

**BURNETT COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MARCH 06, 2020
MINUTES**

Attendance: B. Baker, R. Noe, M. Schollmeyer, S. Wallin, B. Enslin, A. Enslin, P. Kipping, T. Adair, T. Boisvert, and S. Johnson.

Absent: R. McFarlane, D. Ferris, and R. Lewis. Visitor: Beth Rank

R. Noe called meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and mentioned his surprise with the Badgers Big Ten leading basketball team.

Minutes of the 10/18/19 meeting were approved unanimously (Kipping/Adair) with no changes.

Treasurer's report: B. Baker reported that since our 12/20/19 meeting he sent out second dues notices to the 8 unrenewed associations and that since then 3 more lake associations have renewed their BCLRA membership for 2020, for a dues income of \$250. That leaves Long (Danbury), Mallard, Pike, Prinell, and Yellow as the only associations that have still not renewed for 2020. Baker thanked the board members who contacted unrenewed associations after our last meeting, but asked B. and A. Enslin to reach out again to Long Lake (Danbury), T. Adair to reach out again to Mallard, S. Wallin to contact Prinell, and D. Ferris to contact Pike Lake. (**Note:** After the meeting Baker received the membership renewal check from the Yellow Lakes and Rivers Association, so their dues are now paid. He also received a note from they Pike Lake Association saying that they are discontinuing their BCLRA membership.) Third renewal notices will be sent to any associations that have not renewed their memberships by early May. Our only expense since 12/20/19 was our annual \$39 to E. Gall for the BCLRA domain fee for our website. This gives us a current checking account balance of \$6,462.49, which, with our CD value of \$3,263.24, gives us a total balance of \$9,725.73. (Note: this is over \$3,000 more that our balance at our 02/16/19 meeting (\$6,542.12)). The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously (Schollmeyer/Kipping).

LIAISON UPDATES

Zebra Mussels: M. Schollmeyer reported that the Zebra Mussel Commission had met in mid-January and that one of the issues considered involved the plate samplers on the three McKenzie lakes. With the extreme zebra mussel density in Big McKenzie, it was impossible to count the numbers accurately. This year it appears that fewer samplers will be put out on Big McKenzie, perhaps 6 to 8, and then counting protocol will likely change to numbers of zebra mussels per square centimeter, rather than square foot. The numbers of plate samplers on Middle and Lower McKenzie Lakes will probably not change, however. Schollmeyer mentioned that Scott Ballentine, a genetics professor at UW-River Falls sabbatical leave research is continuing this spring. Schollmeyer asked if asked CBCW workers at Big McKenzie report boaters who refuse to decontaminate, who should they be reported to and would they actually be fined since the bulk of Big McKenzie is located in Burnett County, but the public access is in Washburn County. T. Boisvert

said the Burnett County Sheriff would not likely issue citations for violations that occur in Washburn County, but would check to find out how such violations should be handled. Boisvert also mentioned that eDNA analyses are being reconsidered as the best way to detect zebra mussels because this summer both Deer Lake in Polk County and Big McKenzie tested negative for zebra mussels through eDNA, when clearly both lakes have well established populations of zebra mussels. Boisvert recommended that both veliger tows and eDNA testing should be used in conjunction for the best detection method.

Burnett County Land Services: With D. Ferris being away at a meeting, T. Boisvert reported that their three year \$150,000 surface water proposal was funded in total, which is excellent news. Over \$1.5 million in grant monies were requested, with only \$650,000 in funds available. Their grant received the highest ranking on all the proposals that were submitted. Boisvert mentioned that the two interns from 2019, Sunny and Shayna, will be returning for 2020 and they are hoping to hire a third intern for the season. Land Services also received a grant to revise the Top 10 Native Shoreline Plants brochure and he will be asking the BCLRA for possible assistance with printing costs and distribution at a future meeting. Boisvert mentioned that he is working on Aquatic Plant Management Plans for Big Doctor, Birch Island, and North Sand Lakes that should be completed this year. He mentioned that Big Doctor experienced a significant fish kill this winter that may be related to high phosphorus levels from the Siren Waste Water Treatment Plant that discharges effluent into the marshland that drains into Big Doctor Lake. Boisvert will be running two CBCW/Decontamination workshops in April, one in the northern part of Burnett County close to Birch Island and North Sand Lakes, and the other near Trade Lake in the western part of the county. The dates will be determined soon. He mentioned that Lisa Burns will be holding two workshops at the Spooner DNR office. On April 17, from 5:00-6:00 pm, the focus will be decontamination procedures and from 9:00-11:30 on April 18, the focus will be on CBCW protocol. Boisvert mentioned that he has acquired several signs for waterfowl hunters that are designed to educate hunters about how to avoid spreading AIS and will be placing them in and around Crex Meadows and the Fish Lake Wildlife Preserves. He also passed around an article documenting that zebra mussels do indeed have a negative effect on walleye populations. Finally, Boisvert said he had checked into the Operation Roundup grants available through the Polk-Burnett Electrical Cooperative. He suggested that perhaps the BCLRA might consider applying for an Operation Roundup grant to purchase cold packs to give to boaters this summer. He said we might be able to have "Compliments of the BCLRA" or something similar printed to the cold packs, helping advertise that efforts of the BCLRA to help prevent the spread of AIS. He said that a typical cold pack costs about \$4.00. Boisvert indicated that he would be willing to assist us in writing the Operation Roundup grant proposal.

