

Morton Township Tri-Lakes Association

Board Meeting

Recorded – November 8, 2025

Approved 12.13.2025

Call to Order at 9:07 am by Myle Turpen, President

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

Zoom attendees: Mike Burnard (Treasurer)

Excused: Joan Parks, Karen Slenk, Jim Samuels, Jim Parker

Absent: Bruce Miller, Devin Nabozny

Approval of Minutes – Motion by Dave Lewis, second by Martha Boetcher to approve 10.11.2025 Board Meeting Minutes with corrections to names, change of amount paid to C. Meissner to \$360, addition of comments regarding membership and CLMP; motion carried.

Officers' Reports

Presidents report: Federal tax form 990N has been submitted; TLA paid \$50 to H&R Block to complete the form. Myle compiled an income summary for the 2024-2025 fiscal year for reference.

Treasurer's report*: Total income of \$50.00 (membership), and expenses of \$6,262.69 (Web hosting, MRWA donation from LF, MWA membership from LQF, Stoney Creek for walleye). Action be the Board in September approved MRWA donation from LQF, and MWA membership from LF. However, there are insufficient funds in LF to cover cost. Motion by Myle Turpen, second by Sandy Brogan to pay MWA out of the LQF; MRWA out of LQF; accept treasurers report with modifications; motion carried. Discussion of how to increase funds in the legal fund; allocate a portion of the golf outing proceeds? Can monies in the spongy moth account be transferred? Check with Jim Samuels for legal advice. *Full report available to view in Money Minder Pro*

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

Director Reports

Fish & Wildlife Management –Walleye: Dave Lewis confirmed that Stoney Creek Fisheries planted 1500 walleye fingerlings on October 28, 2025. **Beavers:** Despite removal of 9 beavers last month, W. Blue Lake Dr. is flooding again. Dave has also had complaints of beaver activity in several other areas around the lakes. Dave Lewis and Carl Meissner will set traps again 11.8.2025. Dave questioned whether TLA should have some formal agreement with Carl, such as a liability waiver or contract? Following discussion, it was decided to draw up a liability waiver for Carl to sign, but hold off on anything else. Compensation will be based on invoicing from Carl. Myle made an initial contact with the Water Resources office in EGLE, where formal direction on management of beavers is handled. It is a lengthy process and the decision was made to hold off for now.

Lake Improvement Report –The Lake Improvement Board met on 9.25.2025 to set assessments for 2026.

Loon Report –Northern loons continue to migrate.

Dam – All boards were raised on 10.28.2025.

Public Landing/Friends of the Lake – No change.

Membership - 271 current members.

Standing Committees

Communication

Facebook & Website (Karen Slenk): No update on Facebook or web site.

Newsletter: The last newsletter of 2025 was mailed this week. Printing was \$355.15, and there was also the cost of \$81.20 for additional postage. 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. ChatGPT or Copilot programs may be helpful.

Recreation No report.

Watershed Quality

(Martha Boetcher): Martha gave an update on the Shoreline and Shallows workshop that she recently attended. She had copies of the new booklet "Protecting Inland Lakes Through Natural Shorelines." Martha will request a box of the booklets for TLA to distribute, initially to new members and construction contractors, but also during educational events. Martha mentioned the on-line course "Introduction to Lakes" offered by MSU Extension:

www.canr.msu.edu/lakesonline. Course fee is \$95, which will be reimbursed by MLSA for individual MLSA members (\$45/year). Data collection for "Score the Shore" on Lake Mecosta has been submitted, and results will be available when the CLMP report is published in the spring.

Unfinished Business

Morton Township Draft Master Plan (Mike Burnard): The Board of Trustees will reject the draft Master Plan at their monthly meeting on 11.12.2025, based on input from Township residents and recommendation from the Township attorney. The draft will be returned to the Planning Commission to make revisions. Any revisions will trigger another 62-day review period and public hearing.

Zoning Ordinances: The Planning Commission is also in the process of updating Township ordinances. TLA sub-committee (Myle Turpen, Sandy Brogan, Julia Harris) will research ordinances that impact the lakes (anti-funneling, docks, noise, septic systems, wake boats, etc.) to draft a letter to the Planning Commission from TLA and have ready for the TLA Board to review at the December meeting.

Arlene Vincent request: Arlene (Blue Triton) has asked for 45 minutes at a TLA meeting; question as to what will be addressed. She will be offered to give her presentation at 9:30 AM on 1.10.2026 via Zoom; limited to 20 minutes with 10 minutes for questions. Mike will arrange.

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

Candidate for Board of Directors: George Rosen from Blue Lake is interested in serving on the TLA Board. We currently have 15 members, but Myle will talk with Bruce Miller who is currently serving in an interim position.

Record of Volunteer hours: Martha will re-send information on using Jotform to record volunteer hours.

Public Comment - No public comment.

Next Board Meeting - December 13, 2025 at 9:00 AM at the Township Hall, or 10:00 AM at the Morton Township Library.

Adjournment – Motion (Randy Walsdorf), second (Dave Lewis) to adjourn; motion approved and meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted
Sandy Brogan