

MWLA Board of Directors Meeting

April 20, 2026

Minutes

President Greg Holt called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Members Present: Greg Holt, Jody Miller, Delp Schafer, Tom Kramer, Tom Bernhardt, Carla Biwan-Hameister, Angela Dombrowicki, Sue Austin, and Eleanor Butler

Others Present: Abby Vogt, Woods and Water Director, North Lakeland Discovery Center (NLDC) and Sue Kapal, Consultant

Members Absent: Mary Bowlus, Mike McKeon

Agenda: Jody Miller moved to approve the agenda; Greg Holt seconded. The agenda was approved.

Minutes: Jody motioned to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025 MWLA Board of Directors meeting; Tom Kramer seconded. The minutes were approved.

Reports

AIS/TAISP and AIS Grants-Abby Vogt

- AIS Grants- The NLDC received approval for all or part of the funding for each of the planning, early detection, and control AIS grants applied for this year.
- Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) Management Plan- There is a meeting with the NLDC and Onterra on May 12, 2026 from 1 to 3 pm at the Manitowish Waters Community Center to discuss updates, new techniques and management of CLP. MWLA Board members are strongly encouraged to attend.

Fisheries-Tom Kramer

- DNR Study of Walleyes-There will be a DNR Study on the Manitowish Chain regarding the walleye population this summer.
- Fish Sticks-There will be 12 sets of fish sticks dropped on Rest Lake in 20 feet of water in August at Camp Jorn. Underwater cameras will be installed to monitor fish behavior.

Administrative

Financial Report-Eleanor Butler and Sue Kapal

Miscellaneous donations were \$16,000 vs. \$4,000 budgeted and member dues were \$10,000 to date vs \$8,000 budgeted. Budgeted numbers are annual for the period June 1, 2025-May 31, 2026.

Sue Austin moved to approve the Financial Report; Tom Kramer seconded. The Financial Report was approved.

Outreach

- Newsletter-Angela Dombrowicki
The Board discussed a number of topics for the Spring Newsletter. Tom will provide information on the DNR Walleye Study.
- Facebook-Sue Austin
MWLA's Facebook page had 1,118 views and continues to get views on a regular basis.

- Wheels, Wings, and Waters-May 23-MWLA will have a booth and sell merchandise as well as have additional Board members on site to promote new membership.
- July 3 and 4-This year Manitowish Waters will host a two-day event-- July 3 at the Community Center and July 4 for the parade and events at Koller Park.
Trout Pond-MWLA will resume the Trout Pond this year on July 3 at the Community Center. A reminder that the Trout Pond is back will be included in the Newsletter.
MWLA Float-Sue Austin will ask the membership for ideas and volunteers for the float on Facebook.
- Tent for Events-Sue Austin will look into the costs of purchasing a new tent for MWLA booths to replace the current one and report back to the Board on costs and options.
- AIS Trainings-A handout was distributed to Board members with dates for the trainings with the NLDC (June 12, July 9, July 16, and August 4) and will be posted on the MWLA website and other venues. We will ask for volunteers at a later date.

Old Business

- Membership-Jody Miller
Jody updated the Board on several ideas to increase membership and will have more information once decisions are made at the next Membership Committee meeting on April 27.
- Fund Raising-Tom Kramer
The Fund-Raising committee will meet again soon and is looking for a resort to donate use of a cabin on a lake for one week in 2027. This experience will be the prize for a raffle to be held in 2026.

New Business

- Logging Administrative Time-Board members will begin logging their time spent on MWLA administrative activities as soon as the correct form is received and questions about eligible activities are answered. Up to 10% of administrative time can be used as an in-kind match for grants.
- Four-year financial planning re: Grant Funding/ Cash Flow-Tom Bernhardt/Sue Kapal
Tom and Sue explained a spreadsheet and method they developed to monitor the MWLA financial obligations for funding and the cash flow of MWLA's share of grant funds based on MWLA's fiscal years. Most grants are on a calendar year basis and MWLA's fiscal year is June 1-May 31. The spreadsheet will be updated as needed.
- Signs at Boat landings-The Board discussed revising/updating current MWLA signs at boat landings.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am by President Greg Holt.

The next meeting will be May 18, 2026 at 9:30 am at the Discovery Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Dombrowicki
Vice President