

Lake Owasso Association, Inc.
Annual Meeting Thursday 4/24/2025
Roseville Skating Center

7:04 – Call to Order/Introduction – Joe Bester

Board Members Present -Scott Schultz, Joe Bester, Edward Roberts, Jill Roberts, Andy Walz, David Lutz

Absent – Steve Youngquist, Juan Quitevis, Dan Kelsey

-Approval of 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes.

- Notations cited
 - 2024 Ice out: March 3; 2025 ice-out: March 18; trend toward earlier ice-outs.
 - Introduced [MN DNR ice-heaving website](#) per recent shoreline damage.
 - Shout out for plowed ice-skating path.
 - 3 River Otters spotted – 11/30/24 near Wabasso Outlet
 - Water level: culvert outlet to Wabasso de-clogged, will enable faster culvert outflow. Culvert maintenance now transferred to City from County
 - [LOA Web site](#): Question posed - How are residents using the website? Intended as a resource for members, invited input to further tailor web site to best accommodate resident interests.
 - Brief history of aquatic plant treatment on Lake Owasso starting in 1955.
- Update on 2024 Fluridone treatment
 - Initial fluridone treatment March 21, 2024. Target dosage of 4.0 ppb. Overall average: 3.1 ppb.
 - Report on bump treatments that occurred after initial March 2024 treatment. Initial 2024 treatment reported on at 2024 annual meeting.
 - Total cost of 2024 fluridone treatment: \$54,708 (includes sampling and Point Intercept Survey). Actual cost lower than original estimate primarily per volunteer sampling and application efficacy.
 - Goal was to give Lake Owasso a reset to a more native state, promote native plant biodiversity vs. EWM dominance, improve fish habitat, and reduce navigational obstacles.
 - [2024 Point Intercept \(PI\) aquatic plant survey results](#) indicate a native plant rebound, especially Flatstem Pondweed, Chara, and Large Leaf Pondweed. Follow-up PI survey for 2025. 2025 PI survey will be funded by DNR grant.
- Financial report
 - Edward Roberts presented.
 - Balance as of 12/31/24 = \$53,967. In line with objective of restoring reserve balance of \$50k, established at 2023 board meeting.
- 2025 Treatment
 - 2025 treatment will revert to traditional program.
 - Likely little if any EWM expected.
 - EWM became so dominant the past 5 years that it even displaced much of the invasive - Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP). Whether or not CLP will rebound is an unknown.

- Invasive species update:
 - Owasso is officially classified as a Zebra Mussel (ZM) infester water; fortunately, no evidence beyond several citing's from 2021.
 - Lake Owasso participated in 2024 ZM Safari program using settling plates at 9 sampling sites around the lake for early ZM detection. Safari sampling program to be repeated in 2025 with the same volunteers. No ZM found on sampling plates in 2024. [Link to 2024 ZM report.](#)
 - Enormous statewide awareness campaign by DNR on the invasive - Starry Stonewort (SSW) – similar threat to that of EWM. Starry Trek is an annual U of MN sponsored volunteer event to search local lakes for Starry Stonewort. No SSW found (yet) on Lake Owasso.
 - [Milfoil Mapper web site](#) (from Montana State U) introduced. Web site tracks new and unique strains of EWM and hybrid versions of EWM.
 - Carp update: 643 carp removed via 8 sessions between May 7 through Jun 19 (Pre removal 2,092; Post removal 1,449)
 - [Goldfish video](#) displayed. (Don't dispose of Goldfish in a lake)!
 - Significance of sufficient aquatic plant population to help lessen the opportunity for an algae dominated lake. Several lakes have transplanted bottom plants to help absorb nutrients that might otherwise cause algae blooms. A strategy worthy of further investigation.
- [Illustrative Bladderwort video](#): Plant found in south bay: a carnivorous plant species.
- [Goose removal Web Site](#) and phone number provided for Canada Goose Removal contractor, to collect geese. Members encouraged to contact directly for geese capture and removal.
- [RWMWD Shoreline restoration program](#): was on pause is to restart. [Shoreline restoration podcast on MN Lakes and Rivers web site.](#)
- Introduced [MPCA dashboard](#) that tracks water quality parameters for Lake Owasso
- [MAISRC web site \(AIS Explorer\)](#) introduced that tracks boater movement between lakes.
- Wednesday night Courage Center Program (Andy Walz)
 - Operates on Wednesday evenings in July. Shore and boat volunteers welcomed.
 - Normally clockwise direction / chase boat follows inside track.
 - Attendees encouraged to spread the word and share instructions for the safety of participants, e.g. provide wide berth.
- Starting July 1, permit required for boat drivers under 21 years of age. [DNR offers a boater training program](#) to attain certification.
- [County Road C / Victoria](#) – road construction coming soon.
- [National Loon Center](#) building in Crosslake slated for completion in 2026.
- New business
 - Comment on wake-surfing, and question on PFA's

Adjourn – 8:22