**Please Note: These minutes were reviewed by the WALPRD Board. However, they have not been officially approved. This will be done at the annual meeting in 2025.**



**2024 Annual Meeting Minutes– July 27, 2024**

**1. Meeting was called to order by WALPRD Chairman –** 10:00 AM

**2. Agenda presentation and voting process –** WALPRD Chairman referred to the agenda that was mailed to all and stated there was one ballot vote for Commissioner position. All other voting would be voiced.

**3. Minutes from July 23, 2023 Annual Meeting –** The 2023 Annual meeting minutes were mailed to all. Brian Johnson moved and Earleen Odenbreit seconded the motion to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

**4. Reports**

**a. Treasurer on current Finances/Audit –** Treasurer reported that the majority of recent expenses were for equipment repairs, maintenance, and payroll. The Equipment account was closed because those funds were used to purchase the two new Harvester motors. $72K was transferred to a 15 month CD so the district can earn more interest on those funds. An audit of bank records was completed by Phil Seppamaki who reported good documentation and well managed trackable records. Treasurer stated the she would like to retire and would be willing to train a replacement. Treasurer also noted that an average of 10 hours per month are worked by the Treasurer and she suggested possibly paying the Treasurer an hourly amount in the future in addition to the Commissioners pay for attending Board meetings.   
 Business Checking: $12,275.17

Business Savings: $5,013.38

Dredging Savings: $9,517.95

15 month CD Special: $73,575.27

**b. Lake District Manager update/Harvesting report -** Wayne Christen reported that Mike Liberty will be taking over the position of Lake District Manager. Wayne will stay on for the rest of this season to transition Mike into the position. Following DNR guidelines, the Channel, the Apple River out flow, and both lakes have been harvested multiple times. This year there have been above average weeds resulting in 73 loads removed from Upper and 20 loads removed from Lower White Ash Lake. Harvesting will continue thru the month of August.

**c. Water testing reports –** Jessica F. was not present but submitted the information for the North Lake. The high water has slightly elevated the Chlorophyll level, Phosphorus was slightly lower compared to last year, and Secchi testing showed six feet deep for clarity on North Lake. Darren B. was not present and no report was turned in for the South Lake.

**d. AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) report –** Wendy S. was not present and no report was submitted. Wayne C. supplied the following information regarding AIS monitoring. Purple Loosestrife, Mystery/Chinese Snails, and Curly-Leaf Pondweed are the Invasive species on the White Ash Lakes. The DNR is releasing Beetles to diminish Purple Loosestrife. A reduction in snails this year over last year was also reported. White Ash uses the Harvester to diminish the Curly-Leaf Pondweed. If you see any other invasive species in the White Ash lakes, please report them to the DNR. The Resources tab on our website https://whiteashlake.com has a link to the DNR’s **Shoreland Property Owner Handbook** and information on AIS monitoring.

**e. Clean Boat Clean Waters report –** Lisa B. was unable to attend. Her submitted report stated that there were 12 volunteer hours and 35 paid ($10/hr) volunteer hours worked monitoring at the boat landings. High traffic times are mostly during holidays and sometimes weekends. Most boating traffic is from White Ash property owners who dock their boats on our lakes so they don’t use the boat ramps for in and out. Handouts and signup sheets were provided at the meeting.

**5. Review, discuss and vote on 2025 annual budget –** Reviewed the Actual Expenses to date and the Current 2024 Budget versus Proposed 2025 Budget. There was a reduction in Insurance costs budgeted because Workers Comp Insurance over charged WALPRD last year and some bundled insurance services (like Cyber Security) were dropped. Website expense went up slightly due to changes in services provided by the web hosting company. Nita O’Connell moved and Fran O’Connell seconded the motion to accept the 2025 Proposed Budget. Motion carried

**6. Review, discuss and vote on the corresponding tax levy –** Current tax levy is $166 annually for each property. Discussed the pros and cons regarding keeping levy the same or reducing it. There was a motion by Roy Timm to cap surplus funds in accounts at 100K before considering reducing the tax levy. No 2nd was heard. Don Sivigny moved and Lois Hoffmann seconded the motion to keep the Levy at $166 annually per property. Motion carried

**7. Election of one commissioner –** Ballots were handed out to attending property owners. There were no nominations from the floor. Results were 36 votes to elect Jane Karsten for a 3-year term and no write in candidates. Election results were accepted.

**8. Town of Apple River Report –** Kerry Bryan was not in attendance and no report was submitted.

**9. Public Comments-** none

**10. Set next Annual meeting date –** Decided to keep the Annual meeting on the 4th Saturday of July (7/26/2025) with 9:30 AM check-in and 10:00 AM start time. District will provide Coffee, Water and Donuts.

**11. Adjourn –** Brian Johnson moved and Roy Timm seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM