

Meeting of the Morningstar Lake Association
MAY 30, 2022 (Monday)
Darcy and Dan Pleasant, Lot 27
11:00 A.M.

Minutes

- 1) Call to Order / Introductions /Attendance – 28 of the 37 lots were represented.
- 2) Approval of minutes of May 31, 2021, meeting – Motion to approve Chad Carlson, second Jim Luethje, approved unanimously.
- 3) Treasurer’s Report - \$31,222.23 on hand as of May 30, 2022. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes (Attachment 1).
- 4) Summerwood Lake Association Meetings – Minutes of the fall 2021 and spring 2022 Summerwood Board meetings were sent to all residents by Summerwood. The following topics were discussed by Jim Crawford, Jim Luethje and Russ Bayer, Morningstar Representatives to the Summerwood Lake Association:
 - a. Review of Summerwood Sept 2021 and March 2022 Meetings
 - i. Common area update:

The proposed storage project to the west of the main entrance is permanently on hold. Zoning does not support the proposed use.
 - ii. Invasive Species:

The Summerwood Board has no authority over individual lakes, each lake must take its own action to ensure the lake is not infested. The following suggestions are applicable:

 - o Each Lake should create its own policy regarding access to the lake with any watercraft.
 - o Lakes should be proactive in preventing any foreign water coming into their lake. Canoes, kayaks, life vests, water toys are all carriers.
 - o Ongoing education and awareness are always important
 - o Any contractor coming into a lake should be completely inspected and forced to obey the rules of the lake.
 - o www.neinvasives.com has good information
 - iii. Road Expense Assessment and Summerwood Annual Assessment

The road resurfacing project was budgeted at \$253,000. A little over \$247,000 has been spent, with the balance set aside to finish the front area mailbox extension, and a few minor front area repairs.
 - iv. Directory:

The directory was delivered in a mobile format this year. Those requesting hard copies can contact Russ.
 - b. Summerwood Annual Assessment - \$250.00
 - c. Some individuals, at the request of the Clarks Volunteer Fire Department, are investigating the costs associated with a high capacity well to allow the department to rapidly fill the tanker to assist in the case of a fire. The first estimate, including electrical service is approximately \$32,000. More work

needs to be done before any serious discussion can take place. ,Denny W suggested placing the well by the electrical service used to water the north tree area. That information will be passed on.

d. Fireworks

The Summerwood fireworks show will be Saturday, July 2, 2022, the rain date is Sunday, July 3, 2022.

e. Collection area update

- Thank you again to Scott Watts and family for burning and cleaning up the collection area. The same process is planned for 2022, HOWEVER, please only grass and leaves in the grass and leaf area, NO STICKS.
- Please put your collection items all the way to the back of the area.
- Please follow the posted rules for the dimension of items that can be disposed.
- If you are dragging branches to the site, please be careful not to drag rock on to the asphalt. Too much rock will shorten the life span of the new overlay.

f. Boater Safety. The State of Nebraska requires anyone born after December 31, 1985, to successfully complete a Boating Safety Course and possess a course certificate while operating a boat or personal watercraft.

There are now three options for the class:

- I. **Option A** is a 6-hour in-person classroom session taught by certified volunteers and agency staff. Students will take a proctored exam and the end of the class.
- II. **Option B** is a self-taught home study course. Students can download and review the [course study materials](#). After studying, students will need to register for an Option B test-out session to take a proctored exam.
- III. **Option C** is an [online course](#). Students can take the class at their own pace from wherever is convenient for them.

All students, regardless of which course option they choose, are required to pass the boating safety exam with a 75% or higher. A certificate of completion will be issued to those who pass the exam

More information is available at: <http://outdoornebraska.gov/boatereducation>

Boater guides are at: <http://outdoornebraska.gov/guides/>

g. Morningstar representative on the board.

Jim Luethje's term expires on August 31, 2022. Jim agreed to another term. A motion was made by Russ Bayer and seconded by Dan Pleasant that Jim be elected to another three year term. This motion passed unanimously.

h. Reminders:

All golf carts and utility vehicles need to be marked with Lake and Lot Number.

All boats need to be marked with Lot Number

The speed limit on Summerwood Road is 25 MPH and the lake roads is 15 MPH

5) Morningstar Business / Old Business / New Business:

- a. Water Quality / Fish Habitat: Tom Steinbach reported on our lake water quality and fish habitat. The fish population continues to improve. Tom dropped a few more trees to increase the habitat.

