

May 16 2026 Big Pine Lake POA Board Meeting

Start time: 9:00 Teams Virtual Meeting

Board Members Present: Sharon Esnough(difficult connection), Tom Hubbard, Mike Moore, Marie Segar, Rich Segar, Wes Thomas, Jerry Low(9:30), Amie Mayo, Dick Weber, Sharrell Wright

Member: Stacey Robin

Minutes not found on drive for approval of Sept 20, 2025 Board Meeting ; Jan 13, 2026 Special Board Meeting. Postpone until summer meeting.

Treasurer Report:

Current Well Fargo account balance - \$47238.88 (Checking \$8600.52, CD \$38637.56)

2026 income through April 2026 - Dues \$3675.00; CD (4%) \$390.36.

Annual Expenses - Carp Fence \$320; Garrison Fire Dept Donation \$100; Website Hosting (MLR) \$110; ACLARA Membership \$25; MLR Membership \$375; Insurance \$377; Events \$500; Chapel Rental \$50.

Note: Website programming expense of \$59 was a one time expense, not an annual expense.

Membership: Current members - 69 paid members out of 164 total property owners

Weed Bed Signage - Signs not out yet. Tom Hubbard and Sharrell/Derald Wright will get them placed

Water Quality Testing - Secchi disk reporting is being conducted by Dave Osier. Mike Moore conducts water level testing. Both are reported to the DNR

General discussion on lake and swamp water levels.

Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (MLR) - Dick Weber presented that an appeal is out to raise funds for MLR.

- M Segar recommended a \$625 donation/R.Segar seconded
- Clarification provided for this years full amount to MLR would be \$1110 (\$110 Website Hosting, \$375 Full Lake Association Membership; remainder toward donation of \$625).
- The motion passed unanimously

Aitkin County Lakes and Rivers Association (ACLARA) Donation - S. Wright recommended a donation to ACLARA as they are a first line through the county

- Dick Weber/Wes Thomas discussed the ACLARA relationship at the county level and the benefits of donating to their organization.
- Motion made by Tom Hubbard to remit \$500 donation, seconded by Amie Mayo. All voted and motion carried as approved.

Newsletter - Board officially thanked Marie Segar for her work and design on the BPLPOA Spring newsletter.

Road Clean-up today, May 16, 2026.

- Mike Moore asked Wes to take a group picture for the website.
- Signage: Marie Segar discussed signage for BPL events. Mike Moore made a motion for \$200 to either reimburse (with receipts) costs associated with updating existing signs and/or replacement of signs as needed. Sharrell Wright seconded. Motion passed unanimously

Signage on access roads: Dick Weber/Wes Thomas will be providing a proposal for signage in the near future for board approval. The jet ski sign will be put up like last year.

Annual Summer Member Meeting Speaker - Meeting is July 18, 2026 10:00.

- Dick Weber/Wes Johnson will contact University of Minnesota AIS Labs Jared Krebs to see if available for presentation to members at the summer meeting. If not available, or for next year's presentation, a DNR representative should be considered for a Big Pine Lake fishery review. They will coordinate with Tom Hubbard.

Boat Parade - Will be cancelled. There is no volunteer to manage the program and not enough entries to continue.

Dam Plans - Tom Hubbard advised that the DNR planning is nearly complete and Requests for Proposals to bid the project are in process for construction to begin this fall. The current bridge will be removed, raised a couple of feet, and replaced with existing bridge materials. 5 rock weir dams will be built. The height of the dam will remain the same as current (1263 ft above sea level). Marie Segar made the motion to reimburse Tom Hubbard for costs associated with building ramps for the bridge for crossing, which is not covered by the grant. Mike Moore seconded. All voted and motion carried as approved.

Beaver Dam Management - General discussion on vendors and neighbors managing.

