

CROW WING COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ALLIANCE (LARA)

Board of Directors' Meeting Tuesday, July 12, 2016, 4:00 p.m. Roundhouse Brewery, Brainerd, MN

Board members present: Ann Beaver, Tom Beaver, Jodi Billy, Phil Hunsicker, Mike O'Brien
Board members absent: Nick Bernier, Eleanor Burkett (ex-officio), Sandy Holm

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Phil Hunsicker, co-president. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2016 board meeting. Ann Beaver handed out her treasurer's report noting the only financial activity since the last meeting was the receipt of \$200 in dues. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the treasurer's report.

2016 lake and watershed analysis request for funding As a follow-up to the discussion board members had with him at the May board meeting, Kent Montgomery, instructor in Natural Resources at Central Lakes College (CLC), submitted a written request for financial support for partial funding of a collaborative student research project conducted by students from CLC and Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. The project includes the analysis of watershed influences on lakes and water quality. The funding request includes \$480 for student time to collect samples on two lakes during the summer, something which could develop into an on-going yearly funding, and a one-time expense of \$1,096 for equipment and supplies for chlorophyll *a* sample analysis. Board members see this as an opportunity for LARA to help educate and train environmental leaders for the future. After further discussion of the proposal, a motion was made, seconded and carried to authorize the expense of \$1,576 to help fund this research program. A condition of the approval was that the students and Montgomery will present their findings and recommendations at the 2017 LARA annual membership meeting.

Annual meeting date, venue, and speaker After discussing the annual meeting, board members decided to hold it at the Lake Edward Township Hall from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., as in the past. The first choice of dates was Tuesday, August 16, with Wednesday, August 17 as a second choice. Ann Beaver will contact the Lake Edward Township Clerk to see if the hall is available. Mike O'Brien will then check with Arlene Jones of the St. Mathias Farm to see if she would be available to speak to the gathering about the farm's sustainable, environmentally friendly farming methods and how they protect the watershed of surrounding lakes.

Water Warrior Award Board members agreed on the recipient discussed at the last meeting (name is being withheld until after the annual meeting).

Other business Ann Beaver asked if she should write a letter to Dan Swanson, DNR AIS Specialist and a past Water Warrior Award winner, on behalf of the LARA Board thanking him for his years of quality service and support to area lake associations. He is retiring from the DNR at the end of August. Board members agreed it was a good idea.

Next board meeting The Board will have a short meeting Tuesday, August 2 at 4:00 in the bar at the Arrowwood Lodge in Baxter to firm up details for the annual meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Beaver, secretary