Tom continues to work with the state to test the water quality of the lake. Our phosphorus level was again decreased. It remains significantly less than the 0.15 target. Our lake is doing very well.

Thank you to Tom S for his diligence in keeping us all aware of how to improve our lake water quality and clarity.

Please remember we are a catch and release lake.

Tom and Jane Steinbach place some riprap on the south side of the big island to shore up a section of the edge from eroding away. Thank you!

Based on conversations with Aquatic Biologists, and other water quality experts here are some steps that are critical to stabilizing clarity and water quality:

- 1) Keep grass clippings and leaves out of the lake. There are enough trees around that the lakes get their own share of leaves, but we should not dump or blow leaves or clippings into the lake
- 2) Use no phosphorus fertilizers on our lawns
- 3) Use mulching mowers to reduce fertilizer requirements
- 4) Be aware of what drains from your lawns, driveways, and homes.
- 5) Keep high concentration of waterfowl (geese) out of the lake.

Not doing these things will cause more nutrients to be added to the lake. More nutrients equal decreased water quality and increased blue-green algae blooms. Tom previously reported that the excrement from one goose for one season is the equivalent of the phosphorus from three acres of fertilized lawn.

- b. Road Maintenance and Snow Plowing

Thanks to Jim L for moving the gravel to the center and continuing to smooth the road.

This was the first year for the snow plowing by the county if the snow fall was 4 inches or greater. That did not happen this year.

- c. The Independence Day Celebration is on July 2, 2022. Thank you to Jennifer Wood and Darcy Pleasant for coordinating this year's event. Please see information below:



Hillbilly Holiday

Morningstar Lake

Saturday, July 2nd, 2022

Schedule of Events



- **8:00 — Summerwood Sprint (5K)** — (All lake event) Walk/Run Around Summerwood — Meet at Sundance Sign, Donuts after the race and prizes
- **9:00 — Volleyball Check-In** — (Bayer/Lot 13), Single elimination tourney, if you know you will have a team you can email or text Russ @ russ@bayerfamilypartnership.com or 402-730-0638
- **10:00 — 11:00 — Mimosa/Bloody Mary Bar** — (Niewohner/Lot 28)
- **10:00 — 11:30 — Pony Rides** — (Marchese/ Lot 16)
- **12:00 — Decorated Golf Cart Contest/Parade** — (Hoffman judges, meet at tennis court, all golf carts will take one lap around Morningstar following the judging)
- **12:00 — 1:00 — Who's the Hillbilly? Photo Display** near tennis courts
 - Email all photos of your best "Hillbilly Moment" to pleasandarcy1@gmail.com by July 2nd, the picture voted the most "backwoods" will get to serve as the Morningstar Facebook profile pic for the month of July! Let's see your mullets, beards and daisy dukes!
- **12:00 — 1:00 Hot Dog/Brat Feed** — Free will donation, bring your lawn chairs (Nathan/Lot 7 and Pirmie/Lot 8)
- **12:30 — 3:00 — Poker Run** — (McCabe/Lot 17)
 - Must sign up between 12:30—1:00 at McCabe's cabin
 - \$20/team, any number of people on a team, must travel by water and return the poker hand by 3:00. 80% of the pot goes to the best hand, 20% goes to the worst hand
- **1:00 — 3:00 — Caddyshack Golf** — (Beckwith/Lot 2)
 - Register and shoot anytime between 1:00 and 3:00, \$1.00 per shot, clubs and balls provided. 30-yard chip shot and 100-yard shot across the water to the island
- **1:00 — 2:00 — Redneck Games** — (Butz/ Lot 4)
 - Games for young and older kids — prizes for everyone!
- **2:00 — Backcountry Treasure Hunt** — (Luethje/ Lot 32)
 - Pick up a map via water (kayak, paddle board, canoe) at the Luethje's dock anytime between 2:00 and 3:00. Treasure hunt will be on the island, follow the clues through the woods to find your treasure!
- **2:00 — 4:00 Slushies** — Adult and kid slushies available (Wacker/Young—Lot 5)
- **5:00 — Get your glow on** — Pick up your glow necklaces from the Wood Family/Lot 33 until they're gone

Summerwood Fireworks at dusk

Reminder: There will be NO WAKE from 1:00—3:00

Please note there will be no wake allowed from 1:00 to 3:00 PM

d. Lake Rules:

- 1) No changes to the lake rules for 2022. The new motor size and dimensions adopted in 2020 mean the boats can travel faster. BOAT SPEED LIMIT IS 30 MPH. THIS INCLUDES ALL PERSONAL WATERCRAFT / JET SKIS.
- 2) Golf carts are to be marked with the lake initial and lot number
- 3) This guideline remains in effect:

All boats pulling skiers, wake boards, tubes etc. must drive in a straight line (no boat swerving) from lot 16 through lot 28. All lot owners are being asked to take the personal responsibility to ensure they and their guests follow this guideline to assist in protecting the shoreline of our neighbors along the south channel.

