

*Posted on June 29, 2016*

**Minutes for BCLA Annual Meeting Saturday, June 18th 9AM @ Community Center**

Jim Colbert called the meeting to order at 9:05AM

Jim introduced board members and then presenting guests and agenda items.

1. Mark Ranweiler DNR AIS Specialist gave a report and slide show regarding Zebra Mussels (ZM) findings on Big Cormorant last year and this year.

2. Nathan Olson DNR Fisheries talked about the monitoring they will be doing this year to measure plankton and ZM growth on Big Cormorant will start competing with game fish. They will continue to do annual fall monitoring and every 3 year gill net counts. Big Cormorant is one of only three self-producing walleye lakes in the area they monitor and they want to maintain that quality of the lake. Lyle Hanson asked if they had authority to halt the FM Walleye tournament each year because they pre-fish for a week taking a lot of the walleye out of the lake. It was recommended that Jim Colbert talk to their group about limiting the pre-fishing or cancelling the tournament all together. Another topic was the annual damage to the accesses, which Nathan said was another department of DNR but it was suggested that one access is aerated over the winter so one will be open in the spring to use right away. It takes too long to repair each year. Nathan will pass this information on to Parks and Recreation division who are responsible for the accesses.

3. It was moved by Bonnie Biegler and seconded by Paula Stromstad to waive the reading of the minutes from 2015 annual meeting in the interest of time. Motion carried.

4. Randy read the treasurer's report with over 600 newsletters going out and only 21 that didn't find the recipients so an amazing job by Donna updating the database. There were 376 dues paying members in 2015 and 351 this year prior to the start of the meeting. Checking accounts and CD balance came to about \$37,900 at the end of the year. Dennis Erdle moved and Susan Willard seconded approval of the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

5. Ellis Peterson gave a report from the Watershed board. Their offer of trees to be planted within 50' of the shoreline has been well received. Dredging of the channel into Blue Water Bay has a set depth allowed and the north winds fill it in quickly with sand.

6. Cody Bouchie thanked BCLA for supporting the K-9 unit and he discussed some of the training and abilities that unit will provide the Becker County Sheriff Department.

7. Greg Palmer with Greater Minnesota Gas gave an update on the progress of natural gas lines on the North and West sides of the lake with South and East happening next year.

8. Jim presented the slate of officers up for reelection: Merle Zimmerman, Jenni Barr, Lyle Hanson and Sam

Blattenbauer. Ed Schafer moved and Bob Brunsvold seconded approval of the election. Motion carried.

9. Lyle Hanson gave the BCLA Foundation report.

10. Other business:

\*Jim mentioned that \$5000 was given from BCLA with money from Watershed and \$5000 given from BCLA Foundation to help underwrite the inspections on the public accesses. We don't want to be complacent since there are still noxious weeds which are much worse than ZM. Jim had invited Matt Riehm from Dockside Aquatics who is a specialist at removing weeds, but Matt was a no show. Jim has information if needed.

\*Cormorant Days are looking for volunteers.

\*Jenni is looking for a beach captain for Cha Lisa Beach.

\*Buoys were delayed going out and Jim will check with Butch so they are out for 4th of July.

\*Boat parade will start at North Access at 10AM on the 4th.

\*The new website was just launched and Rhonda asked for any requests for additions or changes are sent to her.

\*Dennis Erdle expressed concern about the number of rocks showing with the lower water levels and some of the buoys not out. Jim stated that the ultimate responsibility lies with the Sheriff's office and that BCLA purchases and placement as a courtesy to those using the lake but the boat owners are responsible to protect their own equipment. BCLA Foundation also helps pay for the lighted buoys and Butch Anton places them free of charge.

11. Motion to adjourn by Nancy Schafer with second by Les. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned!