

CROW WING COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ALLIANCE (LARA)

Meeting Minutes for LARA Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 4:00 p.m.

Extension Office, Land Services Building, Brainerd, MN

Board members present: Phil Hunsicker, Sandy Holm, Mike O'Brien, Jodi Billy, Eleanor Burkett (ex-officio)

Board Members absent: Tom Beaver, Ann Beaver, Nick Bernier, Kent Montgomery (ex-officio)

Volunteers absent: Sharon Herwig

Meeting was called to order by P. Hunsicker at 4:10 p.m. Quorum was present with 4 voting board members in attendance.

Minutes of 10/11/2016 were unanimously approved after a motion by M. O'Brien and a second by J. Billy.

No Treasurer's report was presented.

S. Herwig was not present, so no in-depth discussion about newsletter and website. Quarterly newsletter came out last week. Board members were encouraged to look at the LARA website, which was recently updated, and if they have suggestions of things to post, to get those to Sharon.

P. Hunsicker notified the board that he met with the videographer, Riley Nelson, on 11/30/2016. Riley continues to search for B-roll to supplement the interviews he filmed at the Aquatic Invaders Summit in October. E. Burkett suggested he contact Melissa Barrick at Crow Wing SWCD to see if she has any B-roll from the Pine River video that was done a few years ago. Also, Steve Mikkelson at the MPCA might have some film he can let us use. In his work as an Information Officer, he has made use of video to promote the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). P. Hunsicker will get those suggestions and contact information to Riley.

It was mentioned that LARA awarded this year's CWEPA Fund grant to the East Twin Lake Association in the amount of \$3,000 for planting trees (5'-7' tall), seedlings, and groundcover to stabilize and restore the lake's west shoreline along the recently expanded 4-lane Highway 371 corridor and the relocated Paul Bunyan Trail. The grantees are working closely with Central

Lakes College's Horticulture instructor, Theri Wasniewski, to make sure the plantings are successful.

There was a question from J. Billy about the status of the Thirty Lakes Watershed and water quality grants that were being administered by that now defunct organization. Crow Wing County has taken control of the money left over – approximately \$170,000 and has promised to use it for water quality projects within the county. Board members were unsure if that included the on-going water quality grants impacting Pelican Lake and others. Board members will check into it.

Next board meeting will be held Tuesday, January 3, 2017, if necessary, at the Extension office. Remote access will be possible for this meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.