

CROW WING COUNTY LAKES AND RIVERS ALLIANCE (LARA)

Board of Directors Meeting Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 4:00 p.m. Roundhouse Brewery, Brainerd, MN

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

Board members absent: Jodi Billy, Sandy Holm, Kent Montgomery (ex-officio)

The meeting was called to order by Phil Hunsicker, co-president. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2019 board meeting. Ann Beaver handed out and went through her treasurer's report, noting the receipt of \$50 in dues and no expenses in the past month. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the treasurer's report. She then distributed a list of the 30 lake associations that are 2019 members of LARA. Board members were curious as to how many lake associations there are in Crow Wing County. Phil said he would check to see if Jeff Forester of MLR had that information.

VRBOs Phil Hunsicker reported on his very positive meeting and conversation with County Commissioner Bill Brekken on Vacation Rentals by Owners (VRBOs). Ann Beaver said she, as president of the Cullen Lakes Association, had also had a very positive phone conversation with Brekken and a supportive email from Commissioner Steve Barrows. It appears the County Board may finally be willing to at least consider regulating VRBOs.

CWEPA Fund Phil said he has had meetings and conversations with several people about possible projects to support with the money from the CWEPA Fund. He advised them to put their ideas/projects in writing with a dollar amount and submit them to LARA.

LARA newsletter Phil reported he has received good reactions from lake associations to the recent newsletter.

Our Mississippi, Our Future Eleanor Burkett gave an update on this program. Its purposes are to: gain support for protecting the Mississippi River Basin, support clean water, raise awareness, influence legislators, and find and support candidates for office who support these things.

Digital annual meeting Due to very poor attendance at a physical annual meeting in recent years, LARA will again send an electronic "meeting" to its members. Items to be included:

Treasurer's report – Ann

Member list – Ann

LARA accomplishments – Phil

CWEPA Fund grant – Ann

Call for board members and association membership – Ann

Facebook page – Mike

Next meeting The next board meeting will be Tuesday, October 8 at 4:00, place to be determined.

Minutes submitted by Ann Beaver, secretary