

**MEETING MINUTES: CCCoLA AUGUST 11, 2023 COOK COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER**

**PRESENT: CAROL BERG, KATHY BOGEN (ZOOM), BARB AND JOHN BOTTGER, GERRY CAPLE, BIZ CLARK, DAVE COLEMAN, PATTY CRADDOCK, AL FLIEDER, CARRIE FRAMSTED, GAIL GIESEKE, KATE KELNBERGER, RORY AND PETE LAIHO, GARY MACIEJEWSKI, IRENE AND LARRY MULLEN (ZOOM) PETE RAUEN, ANN SULLIVAN, ILENA HENSEL**

Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Introductions (10-10:05)	An excellent representation of the CCCoLA Board members both in-person and via Zoom	
Reflection on the lives of Bob Carlson and Carol Schaap, David Coleman (10:05-10:10)	<p><u>Carol Schaap</u> passed away 3 days ago. She and her husband Paul were 45-year residents of Clearwater Lake. Paul was a Colleague of Dave Coleman’s from Wayne State University who donated the proceeds from his inventions to several benevolent causes including: A chemotherapy facility in Grand Marais, A Performing Arts Center in Detroit, \$25 million for a facility at Wayne State, and the Schaap Center on the Gunflint Trail.</p> <p><u>Bob Carlson</u> recently passed away. Bob was a founding member of CCCoLA. He was also a resident of Clearwater Lake and a research scientist at Kent State instrumental in advancing the field of limnology. He spearheaded the secchi disc “dip in” and other procedures for testing water quality. “An incredible dynamo of research around lakes”</p>	<p>Members suggested that CCCoLA honor Bob and Carol with a plaque to be placed at the Schaap Center and/or other appropriate location.</p> <p>Kathy will write condolence cards to the families on behalf of CCCoLA.</p>
Approval July 7, 2023 CCCoLA Minutes (10:10-10:15)	Ann had a few corrections/additions to the July 7 minutes which she will send to Kathy via email.	Minutes, pending corrections, were approved unanimously. Kathy will make corrections and send updated minutes to the membership.
Watershed Plan Updates, Ilena Hensel (10:15- 10:35)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ilena Hensel has worked as the Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District Director for 12 years. She serves in a dual role as SWCD and County Water Planner.</li> <li>• County Water planning was initiated in 1977 in response to severe droughts. In 1985, the State Legislature enacted the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan which allows Counties to develop and implement comprehensive local water management plans. The Comprehensive Use Plan is the Umbrella plan under which the Water Plan specific to Cook County falls.</li> </ul>	Now is the time for Lake Associations to develop ideas for projects that address these protective strategies for their lakes as there will be opportunities to apply for funding and provide input to the Rainy River Watershed plan. There will likely be

	<p>Cook County is covered by 2 Water Plans:</p> <p>#1 Lake Superior North encompasses Hydrologic Unit 8 (HUC8) extending from Cook County through Lake County to the Knife River Area. The Water plan for HUC 8 includes 47 action items of which 39 are currently Being addressed. There is well over \$1 million in State funding to support projects that serve to reach the priority goals of water quality protection, shoreline preservation, and education and outreach. Plan is currently being amended and will be completed by the end of 2023.</p> <p>#2 Rainy River Headwaters crosses County boundaries and encompasses the waters of the Rainy River watershed. It includes, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Counties. Only 20% of this watershed is located in Cook County. St. Louis County leads this group. The governing body includes Cook and Lake County Commissioners, Grand Portage Tribe, and 1854 Treaty lands. There is over \$1 million in State funding provided to protect the waters of this region.</p> <p>Since these waters are relatively unspoiled, the focus is on protection which primarily involves shoreline preservation, responsible development, forest biodiversity, and outreach/education. It is important for individual members, Lake Associations, and CCCoLA as a whole to become involved as the plans are evolving and money is available for specific projects that address the priority strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Poplar Lake, there is opportunity to “tag in” on some funding that would address shoreline development.</li> <li>• Note on aggregate mining: aggregate= gravel</li> <li>• Note on sulphites: The sulphite standards for tribal lands is the same as that of the MPCA</li> </ul>	<p>public input sessions in the late Fall/early Winter which Ilena will keep CCCoLA members apprised of. She encourages us to show up and participate in these sessions.</p> <p>Ilena also mentioned the importance of one or more CCCoLA members joining the Stakeholder meetings which will be held in the late Fall. Please contact Ilena Hensel if this is something you are willing to commit to.</p> <p>Other actions: Begin planting diverse tree species now. Ilena mentioned oak, maple, cedar, and white pine.</p>
<p>Treasurers Report, Gary Maciejewski (10:35-10:40)</p>	<p>\$560 in dues have been paid for 2023  \$502 in expenses have been paid out  \$1,195 in usable funds are currently in the CCCoLA account  Note: There is a North Greenwood Lake Association and a South Greenwood Lake Association, so each pays \$50 annually</p>	<p>Carol Berg made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Al Flieder seconded. Motion approved unanimously.  Please send check for 2023</p>

