

**BURNETT COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 19, 2021
MINUTES**

Attendance: B. Baker, R. Noe, B. Enslin, A. Enslin, P. Kipping, D. Ferris, and E. Moore

Absent: R. McFarlane, S. Wallin, T. Adair, and S. Johnson

R. Noe called meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. and thanked everyone for attending on the eve of the Wisconsin gun-deer hunt. He and D. Ferris introduced Emily Moore the new AIS coordinator replacing Tom Boisvert who left for a new position during the summer. Emily received her B.S. degree at St. Cloud St. University and her M.S. degree at Grand Valley College, MI, with a specialty in invasive species. All BCLRA Board members in attendance introduced themselves to Emily. R. Noe pointed out that due to the pandemic and other issues we were missing 4 of our members. He mentioned that T. Adair is still recuperating from a procedure involving his heart, but is recovering well.

Minutes of the 07/23 meeting were approved unanimously (Kipping/B. Enslin) with no changes.

Treasurer's report: B. Baker reported that since our 07/23/21 meeting all 15 of the *LakeLines* sponsors have now paid for their 2021 advertising. He mentioned that second notices were necessary to nudge two sponsors into paying their \$100 fees. Baker indicated that in early September BCLRA 2022 dues notices and invoices were sent out to all member associations. To date all but 5 associations have renewed their memberships for 2022. Baker sent second notices to these associations (Big Wood, Birch Island, Minerva-Cranberry, North Sand, and Yellow) in early November. He mentioned that three associations had made donations in addition to paying their 2022 dues. These were Green Lake, McKenzie Lakes, and Rooney. Baker indicated that he had sent thank-you notes thanking these three associations for their generosity. Thus since 07/23/21 we have received to date \$1,550 in dues payments, \$200 in sponsorship fees, and \$250 in donations giving us a total income of \$2,000 thus far in the fiscal year. Our only expenses since the July 23 meeting were \$130.53 for invoices, envelopes, and printer ink. This gives us a total balance of \$7,896.84. Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously (A. Enslin/Kipping).

LIAISON UPDATES

Burnett County Land Services: D. Ferris discussed housing issues that his summer interns face. With workers earning only \$12/hr, summer earnings disappear rapidly due to the high cost of rentals in Burnett County. He asked the BCLRA Board to spread the word about possible low-cost housing, perhaps seldom used guest cabins could be made available. After some discussion, Ferris agreed to write a short note about this issue in the fall issue of *LakeLines*. Ferris has 2 packets of BCLRA brochures and encouraged Board members to take handfuls of copies for their lakes. Ferris also had a large number of colorful *Shoreline Living* magazines that was developed

by the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership, in conjunction with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and Sport Fishing and Wildlife Restoration. He asked Board members to take multiple copies to share with their lake associations.

Ferris noted that the Zebra Mussel Task Force will be having a virtual meeting on December 2 from 10:00-12:00. B.Baker will be making a short presentation on the new pressure washer decontamination station at Lipsett Lake.

The Campground ordinance passed this fall with some restrictions in the numbers of units/campground. Several lawsuits are likely. Ferris also explained that the Trade Lake CAFO (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation) was sent back by the State so that more wetland information could be provided. In addition, Ferris mentioned that an agricultural producer near Little Wood Lake agreed to add fencing to help keep cattle out of the lake.

Ferris has been contacted by the Wisconsin Geologic and Natural History Survey about the possibility of conducting a new groundwater inventory to replace the study that was done in 1990.

Lastly, Ferris explained that the Clam Dam needs some repair work, as does the Minerva dam, which controls the water levels in the entire Minerva chain of lakes. Apparently one of the Minerva spillways needs rebuilding which will take approximately 6 weeks.

Natural Resources Committee: R. Noe indicated that the Committee did not meet this month. The next meeting will be in early December. ATV usage in the county is a focus of discussion. This summer there were many ATV accidents, including one fatality. Ferris mentioned an incident of pontoon rage on the Clam River with one pontoon ramming the other. He said there were 2 drownings in the county this summer, one on Birch Island Lake and the other on Clam Lake. D. Ferris also reported that Burnett County timber sales were once again lucrative.

N.W. Lakes Conference: S. Wallin was absent, so no report. Perhaps at our next meeting she will be able to give us details, including whether the conference will be virtual once again, or face-to-face.

OLD BUSINESS

BCLRA Conservation Award: D.Ferris explained that he hadn't had time to look at the paperwork R. Noe had given him about possible criteria for the award, but that he would do so by the next meeting and will be prepared for us to discuss options.

Power Loading Ordinance: Ferris mentioned that he has submitted an ordinance outlawing power loading in the county because of the damage this does at public boat landings. He said that the Natural Resources Committee is cautious about moving forward on issues like this. Ferris will likely contact township chairs in the county to ask for their support.

Lipsett Lake Pressure Washing Station: B. Baker explained that his lake decided to borrow from Stone Lake and put in a pressure washing at their public access. He said the process was somewhat complex and included permission from the Town of Rusk, getting a well drilled,

having electrical power brought to the site, 2 concrete pours, purchasing a suitable electric pressure washer, getting a steel box fabricated to house the sprayer, and putting in 4 steel bollards to protect the well head and metal box. The entire project has cost the Lipsett Lake Association about \$12,000, which the association feels is money well spent. After answering several questions, R. Noe said he will try to get the North Sand Lake Association to follow the Lipsett lead and put in a pressure washing station next summer.

BCLRA Website: With T. Adair being absent, there was no report on the BCLRA website. P. Kipping indicated that he and T. Adair would be working on the website after the holidays.

Other Old Business: B. Baker mentioned that because of our limited number of meetings due to COVID, we have not yet made our annual \$500 donation to the Burnett County Land Services for the AIS scholarship. It was agreed that Baker should write a check today and R. Noe would officially give it to D. Ferris at the December Natural Resources Committee meeting. Baker also asked about renewing our memberships in the River Alliance of Wisconsin and the Wild rivers Conservancy. R. Noe told Baker to renew these memberships as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Fall *LakeLines* Newsletter: D. Ferris said the fall newsletter is complete and should be mailed to over 6,000 property owners in the next several weeks. Questions from B. and A. Enslin arose about the frequency of mailing list updates, since many lakes have had changes in lake-property owners recently. Ferris mentioned Ann Lane uses the current tax rolls to update the mailing list, so the list is always as up to date as possible. R. Noe asked B. Baker if he would be willing to write a short article about the Lipsett power washing station for the Spring *LakeLines* newsletter. Baker said he would be happy to do so and would be in touch with D. Ferris to make sure the article is ready at the proper time next spring.

AIS Position: Emily Moore, introduced at the beginning of the meeting, is the new AIS Coordinator for the county.

Spring 2022 Issues: R. Noe asked Board members to think about any issues the BCLRA should be addressing for 2022 and come prepared to discuss them at the next meeting in January. A. Enslin asked if we could develop packets of information for new lake and river property owners. D. Ferris said it certainly would be possible to develop packets that would include such things as the *Shoreline Living* magazine and shoreline zoning information. R. Noe will add this to the agenda for our January 14 meeting.

The next BCLRA meeting will be held on **Friday, January 14, 2022 at the Siren Government Center.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m. (Noe/Baker).

