

MEETING MINUTES: CCCoLA JUNE 13, 2024

PRESENT: CAROL BERG, KATHY BOGEN, BARB BOTTGER, JOHN BOTTGER, DAVE COLEMAN, AL FLIEDER, CARRIE FRAMSTED , GAIL GIESKE, , ILENA HANSEL, ASHLEY HATCHETT, KATE KELNBERG, DOUG LAIHO, RORY LAIHO, GARY MACIEJEWSKI, PETE RAUEN, ANN SULLIVAN

Item	Discussion	Action
<p>Steering Committee report (Carrie)</p>	<p>The Steering Committee is currently composed of 5 members who provide leadership for CCCoLA. This group meets prior to CCCoLA meetings or as needed to determine the agendas, keep the organization on track with its mission and goals, connect with like-minded individuals and organizations, manage finances, outreach to the broader community and support members engaged in action projects. The Steering Committee members serve for 2-year terms. All of these terms officially began in June of 2023 when the new by-laws received final approval. Carrie will be leaving in September or October (and will be missed!) so this will necessitate adding at least one additional Steering Committee member to serve a 2-year term. We could also add another member to the Committee.</p>	<p>CCCoLA members interested in serving on the Steering Committee are encouraged to contact Kathy.</p>
	<p>The Steering Committee met on May 31st to discuss priorities for the summer in-person meetings and made the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep our energy focused on AIS, GLO, and SSTS 2. Follow up on legislative issues and learn more about where things stand with the specific bills CCCoLA supported (ATV signage, plastic wrap recycling) 3. Refine our approach to legislative engagement (point person or committees for legislative issues?) 4. Celebrate 30-year Anniversary of CCCoLA 5. Outreach to the community to engage more Lake Association members and those not currently belonging to Lake Associations. 	<p>Kathy will continue as Chair Gary will continue as Treasurer Pete will continue to take care of meeting reservations</p> <p>In the interest of engaging more like-minded people in the CCCoLA organization, the Steering Committee recommends we welcome all Lake Association and community members who support the CCCoLA mission and goals to attend our CCCoLA meetings.</p>
	<p>With this being the 30th Anniversary year of CCCoLA, we will plan a 30th Anniversary Acknowledgement for the August or September meeting. This will include highlights of CCCoLA history and accomplishments, acknowledgement of key founding members, and refreshments.</p>	<p>Barb Bottger made a motion that each Road/ Lake Association designate a voting member and welcome affiliate members to join as individuals. Al seconded the motion. Discussion noted that CCCoLA members need not live on</p>

		a lake or be permanent residents of Cook County. Motion passed unanimously.
<p>County Updates with Anne Sullivan</p>	<p><u>Caribou Lake Surface Water Ordinance</u> The county board approved the Caribou Lake Surface Water Ordinance restricting wake surfing activity on Caribou Lake near Lutsen. In early May, the MnDNR notified us that they approved the request to establish an ordinance limiting wake surfing on Caribou Lake. We had a public hearing, per Mn Statute, and unanimously approved the ordinance in order to prevent shoreline erosion, protect water quality and loon habitat, and to ensure safety of everyone using that lake.</p> <p>The key aspects of the ordinance are to prohibit wake surfing in any area that is less than 500’ from the shoreline or another watercraft or any area that is less than 20’ deep. No individual may operate a boat on Caribou in an artificially bow-high manner, to increase or enhance the boat’s wake. Enforcement of this ordinance is the responsibility of the Cook County Sheriff’s Office, and signs will be at each public access outlining key aspects of the ordinance. Penalties include \$300 for the first offense, and up to \$1000 in fines and or 90 days in jail.</p> <p><u>Wildfire Preparedness</u> Wildfire Readiness presentations have been held at the Hovland Town Hall, Birch Grove in Tofte, the ISD 166 Safety Class, and at Cook County Higher Ed. There are several other presentations being done throughout the county this summer. Initially, when we were so dry earlier this spring, requests for the presentation were significant in number, so we have a couple of videos on the CCHE website which can be accessed for those unable to attend one of the meetings this summer.</p> <p>Next month at the July 11 CCCoLA meeting, Aaron Mollin-Kling (FIREWISE), Sarah Waddle (U of M Extension) and Ann Sullivan (Cook County) will be presenting to all of you. We will talk about protecting your property, preparing for a wildfire evacuation, creating a “clean air room” in your home or cabin for smoky days, and making a personal GO BAG in the event of an actual evacuation (whether from wildfire, a storm, a toxic chemical</p>	<p>Cook County Administrator, James Joerke, is happy to visit with any Lake Association that may want to enact a similar ordinance. He is familiar with the data collection and process required.</p> <p>CCCoLA members are encouraged to invite all of their Lake/Road Association members to attend this meeting at the Cook Conty Community Center. It is important for all Cook County residents to be prepared to respond in the event of a wildfire or other catastrophic event. The July 11 CCCoLA meeting at the Cook County Community Center will be devoted to this presentation due to its primary importance. This is also an opportunity for others to learn</p>

spill,...).

Meeting with Senator Hauschild and Majority Leader Murphy

On Thursday, June 20, from 2-3 p.m. in the Commissioners' Room at the Cook County Courthouse, the group that met with Representative Skraba back in March in Grand Portage will have the opportunity to meet with Senator Hauschild and Majority Leader Murphy to thank them for their work at the legislature and to begin the conversation about plans for next year. Ann noted that the legislative session was especially good for Cook County and that our engagement with legislators is valuable.

There are 3 new staff members at CCSWCD: Ann Paulson , Financial Administrator, and Max Tostenson and Stephen Janasie, Conservation Technicians. Additional staff means that more site visits are possible.