Lake Steward Program: Sharrell Wright reported that we have two properties to evaluate that signed up last year at the end of season. Jerry Lowe, Tom Hubbard and Dick Weber are trained evaluators. Jerry Lowe has Lake Steward signs. We will continue to offer signs to post on their dock for those passing the evaluation at a cost to the member. Social media, website, board members and newsletter will continue to promote the program.

Segars Lake Front Shoreline Restoration - Rich and Marie Segar have been in contact with Aitkin Soil and Water Conservation and Laura Mendoza with Great Roots regarding 3 phases of Shoreline restoration for their property. They have been approved for a grant that will begin with Phase 1 this year to restore 30 feet of lakeshore in front of their boathouse. Fire logs, willow waddle, eros control fabric and new plantings will be installed. The grant covers 75% of the project cost and Segars are responsible for the remaining 25% which includes installation labor that can be paid toward the grant in kind with labor. Segars are asking to 1) notify members to make them aware of this grant opportunity for their properties and 2) to seek volunteers to assist in installation at Segars on June 12th (four hours) 3) publicize this opportunity for the benefit of the lake association and lakeshore owners. Rich Segar/Dick Weber will be contacting a journalist to write up a story for publication with possibly MLR, Aitkin Age, Brainerd Dispatch, Lake County Journal regarding this project.

Boat Ramp/AIS - Sharrell Wright advised that she contacted I-Lid regarding their services so that the board is aware of their service. Quotes and information obtained from I-Lid refer to 3 levels of service that many lakes in Wisconsin and Minnesota are now utilizing that includes monitoring and messaging at boat ramps. In an effort to reduce the transport of AIS. I-Lid coordinates the grant process for 501c3 lake associations to fund their service. Services range from \$8500 to \$17,000 per year and include boat detection, video monitoring, and reporting. Sharrell Wright advised that a more costly alternative would be to look at Cass County DNR approved signage and equipment placed at boat ramps for the bulk cost of \$105 per lake (estimate for non-bulk pricing would be something under \$200. Dick Weber suggested we form a task force to look into AIS prevention. Short discussion on boat ramp AIS training for volunteers and the need for additional coverage beyond DNR weekend coverage. Dick Weber, Sharrell Wright indicated an interest in the task force to further discuss the matter.

MLR Wake Map. Sharrell Wright proposed purchase of a Wake Map from MLR to be used in communications and signage as needed. One time cost is \$150. Sharrell Wright made motion to approve expenditure for \$150, Mike Moore seconded. All voted and motion carried as approved.

BPLPOA President Resignation -

- Tom Hubbard informed the board of his intent to step down from President
- the board regrettably accepted his resignation with gratitude on his many years of service and contribution. Tom will remain a board member.

Loon Build Requirements - Loons nesting. Anyone interested in requirements to build a loon nest please refer to the DNR website.

501c3 - Jerry Lowe will be talking with an attorney to see what needs to be completed and will advise the board. This status will provide BPL with more opportunities for grants.

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Point Intercept Survey - Last Survey was in 2021 at a cost of \$1000. This lake vegetation should be completed every 3 years. Sharrell Wright contacted six vendors for quotes. Two vendors elected to not quote and four provided a quote. Tom Hubbard reviewed quotes looking at experience, references, scope, reporting and comparison to prior report along with cost for services. Dick Weber made a motion to approve \$4500 for the vendor selected by Tom Hubbard after his final review. Jerry Low seconded the motion. All voted and motion carried as approved.

Education - Dick Weber advised August 20, 2026 as a one day visit for BPL members to attend University of Minnesota labs for tour BPL. Dick would like to invite members. Also wants to advise all members of July 8, 2026 AIS Detectors Webinar.

MNCOLA - Sharrell Wright made a motion to disregard her request for \$50 MNCOLA membership at this time, rather to focus dollars on MLR and ACLARA. Seconded by Dick Weber. All voted and motion carried as approved.

Adjournment - Dick Weber made a motion to adjourn at 10:50. Wes Thomas seconded. All voted and motion carried as approved.

Respectfully submitted

Marie Segar/Sharrell Wright