- 4) 2022 Boat Rules are attached (Attachment 2).

- e. Please complete the registration form for your boat (if you have not already done so) and send in with your dues. Only one form is needed per boat, and you only need to redo if you have a new boat. (Attachment 3)
- f. Clarks Volunteer Fire Department requires that no vegetation / trees encroach on the road up to 12 feet above the ground
- g. Annual Morningstar Dinner: The Luethje's and Handrup's will host this year. More information to follow.
- h. Thanks to the Woods for continuing to update and maintain the golf cart path which has new additions this year – look out for Candy Lane. Thank you!
- i. Discussion about the Morningstar sign on the North end. It was discovered after the meeting and will be put up.
- j. Some work is needed on the trees and irrigation system on the north side. Thanks to all who have helped with the project from the beginning and now through ongoing maintenance. A call out for clean-up support may be coming your way.
- k. Jennifer Wood mentioned that Morningstar is the host lake for this year's Summerwood golf tournament. If you would like to lead this effort, please contact Jennifer.
- l. There was significant discussion and staunch support to move our annual meeting to Saturday morning, 10:00 AM of Memorial Day weekend. An email poll will be taken to determine the level of acceptance of this move.
- m. Annual Morningstar Dues Assessment – Summerwood set the dues per lot at \$250.00 for 2022. The Morningstar Board of Directors met on May 30, 2022, after the lake annual meeting, and set the Morningstar dues at \$250.00 per lot. The total assessment per lot for 2022 is **\$500.00**. Please make payable to Morningstar Lake Association and mail to:

Jane Steinbach
310 Laramie Trail
Lincoln, NE 68521

or deliver to Cabin 25.

8) Election of Directors to Summerwood and Morningstar Board.

- a. In a motion made by Linda McCabe and seconded by Chuck Beckwith Dan Pleasant was reelected to the Morningstar Board with a term expiring on May 31, 2025. This motion passed unanimously.
- b. In a motion made by Paula Lovegrove and seconded by Sue Luethje Joni Ewalt was elected to the Morningstar Board with a term expiring on May 31, 2025. This motion passed unanimously.

The directors are:

Tom Steinbach	-	2022	Dan Pleasant	-	2022
Brandon Handrup	-	2023	Jim Lovegrove	-	2023
Bob Herbig	-	2024	Chad Carlson	-	2024

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 PM.

After the meeting, the Morningstar Board met (Bob H, Joni E, Dan P, Brandon H, Jim L, Chad C and officers Jane Steinbach and Russ Bayer)

The following actions were taken:

- a. A motion was made by Bob Herbig and seconded by Brandon Handrup to set the Morningstar assessment at \$250.00 per lot. This motion passed unanimously. Based on this action each lot owes \$500.00 per lot for the 2022 assessment. See section "5m" above for details.
- b. A motion was made by Joni Ewalt and seconded by Chad Carlson to elect the following slate of officers for the 2022/2023 term:
 - President - Dan Pleasant
 - Vice President – Brandon Handrup
 - Treasurer – Jane Steinbach
 - Secretary - Russ Bayer

This motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Bayer

Russ Bayer
Secretary

Attachment 1

Morningstar Lake Association Treasurer Report

Combined Checking & Savings Accounts:

Beginning Balance	44,112.15
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Receipts:

2021 Dues	18,516.67
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Received from Gerrard for roads	48.20
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Interest on savings account	29.67
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Total Receipts:	18,594.54
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Expenses:

Southern Power District	893.43
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Summerwood Dues (\$250.00 X 37 lots)	9,250.00
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Summerwood Roads	15,550.00
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Dennis Walker (materials & labor for well & trees)	1,249.24
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General liability insurance	1,590.97
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Directors & Officers liability insurance	926.00
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Merrick County Treasurer (real estate taxes)	102.98
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UNL Water Science Lab (2 tests)	90.20
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Overland (gravel for road)	1,431.64
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Curt Carlson (trucking & grading roads)	400.00
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Total Expenses:	31,484.46
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Grand total of checking and savings	31,222.23
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Attachment 2

