



**BCLA Board of Directors  
Meeting  
September 18, 2021**

**Present:** Sam Blattenbauer, Jenni Barr, Jeff Strand, Ramona Borke, Lyle Hansen, Steve Busch, Tom Riedman, Susan Willard, Rich Maras, Brit Skolness, Brad Thom

**Absent:** Merle Zimmerman, Aaron Stenerson, Mike Kelly, Tonya Matson

President Sam Blattenbauer called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**Secretary Report** – Ramona Borke sent the minutes out for review prior to the meeting. Brad Thom moved to accept, second by Rich Maras. Approved.

**Treasurer Report** – Jeff Strand distributed the Treasurer’s Report prior to the meeting and reported a balance on hand of \$62,292.77 (checkbook balance of \$40,441.33 and Certificate of Deposit balance of \$21,851.44). Lyle Hansen moved to accept, second by Steve Busch. Approved. Membership is down. We have 305 paid members/properties.

**Committee Reports**

**Website** – Rich Maras reported that the minutes and water levels are up to date. Discussed that the opening banner needs to be updated (Spring Fling is over) and better communication is needed between the webmaster and himself. Rich has submitted information to be changed and it sometimes takes several weeks for the updates to occur. Jenni suggested we check with someone she knows who does websites to see if she would be willing to do ours. We would then be able to make updates ourselves. She will check on this and report to the board members. We may want to make the change before the end of the year.

**Facebook** – Tonya Matson and Brit Skolness will be added to Facebook managers to enable them to post information as it occurs. (We have 18 more followers since April, bringing it up to 1400.)

**COLA** – Tom Riedman was unable to attend the last meeting, but Lyle and Jenni did. 407,000 fry were stocked in the lake. People in attendance at the COLA meeting were surprised at the water clarity of Big Cormorant.

**Fisheries** – Steve Busch explained the process used for electrofishing. This is done every year to determine fish populations in the lake. The fish are temporarily stunned, float to the top for counting then recover and swim away. Gillnetting is done every 3 years and kills the fish. It takes 4 years for a fish to reach 14”. Stocking of fry will occur for 3 years.

**Spring Fling** – Spring Fling will be held June 18, 2022 at the YMCA Camp. It has been booked. Sam asked for someone else to be responsible to pick up the donuts, beverages and supplies needed. Jenni will do that. We plan for 200 people.

**Boat Parade** – The Boat Parade was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The Board also discussed the Fireworks show. The 4<sup>th</sup> was on a Sunday this year and the fireworks show was on Saturday night, July 3. There was some confusion on the date (Saturday or Sunday) and it was suggested there be better communication.

**Beach Captains** – Mike Kelly was absent but he emailed everyone that he had sent an email to Beach Captains early summer to pick up directories. A couple of people came by. Ramona has about half a box left. No one on the board needed them so she will get them to Mike. Beach captains did not receive a list after Spring Fling as to who had paid and not paid on their beach. Jeff explained that Reneece emailed these lists to Mike right

after updates were made to the database after Spring Fling. She does not send these directly to the Beach Captains as that is the job of the Beach Captain Coordinator (Mike). Because membership is down, we depend on the Beach Captains to promote and encourage membership to their property owners.

**Planning and Zoning** – Brad Thom had nothing new to report.

**Water Testing** – No report. Merle Zimmerman was absent. It was mentioned that they have seen some people dumping their leaves in the lake. Ramona will put a poster on Facebook letting people know to not do this.

**Clothing** – Susan Willard reported that presales of clothing, towels and bags went well. We need a “shopping cart” feature on the website in order for the sales to go better. Susan plans to have flannel pants, a jacket, and the towels and totes for Christmas. It was suggested to put 2 towels in a tote and offer a “special package” as a Christmas present. We want to have the shopping cart on the website for these holiday sales and be sure we are not in the midst of a change of webmasters at the same time.

**Foundation** - Lyle Hansen reported that they have received 76 donations so far this year. The solicitation letter went out earlier this year. Someone else on the BCLA Board will need to go to the Water Shed Board next spring to request the money for inspections on the lake as Lyle is now on the Water Shed Board.

**Buoys** – Brit received several reports on a large rock in front of Iwerks that is dangerous with the low water. He located the rock and is placing the anchors this weekend. A lighted buoy will mark this rock. Discussed needing another 1-2 buoys between it and the one at the end of the rock ridge as this new large rock seems to be out in the middle of nowhere. Brit will do what he thinks best. Brit will order 2-3 new buoys to have on hand.

**Road Clean Up** – Susan Willard attended the last clean up and reported that there were 5 people who helped with the last clean up in September.

### **Old Business**

**Checking Account** – Jeff reported that interest rates are so low that it isn't really worth moving money into a new CD. It is nice to have the money available if we need it. We currently donate to the Audubon Lake Park Alert and the Becker County Sheriff's Department Canine Program and the Search & Rescue Program in addition to our regular annual expenses. If membership remains low we will have less money coming in. We discussed how we can put the money into something that is visible for all members to see. Suggestions were to purchase a contamination unit and donate to the Y Camp. Jenni will check with the Y Camp to see what they need. No action was taken on moving money from the checking account.

**Donations** – Susan Willard moved to donate \$1000 to the Becker County Sheriff's Department Canine Program, \$1000 to the Becker County Sheriff's Department Search & Rescue Program, and \$1000 to Audubon Lake Park Alert. Steve Busch seconded. Passed.

### **New Business**

**FM Walley Tournament** – FM Walleyes will be holding their Fall Classic Tournament on Big Cormorant Lake September 25-26. We have a concern about the tournament as our walleye numbers are low and we are trying to restock. Sam will write a letter to them asking them to postpone their tournament for a few years while the restocking program takes effect.

**Next Meeting** – January 15, 2022. Brit will work on setting up a video meeting for those who will be gone for the winter.

Rich Maras moved to adjourn. Jenni Barr seconded. Approved. Meeting adjourned 10:22 a.m.