

2023 Annual Meeting of the RCLA

President Valerie Bausch called meeting to order at 9:00 am
Current board members were introduced

Officers

Valerie Bausch, Present
Gerry Johnson, Present
Steve Tracey, Present
Deanna Hessling, Present

Directors

Len Christianson, Present
Michael Klutho, Present
Kathy Salvi, Absent
Tim Lewis, Present
Tom Goodwin, Present
Brett Heinlein, Present
Michelle Fischer, Present
Runae Maloney, Present
Tim Plaza, Present

Secretary's Report

No additions or changes noted to the minutes from 2022
Larry Johnson – Motion for acceptance of minutes from 2022
Louie Oakey –Seconded the Motion
Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report

No additions or changes noted.
Laura Woodward – Motion for acceptance of minutes
Louie Oakey –Seconded the Motion
Report approved.

Director Committee Reports – See presentation

- AIS
 - Question regarding disposal of Curly Leaf Pond Weed upon DASH removal
- Communications
- Coupon Book
- Fish Habitat
- Lake Information & Safety
- Membership
 - Comment regarding positive increase in volume of individual and corporate memberships
- Nature
- Shoreline & Island Restoration
- Water Quality Committee

President's Direction

Thank you to all of our members who have volunteered on our many projects and committees.

Continue to Build our RCLA Budget Equity Position for anticipated AIS Emergency Response Plan expenditures.

Continue to focus on the 5 key strategies from the updated Lake Management Plan

Change in several board positions. Election of new Board Members:

- Michael Klutho – President
- Tom Goodwin – RCLA Watershed Coordinator
- Lori Anderson – AIS Committee Chair
- Dennis Zingen, Joey Leonard and Randy Kotval – Fish Habitat Committee Co-Chairs

Mary Hele – Motion for acceptance of nominees

Laura Woodward –Seconded the Motion

All nominees accepted to rolls as noted herein.

Question & Answer

Walleyes for Tomorrow – Comment was that the sampling was 11 fish per acre and as a result we did not get a grant from the WI DNR for hatchery assistance. Larry Johnson commented on the WI DNR sampling process.

Comment regarding pontoon drivers too close to shore and the safety of passengers riding on pontoon deck with the risk of falling under the boat.

Concern expressed about dock launching service pontoons gunning engines at landings and further eroding landing areas. The same problem occurs with the Stout's Island utility barge.

Discussion of floating bog on southern narrows between Red Cedar and Hemlock.

The homeowner expressed dissatisfaction with the RCLA; that action was not taken and the problem not resolved. RCLA board members did tour the affected area multiple times. Action, however, would have been outside of the scope of the RCLA. The Red Cedar Lake Association is a **voluntary** group focused on water quality whose mission is *"To preserve, protect and improve Red Cedar, Balsam, Hemlock, Bass, Mud Lakes and Murphy Flowage and their watershed and ecosystem"*. As the bogs are a naturally occurring part of the ecosystem, any response to the bog would be managed by the DNR.

As such, the RCLA board discussed the bog with the WI DNR multiple times. The lack of timely response and conflicting responses from the WI DNR that were received over the course of the spring and early summer. After many calls and meetings with the DNR over months, the RCLA was able to present the following to homeowners:

"The RCLA Board is aware of the bog issue down in the narrows between Red Cedar and Hemlock. Due to the ice out on Red Cedar and high water we had this spring, pieces from the main two bogs broke away and floated onto homeowners property, causing challenges with docks and boat lifts. We have been in contact with the DNR and homeowners several times over the last few months and wanted to provide the public with additional information. Lake bogs are unregulated by the DNR "and are the responsibility of the homeowners to either move or remove them from the lake". After several discussions with the DNR, they have agreed that as long as the bogs are moving (not stationary and attached to bottom of lake), they can be MOVED OR REMOVED WITHOUT A PERMIT. If you are going

to move a bog, the recommendation by the DNR is to attach them to your shoreline or to a main bog securely so they will not continue to move. We have had similar bog issues in the past come to the RCLA Board. The Board's position is to adhere to the DNR policies and recommendations and, in this case, that bogs are the responsibility of the homeowners to move or remove as previously stated by the DNR policy above".

One possible solution presented was the creation of a lake district which allows for more enforcement of regulations. A lake district and a lake association are two different types of organizations that may be involved in managing a lake. A lake district is a governmental body with taxing authority that has statutory responsibilities to the resource, local citizens and taxpayers.

Concern about erosion on north side of channel between Red Cedar Lake and Hemlock Lake. Request to extend the no wake zone further into Red Cedar. **Action** to board to discuss solutions.

Discussion of education of homeowners and users on lake. **Action** to board to discuss solutions.

Randy Kotval – Motion to adjourn
David Voller –Seconded the Motion
Meeting Adjourned 10:34 am