

Morton Township Tri-Lakes Association

Board Meeting

Recorded – September 13, 2025

Approved October 11, 2025

Call to Order at 10:03 am by Myle Turpen, President

Roll Call – Present: Myle Turpen (President), Dave Lewis, Julia Harris, Rob Bandfield, Martha Boetcher, Laura Angera, Karen Slenk, Sandy Brogan

Zoom attendees: Randy Walsdorf (Vice President), Devin Nabozny

Excused: Mike Burnard (Treasurer), Joan Parks, Jim Parker, Bruce Miller, Jim Samuels

Guests: Glenn Spence, Lorne Beatty

Approval of Minutes – Motion by Martha Boetcher, second by Dave Lewis to approve 8.9.2025 Board Meeting Minutes; motion carried.

Officers' Reports

Presidents report:

1. Election of President and Secretary: Motion by Sandy Brogan, second by Rob Bandfield to elect Myle Turpen to a 2-year term as president; motion carried. Motion by Myle Turpen, second by Rob Bandfield to elect Joan Parks to a 2-year term as secretary; motion carried.
2. Annual tax filing: The 990N annual report is due to the IRS; Myle will ask Barb Tish (H&R Block) to complete the return as she has been our contact person with IRS. Motion by Sandy Brogan, second by Karen Slenk to pay Barb Tish \$50 out of the general account to complete the 2024-2025 990N; motion carried.
3. Given the change in our fiscal year to coincide with IRS data, our documents in Money Minder Pro are off by one month, and changing that dates and data in MMP is very complicated. The only documents that are affected by this is the use of the year-to date statements for completion of the annual 990N IRS form. It was decided that no change will be made to our MMP documents; the annual 990N will have to be computed manually.

Treasurer's report:* Sandy Brogan reported in the absence of Mike Burnard: total income of \$880.00 (memberships and Riparian), and expenses of \$1,039.57 (Web hosting, Cheddar-up fees, MLSA for annual membership and Riparian, State of Michigan for annual corporate filing fee, Liability insurance). Motion by Rob Bandfield, second by Karen Slenk to accept the treasurer's report as presented; motion carried.

Membership and affiliation fees: Motion by Sandy Brogan, second by Julia Harris to pay a) \$100 to Freshwater Future (LQF), b) \$150 to Michigan Waterfront Alliance (Legal), c) \$50 to Michigan Loon Preservation Association (LQF), and d) \$50 donation to Muskegon River Watershed Assembly (LQF); motion carried.

Full report available to view in Money Minder Pro

Vice-Presidents Report: Randy Walsdorf continues to work on developing emergency procedures for the lakes.

Director Reports

Fish & Wildlife Management –*Walleye:* Dave Lewis confirmed with Stoney Creek Fisheries our purchase of 1500 walleye fingerlings for \$6,036.70. Delivery will be sometime in late October. *Beavers:* Dave Lewis and Carl Meissner attempted to travel up Dead Stream via canoe to set traps for beavers but the passage is blocked by beaver dams and thick vegetation. Arlene Vincent, representative of Blue Triton, approved putting in near the M-20 dam to try to reach the blocked areas. Discussion of whether this is something that the Lake Improvement Board could address.

Lake Improvement Report –The Lake Improvement Board will meet on 9.25.2025 to decide if the purple loosestrife in Dead Stream will be treated with the purple loosestrife beetle (*Galerucella* sp. Beetle). Rick Buteyn has forwarded information to the Board members on the logistics of placing the plants containing the beetles and 2026 costs from supplier Keiser & Associates. The 2025 special assessment roll will be approved at that meeting as well.

Most of the water sampling for CLMP has been completed. Score the Shore evaluation is in process. Devin Nabozny volunteered to assist Dave Lewis with placing and removing the buoys and markers in spring and fall.

Loon Report – Offspring of loons on Blue Lake and Lake Mecosta are doing well. Northern loons have started to migrate.

Dam – All boards remain down since 4.5.2025.

Public Landing/Friends of the Lake – MSU boat wash was held on 8.24.2025 from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Discussion of appointing TLA members as “lake stewards” to be at the launch when fishing tournaments are held and distribute informational material to boaters (high speed boating hours, respect for lakes and other boaters and fishermen, importance of “clean, drain, dry” to remove invasive aquatic species, etc.).

Membership - 268 current members.

Standing Committees

Communication

(Karen Slenk) - Karen wants to establish a communication strategy this winter, including mission statement and purpose of the communications committee. She will check with Ferris about securing an intern to assist with overall communications projects in 2026. Myle will set up a meeting to lay out the groundwork for the electronic version of the newsletter in 2026 and the steps necessary to convert from our present format; needs to be drafted prior to the initial planning for the 2026 golf outing

Newsletter: Next newsletter should be ready for printing in mid-October.

Facebook & Website (Karen Slenk): Karen continues to slowly make revisions to both sites. Devin offered to help with Facebook next summer.

Recreation No report.

Watershed Quality

(Julia Harris): Would like to coordinate/partner with the local Conservation District and Muskegon River Watershed Assembly. Proposal for 2026 includes one major event with both digital and on-site presentations; goal is for 150 participants. Planting of native materials at the launch will continue in 2026.

Unfinished Business

Morton Township Draft Master Plan: The Public Hearing on the draft Master Plan is scheduled for 9.23.2025 at 4:00 PM. Guests Lorne Beatty (Morton Township Recreation Committee and MTRFRD) and Glenn Spence (President, MTRFRD) participated in a discussion centering on major talking points for the hearing, including requirements for lake carrying capacity and traffic studies – paid for by developer - when projects are proposed. Other topics to mention include the need for a strong ordinance regulating keyhole development, and the need for enforcement of all zoning ordinances to make the Master Plan an effective document. TLA Members will be reminded of the public hearing by email from TLA; also posting on Facebook. Myle will message the Board to find out who is going to speak at the hearing, and who will be sending in written comments.

By-laws review: The ad hoc committee to revise the by-laws (S. Brogan, J. Samuels, J. Harris, and M. Turpen) will work on the project over winter, with a projected completion date of March, 2026.

New Business

Mecosta County Sheriff patrol requests 2026: Discussion tabled until 10.11.2025 meeting.

HB 5532 (Regulation of Wakeboats): Discussion tabled until 10.11.2025 meeting.

Public Comment - No public comment.

Next Board Meeting - October 11, 2025 at 9:00 AM at the Township Hall, or 10:00 AM at the Morton Township Library.

Adjournment – Motion (Dave Lewis), second (Julia Harris) to adjourn; motion approved and meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.

Respectfully submitted
Sandy Brogan