



---

# **INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

***AUGUST 2, 2018***

# DIANN SCOTT

---

President



Board Member



# Special Guests

---

- State Representative - Dave Abbott
- Steuben County Lakes Council – Bill Schmitt
- LaGrange County Lakes Council – Steve Scott-Welty and Steve McElhoe
- DNR – Jamie Miller
- Noble County Parks Board – Jim Haddock and John Metzger
- Kendallville News Sun – Steve Garbacz



# NOBLE COUNTY STATS

---

- Three watersheds
- 19 Rivers or Creeks
- Most lakes of any Indiana county -- 121 Lakes
  - *72 Public Lakes*
  - *32 Private Lakes*
  - *17 TBD*
- 15 Lake or Homeowner Associations Identified





# Top 10 Action Plans

| <b>Project</b>                                   | <b>Tasks</b>  | <b>Project Leader</b>    | <b>Agencies Involved</b>  |
|--|---|--------------------------|---|
| <b>WATER QUALITY</b>                             | Run-off, Tiling, USDA Grants to set aside land, Land Use, River Friendly Farmers, Nutrients & Buffer Strips. Establish baseline measurements and frequency of tests (lake, river), nutrients, fertilizers and chemicals | <b>MICHAEL SCHAEFER</b>  | Soil & Water Conservation, USDA, Drainage Boards, DNR, EPA, SJRBC, MRBC |
| <b>VEGETATION</b>                                | Identification of native vs invasive plants, LARE Grant, Weed Harvesting,   | <b>CINDY VANDERBOSCH</b> | DNR, SJRBC, MRBC, USFW, USFS  |
| <b>SEDIMENT</b>                                  | Understand changes, identify problem areas, LARE Grant  | <b>DOUG BORDEN</b>       | DNR, USACE, Noble Cty Surveyor  |
| <b>LOG REMOVAL</b>                               | Evaluate current situation, LARE Grant, Process to maintain going forward   | <b>MIKE KURTZ</b>        | DNR, Noble County Surveyor  |
| <b>CONSERVANCY DISTRICT</b>                      | Evaluate process, establish recommendations, evaluate funding needed  | <b>DAVE WINEBRENNER</b>  | DNR, Noble County Planning  |
| <b>NOBLE COUNTY LAKES COUNCIL</b>                | Review LaGrange & Steuben Councils, Ordinances Needed, Funneling, Flood Plan, Needs Assessment, Structure, etc.   | <b>DIANN SCOTT</b>       | Noble County Lake Associations, Noble County Commissioners              |
| <b>BRIDGES &amp; ROADS</b>                       | Make recommendation on items needing attention (1050 raise bridge, elevate concrete walls and approaches)   | <b>RUSS LAYMAN</b>       | Noble County Highway Dept   |
| <b>LAKE GAGE &amp; PREDICTIVE FLOOD MODELING</b> | Get lake gage back on Waldron lake. Unsteady state modeling.  | <b>DAVE WICK</b>         | DNR, USGS, USACE  |
| <b>FLOOD PREPAREDNESS</b>                        | Flood Insurance, Anchor Propane Tanks, Elevate Water Well Heads, WLRSD, Sandbag Storage   | <b>BILL VANDERBOSCH</b>  | Noble County EMA, WLRSD   |
| <b>HOME ELEVATION ASSESSMENT</b>                 | Buyouts, Elevation of Homes (how many still need to be raised)  | <b>DIANN SCOTT</b>       | Noble County, SJRBC, MRBC   |



## A STRONGER VOICE

Strengthens advocacy by increasing pressure when advocating with allies - the power of many vs. the power of one



# Creating a Strong Voice!

---

- Our neighboring counties have taken steps to consolidate their voice!
- Steuben County Lakes Council – 96 lakes



# **Steuben County Lake Council**

## **Established 1972**

Presented by Bill Schmitt



# Steuben County Lakes Council Officers 2018

- President – Mel Hathaway
  - President Elect – Cheryl Silverhart
- Technical Vice President – Pete Hippensteel
- Government Vice President – Karen DeForest
- Public Relations Vice President – John Williamson
  - Membership Vice President – Helen Miller
    - Secretary – Cheri Stroh
    - Treasurer – Gary VandenElst
  - Assistant Treasurer – James Simons
  - Member at Large – Bob Glick
  - Member at Large – Norm Gajewski
  - Member at Large – Max Robison
  - Board Advisor – Bill Schmidt
    - Board Advisor – Sue Myers
- 19 Lake Association Representatives

