CROW WING COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ALLIANCE (LARA)

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 9, 2025, 3:00 P.M.
First Western Bank, Nisswa, MN

Board members present: Nick Bernier, Tony Coffey, Mike Bosquez, Jodi Billy (Zoom), Susan Koering, Carrie Ruud (Zoom), Bob Noll, Michael McDaid

Board members absent: Sarah Fogderud, Alan Albrecht

Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 P.M. by Tony Coffey, President.

Motion to approve August 12, 2025, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report – Jodi gave the financial report.

- Checking account funds available as 8/29/2025 - $15,577.50. One deposit for $25 and one check/debit for $5,084.00. One service charge – debit – for $4.00
- 6-month (3.25%) CD #1239702 total $4,483.04 matures 11/17/2025. Renewed in May for 6 months.
- 1 year (4.0%) CD #1239701 total $5,545.00 matures 1/17/2026.
- **Total Funda available: $25,605.54.**

LARA Membership Renewals –
No new members.

Nominations -
Approved Michael McDaid, Pelican Lake as LARA board member and Board Secretary.

LARA Education and Awareness Initiatives

- Resort Owner Program – Reviewed Alan's letter and wanted to add campgrounds to the circle of organizations that will receive the letter. The board is asked to review the letter and provide suggestions back to Alan at the earliest convenience
- There was some discussion as to when the letter should be sent. The board will review options at the next meeting

CWC Starry Stonewort Update

- Tony updated the board that WAPOA has received $40,000 in donations to purchase an underwater ROV to provide mapping of Rush Lake. Discussion ensued about renting out the unit with a trained operator involved. More clarity on how this will work needs to be discussed.
- Tony suggested the board review in Oct/Nov the 2025 CWC AIS Prevention plan. The board decided to survey members on 2025 CWD AIS Prevention Plan. Nick will lead the effort and Mike will assist.

LARA 2025 Happy Hour –

- All agreed that the Happy Hour event was a success
- The venue worked well, and the food was a good choice.
- It was suggested that the next Happy Hour have a mobile MIC to facilitate better understanding of the speaker.
- Now that we have gathered answers to the questions we proposed at the meeting, we should respond to the comments in the upcoming Newsletter.

Newsletter – suggested articles:

- Early Detection Volunteer Program – Shannon Watters
- Resort Owner Program – Alan
- Starry Stonewort DNR Research Project Update – ?
- Seaweed (Aquatic Plants) as fertilizer – Alan and Nick
- Happy Hour Wrap Up – Tony
- Board member changes – Tony
- Education and Success Stories – Mike B

Due date for articles: October 7.

Other Business:

- Tony discussed asking the County Commissioners to go Lake Koronis to see the impact of a lake that has a significant infestation of starry stonewort.

Next meeting: October 7, 2025, 3-4:15 pm
First Western Bank, Nisswa

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 P.M. By Tony Coffey, President

Minutes submitted by Michael McDaid