion approved.

There was also discussion to start a fundraiser through selling Horsehead flags and other merchandise that would include the new HHL logo.

**Naming the various areas of the Lakes**- Frank Masotta and Dave Haywood have done a lot of research on naming areas of the lake. Work will continue and the board will approach the topic at the April 2025 meeting.

**2024 Walleye planting, 1,850 ordered** – Terry Bakewell will be our contact person and work with the fishery on timing.

**Options for fish planting 2025** – Tabled until 2025

**L.J.B. no-wake lake sign** - The Martiny Township board approved \$200 to replace the no-wake lake signs at the entrance into Little John Brown Lake.

**Fish Study** – While attending the Inland Lake Conference Terry Bakewell found another company that would do a fish study at a much-reduced cost compared to other companies. The board will table this discussion until 2025.

**Loon Ranger Report** - Charlie Foster reported that the lake had 2 families of loons this year, each with one chick. Both chicks survived this summer. All of the adult loons have left the lake on their migration south. The two chicks are still on the lake but should leave shortly.

**Eliminate the March meeting** – A recommendation was made to eliminate the March meeting as many members are not available to attend.

*Motion was made by Bruce Costen to eliminate the march meeting, Support by Charlie Foster, Unanimous*

**Adjourn** - *Motion to adjourn Dom Theodore, Support by Fred Kuebler, Unanimous*

**No more 2024 HLA Board Meetings-**

**No Meetings scheduled for November, December, January 2025, and February 2025. Next meeting will be in April, 2025.**