# **Steuben County Lakes Council**

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

- Working with Soil & Water Conservation on educational materials
- Steuben County Life
- Annual Scholarship
- Publications: Bi-annual newsletters & Steuben County Lakes Book

# **Steuben County Lakes Council**

## **FUNDED PROGRAMS**

- Water Quality Testing
- Lawn Fertilizer/Phosphate Ban

# Steuben County Lakes Council

## OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED

- Office Executive Secretary
- Office Hours – Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – Noon
- Answering Machine available at all times
- Board Government V.P. attends all County meetings
- Access Database with all Steuben County Lake addresses (over 7,000)
- Board representation at Steuben County functions: Trine, Steuben County Foundation, workshops, HCI
- Work with County on zoning ordinance

# Creating a Strong Voice!

---

- Our neighboring counties have taken steps to consolidate their voice!
- Steuben County Lakes Council – 96 lakes
- LaGrange County Lake Council – 74 lakes  
– Steve Scott-Welty and Steve McElhoe



# LaGrange County Lakes Council

Presented by Steve Scott-Welty and Steve McElhoe

- Water Quality Testing Started (25 lakes tested, 2 more being added)
- Scholarship for environmental studies
- Distribute LaGrange County Lakes Map
- LaGrange County Lakes Council Website
- LaGrange County is currently 40% Amish, projections are that that will grow to 80%)
- LaGrange County has several cases of blue green algae
- LaGrange County Lakes Council has experienced some growing pains, declining attendance and membership – may be result of the fact that lakes are not having serious problems at the present time

# Benefits of Noble County Lakes Council

---

- Shared Common Goals and Objectives
- Pool Resources and Expertise
- Ability to Influence County and State Government
- Provide focus on water protection and preservation
- Pursue Grants and Funding



# Steps to Form Noble County Lakes Council

---

- Determine purpose
- Draft bylaws
- File articles of incorporation
- Apply for IRS tax exemption
- Apply for a state tax exemption
- Appoint directors
- Hold a meeting of the board
- Obtain licenses and permits





# Steps to Form Noble County Lakes Council

---

- **Determine purpose**



# Group Discussion & Prioritization of Attendees Concerns

---

## **TOP 4 ISSUES**

*(based on voting)*

- **Water Quality & Clarity**
- **Flooding / Drainage Control**
- **Vegetation & Algae**
- **Sediment**

- **Agriculture Best Practices**
- **Ordinances**
- **Nonpoint Pollution Sources**
- **Funneling**
- **County Enforcement**
- **Wetland Protection**
- **Shore land Preservation**
- **Educational Programs**
- **Advocacy**
- **Forest & Wildlife**
- **Lake Representation in Government**
- **Watershed Management Plan**
- **Funding Opportunities**
- **Soil & Water Conservation District**

# Next Steps

---

- Determine purpose
- **Draft bylaws**
- **File articles of incorporation**
- **Apply for IRS tax exemption**
- **Apply for a state tax exemption**
- **Appoint directors**
- **Hold a meeting of the board**
- **Obtain licenses and permits**





**THANK YOU!!!**

# 8/2/18 Attendees

---

- Dave Smith, Linda & Bill Brigham - Big Lake
- Don Skinner, Little Long Lake
- Jim Pegan, Round Lake
- Weston Zurbrugg , Jim & Linda McCoy, Williams Lake
- Pam Baker, Betty Clayton, Deanna Stetzel, Patti Van Leuven, Nancy Lough, Dean Wilcox – Skinner Lake
- Don Hoover, Randy Mull - Tamarack Lake
- Dave Wilson – Munk Lake
- Stan Silver – Steinbarger Lake
- David & Mary Herr, Latta & Granis
- Buzz Junk, Rosie Risser, Janis Sproat - Waldron Lake
- Katie Harris, Cree Lake
- John Auld, Barbara Lake
- David Billows, Rhonda Stienecker , Vicky Fiandt , Robert Bair - Sylvan Lake
- Jonathon Schramm – Bear & High Lakes (Merry Lea)
- John Bauman, Bauman Farms
- Angie Sprunger – Messick Lake
- Jim & Cindy Kennedy – Knapp