CROW WING COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ALLIANCE (LARA)
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 15, 2026, 3:00 P.M. Zoom Call
First Western Bank, Nisswa, MN

Board members present:	Nick Bernier, Tony Coffey, Carrie Ruud, Michael McDaid, Bob Noll,
Board members absent:	Alan Albrecht, Susan Koering, Mike Bosquez, Sarah Fogderud
Guests:	

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:02P.M. by Tony Coffey, President.
2. No guests today.
3. Motion was made to approve the last meeting minutes. Passed
4. Tony provided the treasurers report as of June 30 2026:

Cash on hand	$15,511.38
12 Mo CD	$ 5,766.80
6 Mo CD	$ 4,641.15

Grant Funds Available - $12,100

Motion was made to approve the treasures report as submitted. Passed

5. Membership renewals. We have two lake associations that have not yet sent in their dues. They are Edna Fawn and Fifty Lakes. McDaid has sent the presidents of the associations several emails and letters and we are waiting for their response. The board determined that we would wait until the next meeting to decide any course of action. Additionally we had two lake associations that have Cancelled their membership. One for lack of funds and the other because they are a small local homeowners' group and also are low on funds. The two are Grave Lake and Lower Hay.
6. AIS Roundtable - Bernier attended the event and said it went well. The feedback was positive and particular interest was with the explanation of swimmer's itch. Dr Bernier explained that the parasite once released from a snail will float to the surface and attach to humans – thankfully our body will kill the parasite but the rash that is formed will itch. He also explained other forms of that parasite that are more dangerous but have not yet surfaced in our lakes. Thankfully. Motion was made and approved to send WAPOA a check for $500 to support the event's cost. LARA had committed that money earlier. McDaid will send check

7. Rush Lake/Middle Cullen Starry Stonewort – WAPOA contracted with the LLBO for DASH treatment on Rush the week of June 29th. The DASH team was pushed off on Monday with the Jun 29 storm. The DASH team were able to work for approximately 5 hours each day on the Starry extraction. For reference, 1 acre took about 20 hours, and they would need 3 more days to finish. Comparing June 2025 to June 2026 there was a 50% decline in the star-shaped bulbils. Cullen has a much bigger infestation but no one at the meeting was sure what their plan of action included.
8. MN COLA Position Paper on Wake Activities – there was a motion made to adopt the MN COLA position as the LARA position at the May meeting which was approved. The map for a lake showing the proper wake boating area is $150 and Tony motioned to have LARA pay for half of the map cost – Approved. Bernier estimated that if all the lakes on our roster asked for the money it would cost us about $2,250. Everyone was comfortable with that.
9. Newsletter – Noll to write a summary of the Wake board chart posting and the success he has had on Lake Ossawinnamakee with adherence.
10. LARA Annual Meeting. Bernier has secured the "GATHER" site for our meeting on August 25, from 4:00 to 6:00. A motion was made and approved to have McDaid send a deposit to secure the site and the food/bev request.
11. Succession Planning. Tony has asked that we think about a replacement for him as president of LARA. More discussion at the next meeting
12. No other business
13. The next meeting will be August 11 at 3:00 at First Western Bank, Nisswa
14. We adjourned at 4:25pm

TREASURER REPORT

LARA financial statement 06/30/2026					
RECEIPTS	MONTH	YTD		CURRENT ASSETS	VALUE
Dues	$575.00	$2,250.00		**CHECKING ACCOUNT**	**$15,511.38**
Donations				**CD'S**	
CWEPA IF Grants		$0.00		1239701 (1/17/26)	$5,766.80
Grants				1239702 (11/17/25)	$4,641.15
Personal membership				**CD Total**	**$10,407.95**
				TOTAL ASSETS	**$25,919.33**
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**$575.00**	**$2,250.00**		**(total minus grant funds)**	**$13,819.33**
				CWEPA FUND GRANT	
				Receipts	
DISBURSEMENTS				3/13/19	$3,400.00
Membership				6/18/20	$3,500.00
postage				3/11/21	$3,600.00
printing				3/9/22	$3,700.00
Administration				3/13/23	$3,800.00
P.O. box rental		$88.00		5/12/24	$3,800.00
Check charge		$51.54		3/4/25	$3,700.00
Insurance bond				**Total**	**$25,500.00**
Annual meeting					
Communication					
Web site					
Education				**Disbursements**	
Secretary				National Loon Center	$3,400.00
Sponsorships				Foundation 11/20/19	
CWEPA Grants				Northland Arboretum	
MN Lakes & Rivers dues	$125.00	$125.00		3/8/21	$3,000.00
MN COLA dues		$150.00		Crow Wing SWCD	
Miscellaneous				4/14/23	$2,000.00
Happy Hour w/LARA				Cullen Lakes Association	
				8/19/25	$5,000.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	**$125.00**	**$414.54**		**Total**	**$13,400.00**
				Grant funds available	**$12,100.00**
YTD NET INCOME (LOSS(		**$1,835.46**			

AGENDA

CROW WING COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ALLIANCE (LARA)

Meeting of the Board of Directors – First Western Bank Nisswa/Zoom
Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 3:00 – 4:15 pm

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86792853847

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Introduction of guests
3. Approval of minutes from May 12, 2026 board meeting
4. Treasurer's Report
5. LARA Membership Renewals
6. 2026 AIS Roundtable Review
    a. Feedback and Suggestions?
    b. LARA Sponsorship – Approve: $500
7. Rush Lake/Middle Cullen Starry Stonewort Updates
8. MN COLA Position Paper – Enhanced Wake Activities
    a. LARA's position
    b. Safe Wakes maps for CWC Lake Associations
        i. CWEPA Grant Funds
9. Newsletter
10. LARA 2026 Happy Hour and Annual Meeting
    a. Theme/Topic?
    b. Location – Gather on 3
11. Succession Planning
12. Other business/announcements
13. Next Scheduled Meeting: TBD
14. Adjourn