

# New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

Meeting of the Board of Directors  
January 15, 2025  
Virtual, Via Zoom



## Present

Tarki Heath, President	Jan Douglass	John Murad
Greg Boyer, Treasurer	Walter Dutcher	Eric Randall
Janet Andersen, Secretary	Amy Hetherington	Bernie Thoma
Matthew Albright	John Jablonski (left 2:00 pm)	Laurel Wolfe
Ina Cholst	Betsy Landre	
Donald Cook	Dean Long	

## Absent

Bill Harman, Vice President	Theresa Mayhew
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## Also in Attendance

David Carr, NYSFOLA	Julia Digiovanni, Sleepy Hollow	Alene Onion, NYSDEC (for CLSAP discussion)
Nancy Mueller, NYSFOLA		

- 1. Call to order.** President Tarki Heath called the meeting to order at 1:05pm, and confirmed a quorum of the board was present. Board documents were available via Dropbox. The board welcomed newly appointed board member Amy Hetherington.
- 2. Approval of minutes.** Eric Randall moved and Laurel Wolfe seconded to approve the minutes of September 20, 2024; the motion carried.
- 3. Strategic Planning Committee.** Tarki Heath introduced the strategic plan report with a discussion of the process. The committee has been meeting independently and also with LCP Consulting, Kate Budlong and Karen Macier. Dave Carr then reviewed the prepared presentation, reviewing the Mission, Vision, and Values. He also reviewed Goals and Objectives under the broad categories of Advocacy and Public Policy; Organizational Sustainability, Finances, and Administration; Membership Services; Partnership and Collaboration; and Marketing and Branding. Dave showed some preliminary Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and invited board members to participate in the committee's next meeting on January 29, 2025 at 1pm, when KPIs would be reviewed. The goal is to adopt a final strategic plan at the March Board meeting.
- 4. CSLAP.** Alene Onion joined the meeting. Nancy Mueller announced that 2024 CSLAP was a wrap, and that the 2025 paperwork was coming in, with a Feb 3 deadline. So far 7 new lakes were joining, and 24 lakes had opted for the 8 round option. She hoped to issue an RFP for journalists to publicize CSLAP achievements soon. Alene discussed the QA/QC process of data and that 15% of samples arrived warm. She shared a map of locations. If warm samples do not comply with the standard method, the results can't be used in CSLAP reports and CALM assessments. Much discussion followed, including whether temperature is part of the standard method for all CSLAP parameters. UFI has been processing warm samples and flagging them. Historical comparisons of the number of warm samples may not be valid since flags are not retained consistently. Alene intends to tell UFI not to process warm samples but some want the data anyway. More to be done. Alene hopes to have reports out in 2 weeks. Nancy and Alene discussed EJ and DAC outreach. Alene also said that she had obtained the funding to get additional DO/temp probes but lacked staffing to make that happen now.
- 5. Gifts and Scholarship.** Tarki Heath reported that the committee had revamped the SUNY Oneonta program so it would no longer be a match. NYSFOLA will contribute \$5K annually. Timing should be scheduled.
- 6. Treasurer, Financial and Investment Committees.** Greg Boyer referred to the financial report he had distributed and described the work being done by our accountants, ZLC, to prepare a new chart of accounts. Greg said that he planned to have a budget available by our March meeting, but the run rate is about

\$30K/month. Dean Long reported that the change of signatories and access for the Vanguard accounts had been completed. Dave referenced the updated draft to the financial policy. Jan Andersen moved, and Don Cook seconded that the financial policy be accepted, and the motion carried. Dave Carr reported that he had interviewed a bookkeeper for part time support. The ED and Treasurer are authorized to hire a credentialed bookkeeper, with assistance from the Finance Committee. Laurel Wolfe moved and Dean Long seconded to accept the Treasurer's report, and the motion carried.

7. **Fundraising and Membership.** Tarki Heath reported that the committee had met and needs to clarify the mission and goals, and asked for additional members to join this important committee.
8. **Conference Committee.** Dave Carr reported that exhibitors and sponsorship appeals had gone out. The registration will open tomorrow and be announced in Waterworks. Amy Hetherington has taken on the newsletter contest and requested additional volunteer judges. The call for presenters has gone out.
9. **Nominations.** Tarki Heath reviewed the members and officers who were coming up for renewal and asked them to let her know of their willingness to continue.
10. **Office Report.** Dave Carr added on to the office related topics that had already been discussed. He reviewed some conferences he had attended, including a non-profit summit put on by the United Way, the successful Western Regional conference in October with 83 attendees, and the Finger Lakes Watershed Alliance, who are working on a statewide HABs database.
11. **NEANS.** Eric Randall reported on the NEANS (Northeast Aquatic Nuisance Species Panel) meeting. He was alarmed that some neighboring states did not participate in Check, Clean, Dry. He discussed hydrilla, with 4 varieties now detected in NE states, and its presence in 12 NYS HUCs. He reported concerns about increasing Asian clams and waterwheel sightings. NEANS supports partnerships, grants, and funding for monitoring.
12. **NEAMPS:** Dean Long reported that hydrilla was also a major concern discussed at NEAMPS, with concerns about it being spread by boats traveling from the infested Connecticut River through marine transits to the Hudson and NY fresh waters. Turions can be carried in bait buckets. He also mentioned the concern of float planes as a vector for AIS spread.
13. **Adirondack Lakes Alliance.** Nancy Mueller reported that she is now on the board of that alliance.
14. **Next meeting:** The next meeting will be a hybrid in person / zoom meeting on March 7, 2025. In person attendees will gather for lunch at noon, location TBD, and the Zoom session will start at 1pm.
15. **Adjournment.** Dean Long moved and Jan Douglass seconded that the meeting should adjourn at 3:31pm, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janet Andersen*

Janet Andersen, Secretary, NYSFOLA