

Cullen Lakes Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
9:00 a.m., June 8, 2019, Nisswa American Legion

Present: Ann Beaver, Paul Beilfuss, Charlie Boudrye, Jim Burrell, C.B. Bylander, Patti Hicks, Dan Hurley, Joel Knutson, Anne Kostreba, Carol Lindahl, John MacGibbon, Denny Opsahl

Absent: Debi Oliverius

1. President Ann Beaver called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. The minutes of the May 18, 2019 meeting were approved on a voice vote.
3. Treasurer Carol Lindahl distributed the treasurer's report. Carol reported that all expenditures were within budget, without any May expenditures, and that CLP treatment expenses were low due to limited treatment this year (approximately \$9,000). The treasurer's report through June 7, 2019 was approved on a voice vote.
4. The meeting agenda was adopted by president Ann Beaver without additions.
5. Ann Beaver introduced guest speaker, Dave Williams, Pelican Lake cabin owner and member of the Pelican Lake Association, to address an emerging issue of the short-term rental of cabins and lake homes by property owners (often referred to as the "VRBO effect"). Although Mr. Williams stated that he had a personal interest in the issue, since a lake property near him is regularly occupied by short-term renters creating considerable noise and other difficulties, he has broadened his interest in addressing the issue. Mr. Williams indicated that the rentals are not regulated in Crow Wing County. He stated that the County Land Services is unprepared to address the matter due to a lack of a county policy and size of the issue. Mr. Williams is visiting lake associations to request assistance in requesting the Crow Wing County Board to address the matter through a county ordinance and regulations similar to other counties, such as Aitkin, Douglas, Stearns, and others. Mr. Williams encouraged activism regarding the matter, and he stated that to his knowledge the two newest county commissioners support an ordinance; however, other county officials would like the state to address the issue. CLA board members commented that they had received solicitations from companies wishing to manage their properties.

Mr. Williams said that realtors are also driving this issue by purchasing unsold properties and offering the properties for rental. He stated that we should all be concerned with sanitation issues (e.g., septic systems) due to substantial utilization. According to Mr. Williams there is little or no enforcement of local ordinances due to an overtaxing of local officials. For example, Ann Beaver said that Crow Wing County used to have an enforcement officer; however, the position is vacant due to budget choices. Mr. Williams said that a majority of the County Board commissioners and officials have little appetite to address the issue at this time; however, he stated that the County Board is the key to the matter. Mr. Williams requested the CLA Board to formally address the issue, and the Board authorized Ann Beaver to prepare and send a letter to the Crow Wing County Board. Patti Hicks shared an anecdote regarding a rental property on Middle Cullen, and she suggested that concerned individuals contact the Minnesota Department of Health to address concerns about sanitation, etc. Ann Beaver said that other resources in the matter might be Frank Lee, Brainerd Dispatch reporter, as well as the Lakes and Rivers Alliance (LARA) Board. Ann Beaver thanked Mr. Williams for his presentation and said that our board would be sending a letter to Crow Wing County officials.

6. A. Anne Kostreba reported that everything is set for the annual meeting. She said that the presenters would be John McGuire and Lisa Hirschey, since their extended family is celebrating a century on our lakes. Anne requested that committee chairs review their responsibilities according to the Lake Management Plan (LMP) and send her their committee reports to be incorporated into the annual meeting summary. The board will have to conduct a property owners' survey in 2020 to comply with the LMP.
- B. Paul Beilfuss requested board members send him any recommended budget changes as he prepares the FY 2020 budget. He will send out a reminder to Board members with this year's budget attached. Paul will attempt to gather the Budget and Finance committee to address a Legacy Fund policy and related procedures.
- C. C.B. Bylander said that he would continue AIS education by sending out information including wrapping up any related legislative issues.
- D. Anne Kostreba reported that she contacted a bow fishing organization regarding our concerns about disrupting loons and their nests on our lakes. Anne's contact said he would send out an email reminding bow anglers to

be aware of loons and nests; however, the organization doesn't have any official authority.

E. No fisheries report.

F. Ann Beaver reported that sales tax on treating AIS remains an issue, and we'll continue to pursue this issue with state/regional officials. Ann also requested a precise CLP treatment report from our contractor, Clarke.

G. Ann Beaver reported about recent property sales and "no build" lots.

H. Carol Lindahl reported that we have 242 paid CLA members, including 14 associates, and 5 complimentary members.

I. Ann Beaver reported that water quality results are similar to past reports. Will continue to test the week of June 9.

7. The nominating committee reported that they would pursue another Board member from Middle Cullen. It was suggested that John McGuire might be a good choice, so Ann Beaver said she would email him.

8. There was no old business on the agenda to address.

9. There was no business on the agenda to address.

10. President Ann Beaver adjourned the meeting at 10:26 a.m. with general consent of those present.

Note: It was noted that the next meeting will be on Saturday, July 13, 9:00 a.m. at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa.