

2025 Long Lake at Vergas Lake Association Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday July 19, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Hobart Township Hall

In Attendance: 70+ Long Lake Property Owners and Guests

Paid Members: 93 as of July 19, 2025

President Eddy Roesch called the meeting to order.

Welcome, agenda updates and introduction of guest speaker Doug Schulz, LLVLA member/Water Monitoring and Beaver Control. Reminders to provide Colleen Slough with current email address for any members that have not received emails. Also volunteer opportunities exist/signup sheet available at the meeting or contact one of the Board members or your beach captain.

Business Meeting

- I. Motion to approve the agenda by Tim Nephew. Motion was seconded.
- II. Adam Olson announced the beach captains, other Board members, Facebook and Water Monitoring and Beaver Control committees. Motion to approve by Roger Johnson. Seconded by Brad Offutt.
- III. Motion made by Maria Roesch to approve the Secretary Report. Seconded by Joy Stumbo.
- IV. Motion made by Tim Nephew to approve the Treasurer Report. Seconded by Colleen Slough.
- V. Our guest speaker, Doug Schulz provided updates on fish stocking/limits, beaver management and water levels.
 - a. LLVLA will continue to perform supplemental stocking in odd years when not stocked by the DNR. LLVLA will perform fish stocking in August 2025. The 1st stocking was done Oct 2021 with 402 pounds of walleye fingerlings. The cost was \$7,225 with the Board contributing \$5,000 and \$2,225 private donations received. In 2022 the DNR stocked 6,000 fingerlings and 629 yearlings. In Oct 2023 LLVLA performed a 2nd stocking for 6,692 fingerlings. \$1,890 was funded from private donations and the Board contributed the balance. In 2024 the DNR stocked yearlings, fingerlings and adult walleyes. LLVLA stocking is performed at Sunset Bay Resort. DNR stocking is done at the public access. Fish stocking by LLVLA will continue in off years. The number of fish we stock depends on donations/money raised. Looking for additional ideas to fund so that we can increase the amounts stocked. Send donations to LLVLA P.O. Box 43 Vergas, MN 56587 or contact your beach captain or Board member.
 - b. The DNR is proposing to reduce the walleye limit from 6 to 4. There are seven lakes in Otter Tail County proposed for reduced crappie limits: Star, Big Pine, Little Pine, West Battle, Fish by Weetown, Fish by Parkers Prairie, and Orwell Reservoir. This was the first phase of an initiative to implement reduced crappie limits on a limited number of lakes statewide. On Long Lake, the DNR considers walleye and bluegills primary species to manage and northern pike and bass secondary species. A petition was distributed at the meeting to ask the DNR to prioritize crappies as a secondary species and institute the 5 crappie limit on Long Lake as well. 47 people signed the petition to date.

- c. Several residents reported continued beaver damage. On the East end of Long Lake, the beavers took down trees in several residents' yards and dragged them into the lake. You are allowed to trap or shoot beavers at any time if you have evidence of destruction. Contact your beach captain or Board member if you experience tree loss due to beaver destruction so we can document.
 - d. Doug also provided information on shoreline levels. The lake is at a good minimal level this year. The goal is to maintain the best lake levels that satisfy all lake members and establish best practices and revisit periodically. We have established good relationships with the DNR and County to manage/understand the barriers and challenges to what is allowed.
- VI. A resident asked about stocking Long Lake with lake trout. In past discussions with the DNR, they did not believe trout are a good fit for our lake.
- VII. A resident brought up reduced water quality conditions. Please report to one of the Lake Officers or your beach captain if you witness anyone dumping or performing activities which harm the lake.
- VIII. There are no reported cases of swimmers itch on Long Lake at this time.

IX. Announcements:

- 1. LLVLA will be participating in the Looney Days Long Lake Boat Parade. The parade is on Friday, August 1st at 6:00 PM. The theme will be "Looney Christmas". 1st place prize will be \$600 from Lake Hound Marine; 2nd place prize is \$200 Looney Bucks and 3rd place prize is free membership dues in 2026.
- 2. Thank you to Craig Ruhland for volunteering to chair the newly created Event/Fund Raising Committee and Bob Hagar for participating as a committee member. Additional members are needed. Please contact one of the officers or your beach captain if you are interested in joining.
- 3. Hwy 60 ditch cleanup will take place in the Fall. More information will be sent via email.
- 4. Please review the boating rules, regulations, and etiquette so that all can enjoy a safe experience on Long Lake. In general, just be respectful.
- 5. We will continue with our beaver control measures. If beavers are causing damage to your property, you can trap or shoot them.
- 6. Contact your beach captain with suggestions and ideas.
- 7. Thank you to Doug Schulz for being the guest speaker.
- 8. Thank you to our kitchen crew: Ellie Johnson, Jane Nephew, Tracy Offutt and Janelle Lotzer.
- 9. Thank you to Duane and Linda Johnson for obtaining the many door prizes. Thanks to all the local businesses who donated.
- 10. Thank you to our decoration committee: Colleen Slough and Pam Kirsch.

XVII. Current List of the Board of Directors/Appointed Positions:

- 1. President: Eddy Roesch
- 2. Vice President: Adam Olson
- 3. Secretary: Colleen Slough
- 4. Treasurer: Bette Pitzel
- 5. Past President: Pam Kirsch
- 6. North Central Beach Captain: Duane & Linda Johnson
- 7. Northeast Beach Captain: Mike Burke
- 8. South (narrows) Beach Captain: Brad Offutt
- 9. South Central Beach Captain: Roger Johnson

10. Southeast Beach Captain: Ron Aksamit
11. Vergas City Beach Captain: Bob Hager
12. East Beach Captain: Doug Schulz
13. Social Media: Trudy Wilmer
14. Water Monitoring and Beaver Control: Doug Schulz, Jerry Bennett, Trent Crowe
15. Event/Fund Raising Committee: Craig Ruhland, Bob Hagar (NEW)!
16. Spring and Fall Ditch Clean-up Committee: Colleen Slough, Pam Kirsch, Bette Pitzel, Bob Hager, Herb Doele, Kristine Bohner and Barb Hoffman.

XVIII. Motion to adjourn by Eddy Roesch. Seconded by Colleen Slough.

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Slough, Secretary