

July 8, 2023, CLA Meeting Notes

Cullen Lakes Association
Board of Directors Meeting
9:00 AM Live at Lutheran Church of the Cross

Present:

Ann Beaver, Paul Beilfuss, C.B. Bylander, Lora Graumann (+1), Patty Hicks, Dan Hurley, Julie Johnson, Joel Knutson, Carol Lindahl, John MacGibbon, Debi Oliverius, Denny Opsahl, Randy Steenholdt (remote.)

Absent:

John Maguire, Pete Miller

President Ann Beaver called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

1. Motion to accept the June 10, 2023, meeting minutes was made. Carol Lindahl requested clarification regarding reference to documentation for shoreline plan grant reimbursement. Subsequently the motion was amended to reflect the documentation for reimbursement. To receive the grant, the recipient shall send a copy of at least the first page of the shoreline plan as developed by Crow Wing County Soil and Water Conservation District and the name of the party to be reimbursed to Ann Beaver or C.B. Bylander. This information will then be sent to the CLA treasurer for processing and payment. The amended motion to approve the June 10, 2023 minutes was seconded and passed.
2. Carol Lindahl, CLA treasurer, reported expenses for the month which were minimal. Invested funds have continued to improve through the year. There was discussion regarding website expense vs. budget and the need to receive invoices for any completed work yet to be billed and any additional work to be completed against this year's budget. C.B. Bylander committed to follow up. Move to accept the report was made, seconded and passed.

Ann asked for any additions to the agenda, a discussion followed regarding the reference to buoys on the last meeting minutes. John Maguire had sent out a detailed follow up after his conversation with Crow Wing County Sheriff's Department. As John was unable to attend, further discussion will occur at the next CLA meeting as he presents his committee report.

3. Committee Reports

- a. Administration: Debi reviewed plans for upcoming annual meeting. Mailing is being prepared pending confirmation of speaker. Committee reports

need to be submitted to Debi for printing for the annual meeting. Supply needs were discussed, and commitments were made along with roles at the meeting for coffee, refreshments, napkins, name tags, etc. Regarding speakers, C.B. reported on contacts he made and reviewed the option of Bill Marchel, a full-time wildlife photographer and writer from Ft. Ripley. C.B. was directed to recontact Mr. Marchel and funds were approved up to \$300 from the CLA and any additional needed funding by a donation from board member Joel Knutson.

It was suggested we put the QR code to the CLA website on the postcard notice to membership for the meeting. Lora will copy it and get it to Deb.

- b. Budget and Finance: Paul reviewed the proposed budget for 2024 based on committee requests and anticipated incoming funds. Anticipated expenses were flat with slight increases anticipated in mailing and postage. CLP treatment expense, as always, remains uncertain, but historically we have budgeted approximately \$40k and are doing so again for 2024. A discussion regarding an audit ensued. We are planning an internal audit and potentially schedule an external audit. Lora has contacts and will look into options and costs for such an audit. Postage sourcing was discussed and comfort level of purchasing from parties other than USPS at a lower price (Costco, Amazon.) The consensus is to save on expenses wherever possible.
- c. Education committee: The great shoreline presentation that Randy hosted was summarized. The event was extremely well received. Very positive comments about the value of the program to the membership. Randy has scheduled another informational session for August 19 from 10-11:30. Matthew Guttman, an attorney specializing in wills and estate planning, will be the presenter. There is no charge for this speaker. Board approved \$300 budget for 2024 for the Luthern Church of the Cross for facility use. Randy is writing an article regarding it for the newsletter and it will be promoted at the annual meeting.
Mention of the 4th of July boat parades was made reporting light turnout due to the inclement weather. L.C. reported 5 participant vessels and M.C. had 5.
- d. Environmental issues: Nothing additional to report beyond John's intent to review his findings on buoy clarifications from CWC Sheriff's Department that he summarized in his email to the board.
- e. Invasive species: Committee met to discuss any possible alternatives moving forward to address the CLP issue given the circumstances we faced this year. It was decided that at this point other vetted alternatives were not superior to what we have engaged previously and for now we will "stay the course." Our contract with Clark (now SOLitude Lake

Management) is expiring and the intent is to seek bids moving forward. Ron Duy, Central Minnesota Aquatics, did a survey of the lakes assessing areas where he would propose treatment. Ann circulated his report and the Clark proposed areas for comparison. The board was impressed with the extent and detail of Mr. Duy's work. Bids and negotiation to follow by the AIS committee.

- f. Fisheries: Nothing additional
- g. Invasive Species: Ann discussed the issues regarding CLA treatment denial by DNR. Potential options moving forward were initially discussed with additional discussions to ensue. Our 3-year contract with Solitude (the treatment application company) expires this fall. The intent is to pursue an RFP for the next period,
- h. Land Development: Ann received a response from the City of Nisswa planner, Bethany Soderlund, regarding the clear cutting of L110 by new owner Jim Christensen. The property was inspected and found to be in violation of the statute for undue clearing in the shoreline impact zone. The owner is required to work with the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District to implement restoration before winter. An M.C. resident reported to Ann concerns regarding Wilderness Point compliance with their conditional use permit regarding quantity of docks / slips. The concern was passed on to Pequot Lakes Deputy Clerk Planning/Zoning Jenny Peterson for confirmation and resolution.
- i. Membership: 261
- j. Water Quality: Secchi disc readings:
 - Lower: 20 ½'
 - Middle 14'
 - Upper 12'
- k. Nomination Committee: C.B. asked for incumbent officers' intent to run for office for the coming fiscal year. All but one signaled their intent to do so.

President Ann Beaver asked for any additional items, none being raised she asked for adjournment motion that was made and seconded. Accordingly, the meeting was adjourned.