



# INDIAN LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## MINUTES

### August 21, 2024

The regularly scheduled August meeting of the Indian Lake Watershed Project was held Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at the Indian Lake State Park Multi-Purpose Building. President Dustin Wickersham called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

#### Board Members in Attendance:

Dustin Wickersham	President
Sharon DeVault	Treasurer
Brenda Crabtree	Member
Kay Daugherty	Member
Frank Giannola	Member
Sandy Helgeson	Member
Tom Langhals	Member
Gary Shick	Member
Steve Terrill	Member

#### Approval of Minutes

Gary Shick moved to approve the July 17, 2024, minutes as mailed. Steve Terrill seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Financial Report

Kay Daugherty moved to approve the August 21, 2024, financial report as presented. Tom Langhals seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Approval of Bills

ILWP Administrator Vicky Boots reported that the invoice from US Bank for the final payoff for the old printer should be amended to \$2,429.35 instead of the regular monthly amount of \$780.83. Sandy Helgeson moved to approve the list of bills for the month of August as amended.

Brenda Crabtree seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### AUGUST BILLS NEEDING APPROVAL

##### General Operating

Logan SWCD – Rent July	\$ 289.83
Logan SWCD – printer lease (new printer) July 18-August 18	\$ 130.48
US Bank – Printer Lease Agreement – July (old printer)	\$ 2,429.35 780.83
Community Storage – Storage Unit – July	\$ 54.00
Elan Financial	\$ 32.18
Office Supplies – QuickBooks-online	\$ 32.18

**Attention Getters**

Bellefontaine Examiner – July 4 <sup>th</sup> Ad	\$ 94.50
Shopper's Edge – July 4 <sup>th</sup> Ad	\$ 125.00
Elle A. Design – website update	\$ 25.00
Elan Financial – Mailchimp	\$ 21.45

**TD&H – Legal Services**

Liability waiver for Sediment Survey Volunteers	\$ 275.00
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**Contract Services**

Victoria Boots – 33.75 hrs. – 7-17 – 8-20 @ \$30/hr.	\$1,012.50
Board Meeting Prep, General administrative duties, Membership updates, Nashville Hitmakers administrative work	

**Nashville Hitmakers**

Bellefontaine Examiner – July 4 <sup>th</sup> Ad	\$ 94.50
Shopper's Edge – July 4 <sup>th</sup> Ad	\$ 125.00
Brandon Storm – Piano Tuning	\$ 350.00

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Nashville Hitmakers** – ILWP Board Member and Nashville Hitmakers Event Manager Sandy Helgeson reported that the concert was held the previous Saturday and was well received by those in attendance. The artists were amazing and were very well pleased with their “weekend getaway”! All were looking forward to a possible concert in 2025. Final report will be presented when all outstanding bills are received and paid.

**Dredge Planning Working Group** – Committee member Brenda Crabtree reported that the volunteer group, “Mud Monsters” began surveying the channels July 24<sup>th</sup> and completed the task this afternoon before the board meeting, over 430 points measured. A total of over 1100 points have been measured for sediment by EnviroScience team. Data will be posted into a database and will be available in the near future. A huge “Thank you” was extended to the many volunteers who assisted with the survey as well as an enormous “Thank you” to Spend-a-Day for furnishing the boats for the project. Our goal could not have been completed without you!!! It was suggested that our attorney be contacted to have our data be protected by copyright. Dustin will be contacting our attorney for legal advice regarding the matter.

**Membership** – The decision was made to hand our popcorn at our display for the upcoming Indian Lake Fall Festival, September 20-22. Bags are being purchased along with stickers that will be printed with our ILWP logo to be placed on the bags. An “assembly” workgroup meeting to prepare the bags will be scheduled in the near future.

**Monitoring** – HAB testing contract has been signed and returned. Waiting for equipment to begin monitoring for the shortened season.

**Legislative – By-Laws revision committee** – Members of the By-Law Revision Committee met prior to today's board of directors meeting. The remaining portion of the by-laws were reviewed line-by-line with minor corrections made. A motion was made by Kay Daugherty to have these revisions considered for approval at our next regularly scheduled board meeting September 18<sup>th</sup>. Gary Shick seconded. Motion passed unanimously. As required by the by-laws, board members are to receive a copy of the proposed updates at least 10 days prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting. Updates will be made and emailed to board members at least 10 days prior to the meeting for their review and be voted on at the September meeting. It was suggested to have these revisions reviewed by our attorney for legality before the board meeting. Dustin will be contacting our attorney for his input.