Extension Services: No report.

Natural Resources Committee: R. Noe reported that he had missed their most recent meeting and T. Boisvert, who had attended the meeting, could not recall any item of significance to the BCLRA that was discussed at the meeting.

N.W. Lakes Conference: S. Wallin said that the steering committee will be meeting on Monday, March 9 to finalize the poster for advertising the event. She mentioned that Ian Karl, from Northwest Passage near Webster, will be the keynote speaker. The conference will be Friday June 19,

2020 at Spooner High School, with registration starting at 8:00 and the program starting at 9:00 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS

BCLRA Website: The BCLRA website is now up and running, with the www.bclra.org link now working. R.Noë will contact E. Gall to see if she would be willing to work with M. Schollmeyer and T. Adair to train them in how to maintain modify the website as new information becomes available that should be posted and outdated material removed. Noë said it was his understanding that Kim Wheeler, new marketing director for the BCTC, would be replacing E. Gall and would be helping us with the website..

Operation Roundup: See the Land Services report above.

Buck Gooding: The Board discussed the proper way to honor Buck Gooding for his unstinting service to the BCLRA. Possible gifts were discussed, ranging from a plaque to customized golf-balls with Buck's name printed on them. Kipping/Schollmeyer moved that we cap the gift cost at \$100. Motion accrued unanimously. B. Enslin said she would check with Buck's daughter to see if she had suggestions about how we might properly acknowledge Buck's significant contributions to the BCLRA over several decades. We will wait to hear the suggestions from Buck's daughter before proceeding. After continued discussion, B. Enslin said she would check with the Pour House about possibly hosting our next meeting, followed by a lunch that we would invite Buck to attend where we could present our gift of appreciation.

NEW BUSINESS

4-H Programming: B. Rank mentioned that over the years BCLRA scholarships have helped approximately 50% of the 4-H membership attend her summer youth camp. However, now that UW-Extension is part of UW-Madison, the risk management people in Madison are looking at camping facilities and that because Camp Burnett, where previous youth camp's had been held is very rustic, it may be necessary to change to a more modern camp. She said that the Luther Park Camp might be the best option if moving to a less rustic camp is required. B. Rank pointed out that Luther Park would be a more expensive option and wondered if it would be possible for the BCLRA to allow the monies they have previously donated for youth scholarships to be used to help offset camp rental fees, rather than scholarships. Schollmeyer/A. Enslin moved that the BCLRA donated \$500 to help defray camp rental costs, rather than scholarships for campers. Motion carried unanimously.

Houman's Resort: Noë thanked S. Johnson for the his yeoman's service for his work in developing the detailed BCLRA position on the Houman's resort issue. He also thanked B. Baker for his presentation of Johnson's report at the Land Use Committee meeting on March 3. Johnson summarized the meeting. There were about 35 speakers, all non-supporters of the Houman's RV campground expansion. The BCLRA's major objections were related to groundwater quality as effected by septic effluent, and increases in surface runoff into surface water bodies. Considerable discussion ensued. Questions arose about the possibility of a private boat landing being added as part of the Houman's expansion. T. Boisvert did not think the DNR would allow a private boat launch at the Houman's campground. The Land Use Committee decided to continue the Houman's

conditional use permit (CUP) request until their May meeting. If all conditions and stipulations are met by the land owner, the CUP will likely be approved. Legally, the Land Use Committee has no other alternative but to approve it. There was some discussion about the possibility of the BCLRA having a non-voting liaison to the Land Use Committee so that we can be better kept informed of issues and developments. R. Noe said he will pursue this possibility.

BCLRA Emergency Meetings: Since our ByLaws are silent on this issue, T. Adair asked about whether electronic meetings might be approved as a way of conducting business when face-to-face meetings are not possible. S. Johnson, mentioned that “Go To Meeting” video conferencing was a possible way of doing this. After some discussion, Adair/Johnson moved the the BCLRA use email as the method of conducting business when face-to-face meetings are not possible. Motion was approved without dissent.

BCLRA Brochure: B. Baker explained that Tammy Johnson had given him one of the old BCLRA brochures that was last revised in 2009. It is very outdated with a considerable number of errors/incorrect information. Baker and R. Noe agreed to make editorial suggestions and bring them to our next meeting for consideration.

OTHER BUSINESS — None.

The next BCLRA meeting will be held on **Friday, May 15, 2020 at the Siren Government Center.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m. (Adair/A. Enslin).