

Crystal Lake and Watershed Association  
Annual Meeting  
Saturday, July 16, 2011  
Assembly Hall, Congregational Summer Assembly  
Pilgrim, MI

MINUTES

**Attendance:** 55 members (additional non-members attending not counted); 147 proxies submitted.

**Call to order:**

President Ed Hoogterp called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. He announced that a quorum of members (including proxies) was present and designated Ellen Herscher, CLWA secretary, as parliamentarian for the meeting. He thanked the Congregational Summer Assembly for the use of its meeting space.

**Minutes:**

The minutes from the 2010 annual meeting have been reviewed. The only formal action taken was the election of new board members and officers. Reading of the minutes was waived without objection.

**Treasurer's report:**

The written report was distributed (attached). Treasurer Bob Schmidt reported that the Association's finances are on track.

**Nominating committee report and election of officers and board members:**

President Hoogterp expressed appreciation to the officer and board members whose terms are expiring: Alan Appelhof (vice president); Jim Buzzell, Doug Gibson, and Jim Hooker (board members at large).

Nominating committee chair Sandra O'Neal presented the following slate with brief résumés of the nominees, and introduced those present.

Officers for two-year terms (to 2013):

Vice President – Joel Buzzell

Treasurer – Robert Schmidt (reelection)

Officer to complete unexpired term (to 2012):

Secretary – Ellen Herscher (confirmation of board appointment to fill vacant office)

At-large board members for three-year terms (to 2014):

William Beck (reelection)

Rick Cosaro

Wanda Schreiner (reelection)

Jana Way

The nominations were seconded; there were no nominations from the floor. The slate was elected.

**Crystal Circle Award:**

The Association's Crystal Circle Award is given for outstanding service to Crystal Lake. President Hoogterp presented this year's award to Alan and Joanne Appelhof. Mr. Appelhof is retiring as CLWA vice president and has served the Association in many ways over the years.

**Committee reports:**

Water quality. In the absence of the chair, Bill Beck, President Hoogterp reported excellent results from the most recent water testing. Two major grant proposals for the water testing program are pending.

Education/Communication. Chair Stacy Daniels introduced the interns who are working with the CLWA this summer: Paul Gerhart (Forestry student, Michigan Technological University), Laura Bailey (Northwestern Michigan College), and Jessica Schaub (Frankfort High School). In addition to assisting with research projects, they are making presentations at art fairs and other events.

Swimmer's Itch. President Hoogterp introduced Jana Way, who will be leading the CLWA's swimmer's itch program. Ms. Way described the formation of the Swimmer's Itch Partnership, consisting of various groups around the lake working together to combat this problem. Their activities include signage on major beaches with prevention information, testing products for individual use, promoting hunting season for mergansers, testing bird repellants, and the raking of the lake bottom. In the spring they will introduce pyrotechnics to disrupt merganser nesting.

**President's report:**

President Hoogterp addressed the following issues and took questions from the attendees:

Lake level monitoring: Lake level was high earlier in the season, resulting in excessive erosion in some areas. CLWA donated \$2,500 to match county funds for the installation of a new more automated gate at the outlet: this will help monitor and control the lake level more effectively.

Fish kills: CLWA has investigated, and has been assured by the Department of Natural Resources that the die-off is natural, although it may be more widespread than usual. Those seeing fish kills are requested to report them to the CLWA office so that the situation may continue to be monitored.

Cooperation with Benzie Conservation District: CLWA is a founding member of the new Benzie Watersheds Council, which brings together all the water-related groups in the county. Through the Conservation District, this group is working on issues of common concern, including water quality monitoring, invasive species, lake level control, swimmer's itch, and others.

Boat Launch/Boat Wash: Construction of the new state boat launch is behind schedule, with grand opening now expected in spring 2012. CLWA continues to monitor the construction, in particular the erosion at the site. CLWA has an agreement with the state to construct a boat washing station once the launch is complete and is currently raising funds for this project. Hoogterp stressed the importance of washing boats before they are launched into Crystal Lake, as a “last defense” against introducing invasive species.

Questions from attendees expressed particular concern about Crystal Lake water level and resulting erosion, enforcement of boat washing at the launch site, and some observations about increased sediment in certain areas.

**Adjournment:** the business meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

**Informational program:**

President Hoogterp introduced the speakers, CLWA intern Paul Gerhart, and special guest speaker, Dr. David L. Roberts, Senior Academic Specialist in Crop and Soil Sciences, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University.

Paul Gerhart, a student in forestry at Michigan Technological University, described the summer research project he is conducting in the Crystal Lake watershed, which focuses on the invasive forest pathogens emerald ash borer and beech bark disease. The objective is to determine how the forest is changing as a result of these diseases and then to develop management strategies to preserve the economic value of the forests. His final report will be posted on the CLWA website.

Dr. David Roberts, in his comprehensive presentation on the emerald ash borer, stressed the importance of tree diversity in the preservation of forests. He described the beginning of ash decline in southeastern Michigan in 2001, the subsequent identification and spread of the emerald ash borer, and detailed his own research and the current state of management options. He called attention to his website, which provides more information:  
<http://www.anr.msu.edu/robertsd/ash/index.html>.

Respectfully submitted,



Ellen Herscher, Secretary

**(Minutes approved July 21, 2012)**

# CRYSTAL LAKE & WATERSHED ASSOCIATION 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT

Your Crystal Lake & Watershed Association remains in a strong financial position.

- We ended the year with equity of \$136,958, an increase of \$20,546 over the prior year.
- Total revenue for 2010 was \$15,410 less than the prior year. The total net income increased by \$20,493, reflecting less funded projects and efficiency through voluntarism. Thank you for contributing - the volunteer time and your financial support.
- The Endowment Fund is segregated and restricted. It increased by \$3,884 year over year. The return on the Fund provides support to the intern program. The investment returns are small, consistent with our capital preservation decisions.

With a difficult economy your personal generosity has made a big difference! We are in a good position to meet important funded projects and to remind ourselves that "it's all about the quality of the water and the things that affect it."

Respectfully submitted,

R.C. Schmidt, Treasurer

## Balance Sheet

<b>Assets</b>		
Bank Balances	\$ 32,683.00	
Endowment Balances	\$ 104,292.00	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 136,975.00</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Payroll Liabilities	\$ 17.00	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>\$ 17.00</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>		
General Fund	\$ 59,694.00	
2020 Vision Fund	\$ (27,029.00)	
Endowment Fund	\$ 104,293.00	
<b>FUND BALANCES EQUITY</b>		<b>\$ 136,958.00</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		<b>\$ 136,975.00</b>

## Operating Statement

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<b>Revenue</b>		
General Fund	\$ 44,123.00	\$ 66,883.00
2020 Vision Fund	\$ 25,385.00	\$ 18,408.00
Endowment Fund	\$ 3,883.00	\$ 3,510.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 73,391.00</b>	<b>\$ 88,801.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
General Fund	\$ 20,560.00	\$ 23,534.00
2020 Vision Fund	\$ 32,302.00	\$ 49,821.00
Endowment Fund	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 52,862.00</b>	<b>\$ 73,355.00</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>\$ 20,529.00</b>	<b>\$ 15,446.00</b>