**H2Ohio Wetland Project Update** – Project Liaison Stephanie Howard reported that earth moving has begun at Site #1 with over 4,000 cubic yards being moved. Landscaping of the site will be the final state and will be completed by the end of October. Project is expected to meet the completion deadline.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **No Old Business Items for Discussion**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**2024 Tillage Transect Results** – Logan Soil and Water Conservation District Summer Intern, McKala Grauel, a 2023 graduate of Ridgemont High School in Hardin County and is currently a sophomore at The Ohio State University majoring in Ag Business with a minor in Animal Science. McKala presented the results of the 2024 Tillage Transect of the Indian Lake Watershed Project area. The watershed area consists of 4 subwatersheds- North Fork of the Great Miami River, South Fork of the Great Miami River, Blackhawk and Van Horn. The purpose of the tillage transect is to determine the type of tillage methods used to plant crops – conventional tillage which utilizes mold board plowing and disking; minimum tillage which utilizes a field cultivator and disking; and no-till which utilizes a no-till planting method. The preferred method is no-till farming because it does not disturb the top soil of the field thus reducing the amount of sediment runoff entering the tributaries entering the lake. This reduction greatly impacts the water quality of the lake and helps reduce the need for dredging.

The transect map used was the same as the one that was used in 2002, which was the last available data. The map has designated stops every one-half mile along a designated route. At those stops documentation of type of crop planted in the crop year along with the type of tillage method used and amount of residue remaining on the soil surface is made. Photos were taken at each location as well. This process was completed throughout the 4-subwatershed areas. Overall there has been a decrease in no-till practices in the subwatersheds along with an increase in the minimum tillage, which impacts the overall water quality of the lake. A reduction in types of crops has changed since 2002 in all the subwatersheds. The current crops are mainly corn and soybeans with very little wheat which is a reflection of the current agriculture economy and markets. It is important to educate the watershed agriculture producers regarding the importance of their tillage practices on the overall water quality of not only the tributaries but the health of the waters of Indian Lake.

**2024 Indian Lake State Park Fall Festival – September 20-22** – Board members were reminded that the ILWP will have a display table at the upcoming Indian Lake State Park Fall Festival to be held on Friday, September 20 through Sunday, September 22. We will be handing out bags of popcorn as well as educational material regarding the ILWP and its current and past accomplishments. To assist with the task board members are being asked to sign up for 2-3 hour shifts for those days. Brenda Crabtree is managing the schedule for the event. Please volunteer to help with this project. Final sign-up sheets will be available at the September board meeting. All help is greatly appreciated.

**ILWP Annual Meeting – October 16<sup>th</sup>** – Per a requirement of the Indian Lake Watershed Project By-Laws, our organization is required to host an annual meeting every calendar year. This year's event will be held Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Indian Lake Community Church Lighthouse. The event will begin at 6:00 P.M. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Daniel Schweitzer from EnviroScience. He will be providing an update on the results of the sediment survey that was conducted by EnviroScape this past spring/summer season. Notices for the meeting will be sent out to the ILWP membership no later than 10 days

prior to the meeting. All ILWP Board Members are encouraged to be in attendance at the event. More information will be provided at the regular September ILWP Board meeting.

Committee Chairperson Kay Daugherty is not available to oversee the planning of this year's meeting. Therefore, we are in need for someone to step up and assume the duties for chairperson for this year. If you are interested please let Dustin know so details can get organized for the event. Kay will help provide information from past annual meetings as guidelines to accomplish a successful meeting.

**ODNR Update** – State Park representatives reported that they are in the final preparation stages for the upcoming Fall Festival that will be held in September among various other fall activities.

There being no further business Gary Shick moved to adjourn the meeting. Kay Daugherty seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled ILWP Board of Directors meeting will be held **5:00 P.M. Wednesday, September 18, 2024**, at the Indian Lake State Park Multi-Purpose Building.