Morningstar Lake Association Rules

2022

PERSONAL Under the terms of the “Declaration and Establishment of Covenants, Conditions, Reservations, Restrictions and Easements for Morningstar Lake Subdivision”, these rules are binding upon all owners, lessees and their guests. Violations by owners, lessees or guests can lead to the suspension of the right to use the Common Area, including the lake, as addressed in Paragraph 7 of the Declaration listed above. Owners, lessees and guests are required to obey the laws of the State of Nebraska

SUMMERWOOD RULES The Morningstar Association membership adopted the Summerwood Lake Association Rules as applying to all Morningstar property on May 26, 2008, and are located in the front of the Summerwood Directory for 2022.

GENERAL AREA Do not trespass on the land which is outside of the recreational area. No shooting is allowed in recreational areas. Littering of any areas is prohibited.

GENERAL TRAFFIC Always keep a minimum of one traffic lane on the access roads open to cabins and free of parked cars, boat trailers, or construction materials. Maximum speed for all roads is 15 MPH, except for Summerwood Drive which is 25 MPH. All vehicles must stay on the right side of the road in accordance with State law. All drivers are strongly cautioned to look out for blind corners, pedestrians, and other vehicles. In order to allow the passage of emergency vehicles it is the responsibility of lot owners to keep shrubs and trees trimmed to the width of the road an up 14 feet if they hang over the road.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES ON MORNINGSTAR COMMON AREAS AND ROADS. Golf carts are allowed. The minimum age for the operation of all motorized vehicles is 16 years of age. Golf carts must be equipped with headlights and taillights for use after dark. It is suggested that rear view mirrors be installed. Golf carts are to be marked with the lake initial and lot number. No ATV's, 3-wheelers, or unlicensed motorcycles are allowed at any time. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

FISHING Only lot owners, their families and their guests may fish on Morningstar Lake, and only on the lot owner's property or lot owner's watercraft. Fishing is not allowed in Sundance, Heron Point, Bucktail, or Sleepyeye without permission from their lot owners. Do not fish near or on other lots without their permission. State fishing rules apply in all recreational areas and game wardens have access. Size limits: walleye 18” and bass 14”.

INVASIVE SPECIES No water craft of any type, including trailers carrying the water craft, will be allowed into or on Morningstar Lake unless the craft and trailer are kept out of water to dry for at least fourteen (14) days. This includes the water craft of any contractor a lot owner may hirer for work on or near the lake.

