

MORTON TOWNSHIP TRI-LAKES ASSOCIATION

May 9, 2026

Approved June 13, 2026

Call to order at 9:00 a.m. by Myle Turpen - President

Roll Call:

- Present: Myle Turpen (President), Sandy Brogan, Dave Lewis, Martha Boetcher, Julia Harris, James Samuels, Laura Angera, Devin Nabozny
- Excused: Joan Parks (Secretary), Mike Burnard (Treasurer), Karen Slenk
- Zoom: Randy Walsdorf (Vice President), Rob Bandfield
- Guests: Jeff Grooter - Fox Marine, Craig Roach, Round Lake resident

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Sandy Brogan, second by Laura Angera to accept the minutes of the April 11, 2026 meeting, motion passed.

Officers Reports:

- President - no formal report, items and discussion will occur later in meeting.
- Treasurer - Report included
 - Income for the Month of April \$3,580.00
 - Expenses for the Month of April \$1,074.57
 - 273 members in good standing
 - Treasurer's report is in Money Minder Pro

Motion by Dave Lewis, second by Julia Harris to accept the Treasurer's report; motion passed.

Directors Reports:

- Fish & Wildlife – There are reports of beaver damage, no trapping is occurring now. Recommendation is to wrap chicken wire around the base of trees. Dozens of swans are on Round Lake.
- Lake Improvement Board – The first survey for invasive plants will occur on May 26, 2026, weather permitting. Treatment will be scheduled for the first week of June. Board members who do water sampling for CLMP have all of the materials needed for testing.
- Loons - Loons have been spotted on a nest in the outlet channel and on Fickes Island in Lake Mecosta. Dave pulled the artificial nesting island. Literature from Michigan Loon Preservation Association, including a tri-fold brochure and a 4"x 8" flyer, can be offered to visitors at the public launch. Motion by Dave Lewis, second by Myle Turpen to spend up to \$200.00 from Lake Quality Fund to reproduce materials for placement in the display box at the public launch; motion passed. Myle is checking with Creative Concepts on cost of a metal sign with loon information. No discussion on installation of a box for used fishing line and lures at the public launch.
- Dam/Buoys – Two boards were lowered on May 2, 2026; the remaining board will probably be lowered the week of May 11, 2026. Dave Lewis and Devin Nabozny put the buoys and markers in place. The signs for Lake Coffee Break

and July 4th boat parade will be installed soon. Dave Lewis will update the DNR permit application for buoys.

- Public Landing/Friends of the Lakes – MSU Extension has scheduled 3 dates for the Clean Boats, Clean Water boat wash event: June 12th, July 16th and August 1st, from 10 AM to 3 PM at the Lake Mecosta boat launch. Jeff Grooter indicates that Fox Marine would like to partner with MSU and TLA and perhaps provide collateral. Donation plaques for Sam Wernette and Sue Rice will be purchased and installed in the Friends of the Lakes display case.
- Membership - 273 current members. A list of memberships expiring in 2026 has been sent to Board Members for follow-up with neighbors and acquaintances.

Standing Committees:

Communication:

- The first Electronic Newsletter of 2026 was sent to 266 members; 6 were returned (bad email address), and 61 opened the email. One member requested to unsubscribe. The next newsletter will feature information from the Links for the Lakes Event and will be sent around June 15, 2026.
- Website – David Turpen continues to work on the new website, with migration planned for the week of May 11, 2026. Information on events, membership, lake treatment updates, and all advertising will be updated. He also plans to use a drone to take photos of the lakes and Dead Stream.
- Postcard Mailing to members with information on the electronic newsletter was sent May 6, 2026.
- Facebook – All golf sponsors have been featured, and there has been a post on the Lake Coffee Break on June 20, 2026. Next push will be candid photos from the golf outing. Devin Nabozny will work with Myle Turpen on postings.

Recreation:

- Links for the Lakes - June 3, 2026 is the date. Volunteers have been secured for all tasks. Board members if they haven't already done so, are asked to provide a raffle prize.
- Youth Fishing - July 11, 2026 is the scheduled date with July 12, 2026 being the rain date. It will take place at Round Lake. Participants may register beginning June 15, 2026.
- Boat parade will be on July 4, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. on Lake Mecosta. Plaques have been ordered.

Watershed:

- Lake Coffee Break is scheduled for June 20, 2026. There will be a welcome table, featured speaker, and a poster session including information on shoreline buffers, measuring lake health, score the shore results, conservation district materials, and MRWA materials. Attendees will receive a native plant.
- Martha encouraged everyone to attend the 2027 MLSA annual conference. She talked about how growth of cladophora can be evidence of a leaking septic system.

Unfinished Business:

- Bylaws Review - Copies of the proposed bylaws suggested by the committee were distributed. Myle Turpen reviewed the major changes that have been suggested. Board members are asked to review the proposed draft and submit comments **by June 1, 2026** so the revisions can be discussed at the June meeting, approved at the July meeting and voted on by the membership in August.
- Morton Township - Master Plan is close to being finalized for approval by the Board of Trustees. Once approved, there is a 63-day review period prior to a public hearing. The zoning ordinances are still being worked on and edited.
- Birch Grove Trail – Myle Turpen and Sandy Brogan were able to walk the proposed trail with Lorne Beatty of the Township recreation committee and Yo Bellingar, Trustee.

New Business:

- Motion be Sandy Brogan, seconded by Julia Harris to pay \$50 for annual dues for the Michigan Loon Preservation Association and \$150 membership for Michigan Waterfront Alliance, both from Lake Quality Fund; motion passed.

Public Comment:

- Jeff Grooter - Fox Marine suggested that TLA provide a membership packet that could be given out to new residents who might be shopping for boats. Referred to the membership committee.
- Martha Boetcher distributed a “Welcome to the Watershed” guide from the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council.
- Craig Roach asked about the Tri-Lakes response to complaints regarding unsafe boating practices.
- ‘Dave Lewis recommended that Craig Roach complete the questionnaire as a potential Board member.

Date of the next regular board meeting is June 13, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Morton Township Library.

Motion to adjourn made by Sandy Brogan, seconded by Dave Lewis; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Sandy Brogan