

CROW WING COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ALLIANCE (LARA)

Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, September 1, 2015, 4:00 p.m.
SWCD Office, 322 Laurel Street, Suite 22, Brainerd, MN

Board members present: Ann Beaver, Tom Beaver, Nick Bernier, Sandy Holm, Phil Hunsicker, Mike O'Brien

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

Others present: Chelsey Perkins, Brainerd Dispatch reporter

The meeting was called to order by Phil Hunsicker, co-president. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2015 board meeting. Ann Beaver distributed her treasurer's report and noted the receipt of dues from one additional lake association and expenses paid thus far for the annual meeting. She asked if anyone felt a need for her to transfer any funds to new CDs, stating the interest earned is minimal and it might be better to keep the funds currently in the checking account easily accessible. Board members agreed she should forego the purchase of additional CDs at this time. She said current membership stands at 31 lake associations. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the treasurer's report.

Phil Hunsicker said the Board neglected to elect officers for the coming year immediately after the annual meeting. He asked if the current officers would continue for another year and all agreed they would. A motion was made, seconded and carried to elect Mike O'Brien and Phil Hunsicker as co-presidents, Sandy Holm as vice president, and Ann Beaver as secretary/treasurer.

Board members felt the annual meeting was a good one even if it was poorly attended. The presentation by Sara Fogderud, A.W. Research Laboratories, was informative and there was good discussion among the few attendees present. Possible reasons were discussed for the lack of attendance, but nothing was really pinpointed. Chelsey Perkins said non profit organizations can place a short announcement in the Dispatch and Echo Journal for free and we should do that next year. Ann Beaver said she could send out more email reminders throughout the summer, also.

Mike O'Brien and Nick Bernier told the Board the appeal of the Lower South Long Lake wetland fill was upheld by a 4-1 TEP panel vote and thus the wetland fill was denied. The one vote against the denial was County Water Protection Specialist, Mitch Brinks. Chelsey Perkins asked people to send her any information/scientific data they have explaining why wetlands are important.

Articles for the newsletter were discussed and assigned to board members. They were asked to email their articles to newsletter editor Sharon Herwig by September 8.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, October 6, same time, same place.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Beaver, secretary