BOATING RULES

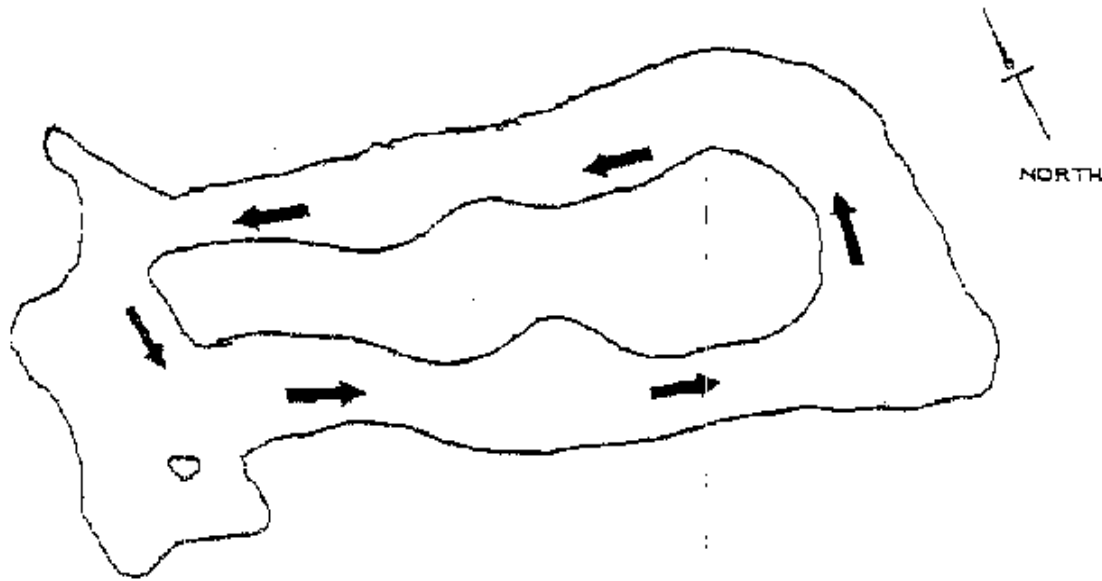
1. Use the pattern on the map for all skiing and boating.
2. Obey all the State Boating Rules. If there is a conflict between Association Rules and State Boating regulations the state boating regulations will govern except for rule 5 listed below.
3. Only lot owners are permitted to have boats on the lake.
4. Only one powerboat per lot is allowed on the lake. All watercraft (i.e. ski boats, boats, jet boats, pontoon boats, jet skis, personal watercraft, etc) must be owned by lot owner of record, the lot owner of record is responsible for the safe operation of the boat.
5. Minimum age for motorboat operators is 16 years.
6. Any boat operator who repeatedly breaks rules or drives recklessly will lose his/her boating privileges for a period of 1 year following action by the Board of Directors.
7. Lot numbers must be displayed on the right side of all watercraft.
8. Maximum boat length for ski boats and jet boats is 19'. Maximum motor horsepower is 115 outboard or 225 inboard. Maximum length for sailboats or pontoon boats is 24'. Jet Skis power rating must be equal to or less than those for a ski boat.
9. Absolutely no speed boating (including jet skis), or skiing in excess of 30 MPH. The racing of powered craft is prohibited.
10. Skiing, speed boating and personal watercraft (e.g. jet skis) hours are 9:30 a.m. to sunset. “No Wake” boating is required when the water is above the mark near the water exit tube located between lots 30 and 31.
11. All PWC are subject to all rules applying to other boats.
12. A maximum of 3 ski boats or other speeding boats, over 5-mph, are allowed on the lake at one time. Ski boats have priority over personal watercraft , i.e. if a 3rd boat goes out the PWC must come off. Boats and personal watercraft shall not follow closer than 200’.
13. Any boating accident resulting in more than \$100 in property damage or in an injury must be reported to the Game and Parks Commission by the boat owner.
14. Boat operators and skiers must keep a reasonable distance from lake edges to avoid hitting skiers, boat docks, diving boards, etc. For safety, boat operators and skiers should be familiar with the lake area they plan to travel. Use caution in narrow areas or where view is obstructed.
15. Maximum length of tow ropes is 60’.
16. Towed devices such as water skis and kneeboards, etc., which may be controlled by the rider are permitted. The towing of flotation devices specifically manufactured for pulling behind boats is permitted when operated within the manufacturer's guidelines. No more than two such devices may be towed behind a boat at one time. Devices attached directly to the boat such as inner tubes, etc., which cannot be controlled by the rider are not permitted.
17. Warning-shallow water is extremely dangerous to land in. Make sure you do not land in shallow water when skiing or diving.
18. Operating a motorboat with the blood alcohol content of .08% or above is prohibited and can result in serious penalties and fines.
19. As a general rule, when boating, pass to the left, and when picking up fallen skiers, tube riders, etc turn to the right. Be in control of your watercraft and use common sense to protect the safety of all involved.

**SEE ATTACHED MAP FOR BOATING PATTERN
ALWAYS PUT SAFETY FIRST!!!**

**Morningstar Lake Association Rules
2022**

MORNINGSTAR LAKE BOATING PATTERN

Morningstar Lake is located about 3 miles SE of Clarks, NE.
It is on the east side of Nebraska Highway 92, and between the
Main channel and the south channel of the Platte River.



*****USE OF THE LAKE IS AT YOUR OWN RISK*****

The regulations of the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission
Boating Guide are Law Officer enforced.
The current version can be found at:
<http://outdoornebraska.gov/guides/>

All powered watercraft shall operate in a counterclockwise
direction in a traffic pattern as delineated on the map on this page

Morningstar Boat Registration:

Please fill in & return to a board of director.

Name of cabin/boat owner: _____

Cabin (lot) number: _____

Make: _____ Model: _____ Color: _____

NE registration number: _____

Boat VIN number: _____

Length of boat: _____

Inboard _____ Outboard _____ Jet _____

Horsepower Rating: _____

Owner signature(s): _____

Date: _____

