

CROW WING COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ALLIANCE (LARA)

Board of Directors' meeting
Tuesday, September 2, 2014, 4:00 p.m.
SWCD Office, 322 Laurel Street, Suite 22, Brainerd, MN

Board members present: Ann Beaver, Scott Brand, Sharon Herwig, Phil Hunsicker, Mike O'Brien, Harold Stewart

Board members absent: Tom Beaver, Jodi Billy, Eleanor Burkett (ex-officio), Sandy Holm, Mike Simons

Others present: Melissa Barrick, SWCD and Bonnie Finnerty, MPCA

The meeting was called to order by Phil Hunsicker, co-president. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 5 board meeting and the August 26 post Annual Meeting board meeting. There was no treasurer's report since there had been no financial activity since the report presented at the Annual Meeting.

WRAP presentation Melissa Barrick and Bonnie Finnerty presented information on the Watershed Restoration and Protection (WRAP) process for the Crow Wing Watershed. They said the final WRAP document will help guide future decisions regarding lakes and subwatersheds.

Annual Meeting debriefing Everyone felt the meeting went very well and attendance was up over past years. Possible reasons for the increase were the two speakers and the phone calls made to lake association contacts by board members in advance of the meeting. Also, Tuesday evenings seem to be a good time for the meeting.

Possible LARA-sponsored meeting regarding use of future AIS dollars from the State Since a meeting is already scheduled for September 19 at which this topic will be given some attention, board members decided to wait to see if more information/ideas/opinions are needed before pursuing a LARA-sponsored meeting.

Other business:

Strategic planning Sharon Herwig suggested the Board consider holding a special board meeting in January to revisit the current LARA Strategic Plan. Board members were asked to look over the existing Strategic Plan and be ready to discuss the need for an update at the October 7 board meeting.

Harvest Dinner Phil Hunsicker reminded everyone of the dinner on Saturday, September 13 at the Nisswa American Legion.

Lake Friendly Development Awards Hunsicker said this year's awards will be presented on October 9 at 3:00 p.m. in the lower level Land Services Building meeting room. Paul Radomski will be the speaker.

Letter from the Bay Lake Improvement Association Hunsicker read the letter LARA had received from the president of the association expressing disappointment that LARA had chosen not to join MNCOLA this year and asking for the rationale behind the decision. Hunsicker responded to the letter and said LARA would consider rejoining in the future if its expressed concerns were dealt with in a satisfactory way.

Next board meeting The next board meeting will be Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the SWCD office.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Beaver, secretary