		<p>dues to: Gary Maciejewski P.O. Box 323 Lutsen, MN 55612-0323</p>
<p>Tait Lake area KGM project update and request for letter, Gary Maciejewski (10:40-10:45)</p>	<p>The CCCoLA letter in opposition was received by Neva Maxwell and the County Commissioners. Neva responded “The status of the KGM proposal is unchanged, which is to say that there is no permit under review at this time.” Full text is attached e-mailed minutes.</p> <p>Since the EAW hasn’t been submitted yet, it will likely be October before a public input meeting is held. The EAW must be reviewed by a qualified independent reviewer. If it is found that the project poses a negative impact on the environment, an EIS will be required.</p> <p>Members of the Tait Lake and Gus Lake Associations have been working diligently together to prevent the proposed KGM gravel pit and asphalt plant from going through. They have developed two strategies to accomplish this goal.</p> <p>Plan A: Present scientifically based information at input sessions to provide strong evidence for denying KGM a permit for the project. A power point presentation is being developed and people are being informed of the importance of showing up for public input meetings.</p> <p>Plan B: The property could be purchased from KGM and placed into a conservation easement status. So far \$123,500 has been pledged.</p> <p>Other questions about the project: Will asphalt be hauled across State Forest Service lands? This could pose potential environmental harm and restrictions may apply.</p>	<p>Donations to the fund for purchasing the KGM parcel may be sent to Kim Wolf of Timberwolf Realty.</p> <p>There may be State funds available to contribute to the purchase of the conservation easement. Check with Ilena on this.</p> <p>It will be important to have a robust showing of people in opposition to the KGM project at any public input sessions. Gary will keep us posted so we can plan to attend.</p>
<p>AIS Updates, Irene Mullen (10:45-10:55)</p>	<p>The Cook County AIS Advisory Committee was excited for the prospect of having Kylen Hill set up a boat inspection station by the Tofte Ranger station to inspect boats travelling on highway 61. As it turned out, there was a snafu with this option, and it isn’t currently allowed. It would, however, be an ideal location as there is so much boat trailer traffic. Although boat inspections are optional, around 98% comply.</p>	<p>The AIS Advisory Committee will continue to pursue the possibility of setting up an inspection station at a convenient location on Highway 61</p>

<p>SWCD Board, Gail Gieske (10:55-11:05)</p>	<p>Gail is the Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District Board Representative for the District encompassing the Gunflint Trail. This is her first year of a 3-year term. There are 5 members on the Board and 4 are in their first year, so there is quite a learning curve for them. Their primary role is to have input into the work of the SWCD and to develop policies. Outreach is an important aspect of the Board’s work and members gather community input as well as communicating with the public about the SWDC focus areas. The SWCD Board meets monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday. Gail noted that Septic compliance doesn’t fall within the SWDC focus areas. This is in the Land Service’s responsibility. She noted that a new compliance officer, Andrew Beavers, has been hired.</p>	
<p>Get the Lead Out updates Biz Clark (11:05-11:15)</p>	<p>22.2 # of lead have been collected from Tait and Poplar lakes combined. Several lake Associations haven’t held their annual meetings yet, so more may be collected at these. Ideas suggested for expanding outreach are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Send a letter out to resort-owners and out fitters to see if they are interested in being a lead drop-off/exchange site.</li> <li>2. Set up a kiosk at the Cook County Community Center for lead drop off and exchange</li> <li>3. Set up a kiosk and engage parents at schools for lead tackle drop off and exchange.</li> <li>4. Set up a kiosk for lead tackle drop off and exchange at the “Take a Kid Fishing” event held the weekend before fishing opener.</li> <li>5. Set up a kiosk for lead tackle drop off and exchange at the Community Rummage Sale.</li> <li>6. Declare a special month of GLO Cook County and hold some lead exchange events.</li> </ol> <p>Notes: The GLO project is a long term one and we will keep working toward the goal of eliminating lead tackle in Cook County.</p> <p>5 States in the Northeast have completely banned lead tackle, shot, traps, etc. How can we work toward this goal as well? Connections with MNCOLA, MLR, etc.</p>	<p>Note: there may be funds available for promotional materials, etc. through the Coastal Waters program. Check with Ilena on this.</p> <p>Barb Bottger made a motion that CCCoLA write and send letters to the resort owners and outfitters to invite them to join in on the lead tackle collection/exchange program. Patty Craddock seconded. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Kathy will write and send letters to the Resorts and Outfitters</p>

<p>CCCoLA Table at Fisherman's Picnic (11:15-11:25)</p>	<p>The CCCoLA booth really came together and everyone's efforts to staff it were much appreciated. It was a great way to meet others and spread the word about CCCoLA's work.</p> <p>Suggestions for next year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase a larger folding table and tent so that we are all set for this and other events.</li> <li>• Have something to engage children such as a "Wheel of Fortune" quiz with prizes.</li> <li>• Remember to have sandbags and rocks on hand to hold everything down.</li> </ul> <p>Special thanks to Carrie Framsted for organizing this endeavor!</p>	
<p>Closing Reflections and announcements (11:25-11:30)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Dark Sky Caravan will be held this evening, August 11, at the Seagull Ranger Station tonight from 8-11 p.m. and tomorrow night, August 12, at the Chik-Wauk Museum.</li> <li>• On August 24, the Pick-Up Opera Company will be performing at the Schaap Center (see attached flyer) Highly recommended-very entertaining! This will be a fundraiser for the Gunflint Trail Volunteer Fire Department</li> </ul> <p>Thanks to Ilena Hensel for her presentation on the Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District, to County Commissioner Ann Sullivan for her work and joining us at the meeting, David Coleman for setting up the Zoom and microphones, to Barb and John Bottger for providing beverages, to Carrie Framsted for Chairing the meeting, and to all who participated in the informative and thoughtful discussion!</p>	
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>The September 8, CCCoLA meeting will be held at the Cook County Community Center in Grand Marais 10-11:30 a.m.</p>	