Clear Lake Association

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
September 5, 2026

CALL TO ORDER - President Chris Berke called the meeting to order at 10:07 am with 24 people in attendance.

OFFICER ROLL CALL – The following officers were present:

President – Chris Berke
Vice President – Ryan Miller
Secretary – Linda Telfer
Treasurer – Scott Palma
Members-At-Large – Cheryl Courtney and Susan Salinger
Not present were Sean Kelly and Peter Gingrich (Members at Large)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion by Mark Ryan, seconded by Cindy Fagan, to accept the August 30, 2025, annual meeting minutes. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Scott Palma reported that the beginning bank balance as of August 30, 2025 was $2725.71. The "fees" under expenses were for the Venmo transaction. Scott noted that the bank balance as of August 31, 2026 is $2534.84. He also reported that at the bottom of the report is information on the Clear Lake Special Account that is managed by the township with $13,148.51 in expenses leaving a balance in that account of $29,833.19.

STANDING COMMITTEES

July 4th Boat Parade – Cheryl Courtney reported that she thought that the boat parade went well with the winner being the Garlicks. After much discussion, motion by Susan Salinger, seconded by Ryan Miller that only decorated boats be eligible for the prize but that anyone can be in the parade. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Fireworks – Chris Berke reported that many residents had great comments about the 2026 fireworks with $1000 being donated ($500 from the association and $500 from personal donations).

Weed Control Update – Chris Berke indicated that three surveys have been done this year with the last survey indicating that no treatment was needed.

DNR Fish Management 2025-2026 Update – Chris Berke noted that the Northern Pike regulation change is going through the process and he will be notified once it has final approval. Members questioned where this would be posted and Chris noted that it will be in the DNR guidelines.

Lake Level Report – Ryan Miller distributed a report on the lake level noting that it had dropped 17" from April through August this year. An article from the Michigan Riparian was shared with those in attendance regarding lake levels. Discussion followed regarding if the DNR would consider dropping gravel at the end of the boat launch since there is a 16" drop off now. Ryan Miller and Mike Hughes agreed to serve on an ad hoc committee to look into this further.

Muskrat Update – Chris Berke indicated that he had contacted the muskrat trapper and he indicated that 21 muskrats were taken off the lake last year. He reminded everyone that since there is a public access, anyone who wants to trap can do so as long as they remain on the lake. Cheryl Courtney indicated that the trapper was asked to not trap in certain areas and he did abide by that request.

NEW BUSINESS

Welcome – The new residents introduced were the Wards and Gutierrezes.

Fish Planting – Sean Kelly (not present) had provided a report on the fish planting for Clear Lake with a recommendation for the current year. After much discussion, three proposals were presented: Proposal A – Sean's Proposal for walleye and perch; Proposal B – only blue gills and perch; Proposal C – no fish planting. Motion by Ryan Miller, seconded by Cheryl Courtney, to accept Proposal B with 225 blue gills and 225 perch being planted this year with no association dues money being used, only personal donations designated for the fish planting. Motion passed.

Further discussion evolved with a motion by Mike Hughes, seconded by Cheryl Courtney, to plant equal quantities of blue gills and perch this year, up to $1000, with no funds being used from the Clear Lake Association dues and only personal donations to the fish fund set aside in the account for this. If the amount collected is not used this year, it can be carried over in the account until the following year. Motion passed.

Clear Lake Picnic – Chris Berke indicated that many have expressed their concern about the Sunday following July 4th as a problem for the picnic since many have visitors. Chris indicated that in 2027, July 4th falls on a Sunday. The group consensus was that the host could pick a date as long as it was in July. The Gutierrezes agreed to host the 2027 picnic with a July 17th tentative date set.

Election of Officers – The unanimous decision of those present resulted in the following people being elected to the following positions:

President – Chris Berke
Vice President – Ryan Miller
Secretary – Linda Telfer
Treasurer – Pam Hughes
Members at Large – Mike Hughes and Shirley Palma

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:33 am.

Submitted by,
Linda Telfer
CLA Secretary