Spruce budworm: Spruce budworm are native to our area. There is about a 40% chance that a tree infested with spruce budworm will die. All dead and diseased trees should be cut down. There are 2 types of spray that can be used to deter spruce budworm infestation—one type has to be applied on the day that the worms are out in order to be effective. The other is suitable for use on specific trees and is applied to the tree the homeowner hopes to save.

Lake Monitoring: CCSWCD is working with 11 Lake Associations to monitor lakes and is also monitoring 15 streams. There is an increase in demand for monitoring and a shortage of funds to pay for the testing. Ilena will get back to us on how contributions can be made to help pay for the testing.

Education Outreach: CCSWCD is sponsoring a Shoreline Buffer Planting workshop sometime in August or September. The date and location will be shared once established.

AIS mitigation: Amanda will have 4 inspectors working this summer to monitor at boat landings for AIS and proper cleaning of boats.

CCSWCD Supervisor positions open: There are 3 Supervisor positions open.

about CCCoLA and join if they wish.

Email invitations will go out to those who attended that event, but Carrie Framsted will be asked to attend again to represent CCCoLA, while Ilena Hansel will represent our Cook SW.

CCCoLA members are encouraged to contact Ilena if they're interested in serving as a CCSWCD Supervisor. Meetings are monthly and there are some committee meetings. Gail Gieske is the current SWCD Supervisor for the Gunflint Trail area.

Ilena hansel

Action Groups Re-cap	<u>AIS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crayfish trapping is happening on Caribou Lake.• Cook County hosts its own Take a Kid Fishing Day each year. The event will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2024, from 9 a.m. to noon at Elbow Lake. This is also an opportunity to educate families about AIS mitigation and using non-lead tackle.	Ilena will be involved with this event and will bring AIS and GLO materials to share.
	<u>GLO</u> <p>Community outreach efforts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Setting up collection sites at outfitters and resorts which include a sign, collection pail, and packages of free non-lead tackle.• CCCoLA members bring collection buckets, information, and non-lead tackle packets to their Lake Association meetings and encourage anglers to exchange their lead tackle for non-lead.• At the Fisherman’s Picnic booth, we’ll have a sign, collection bucket, and replacement tackle.• Take a Kid Fishing event--collect lead tackle and provide replacement non-lead along with information about why this is important.• Article in the Cook County Herald	
	<u>Septics</u> <p>The Septic Workshop being Co-sponsored by CCCoLA and Cook County Higher Education is being held on Thursday, July 18 from 10 a.m.-noon at Cook County Higher Education. See description below:</p> <p>Care & Maintenance of Septic Systems</p> <p>July 18 10am-Noon At CCHE 300 West 3rd Street Grand Marais</p> <p>Presenters & Partners: Cook County Land Services, G&G Septic Services, and This workshop aims to help you build a solid foundation and expand your understanding of the care and maintenance of individual sewage treatment systems. We'll explore topics such as the rules for septic systems in Cook County, common problems, fixes, system maintenance throughout the year, and impacts on lake health. The workshop will be recorded and made available at www.mycche.org.</p>	

Please encourage members of your Lake/Road Associations to attend the workshop. Here’s the link to the registration page:
<https://cche.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/cche/event.jsp?event=582>

Resources that will be referenced:

- The Property Owner's Resource Guide - <https://www.co.cook.mn.us/Departments/land%20services/Property%20Owners%20Resource%20Guide.pdf>
- Shoreland Stewardship Resource Guide - <https://caribou.mnlakesanddrivers.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Shoreland-Guide-Large-44PGSR.pdf>
- Handouts from Cook County Land Services, plus other documents will be provided at the workshop

Legislative Re-cap and engagement planning

We discussed engagement with our local legislators this past legislative session noting that the conversation and ongoing engagement with Representative Skraba and Senator Hauschild was valuable as State governance and budget allocations have an important impact upon the waters and shorelands of Cook County.

Once the legislative session begins, the process of bringing forward key issues into a bill format, garnering support for them, hammering out details and compromises, and determining in what format (if any) is included in the omnibus bills is time sensitive and “messy”. Since we meet virtually and only once per month during the legislative session, sometimes action needs to be taken electronically to provide support for a particular bill. How can we be better prepared for learning about which bills that represent CCCoLA’s foci will be brought up during the session and share our support for these bills?

We can engage prior to the Legislative session with MLR and MNCoLA to learn more about what their priorities will be.

At our September meeting, we can talk more about how we will be strategic in focusing on bills that CCCoLA has already voted to support in theory.

We can see if Jeff Forester can join us virtually at the September meeting to give us a “heads-up” on key bills and how we can be prepared to give support.

We can connect with like-minded organizations such as Friends of the Boundary Waters (20-year moratorium on mining) to see how we can support the bills they are advocating for.

		<p>Rory will help with reading the bills and providing a synopsis so we understand the finer points. Al is interested in being a part of the legislative outreach efforts. Anyone else interested is encouraged to let Kathy know so we can work together on this.</p>
<p>Summer Outreach Events and sign-up</p>	<p>Fisherman’s Picnic August 1-4 We now have a tent, table, chairs, and banner for this event and any others we may table at in the future. We need to get people signed up to take shifts during the picnic. We also discussed having some activities for children at our tent. Could do a quiz-type activity using materials at our table and at CCSWCD with prizes for correct answers.</p>	<p>Carrie is willing to set up the tent and tables. CCCoLA members signed up for 3-hour shifts during Fisherman’s Picnic. Please contact Carrie if you’re available to take a shift. It’s fun! ...and a great way to outreach to the community about our key areas of action.</p> <p>Kathy will locate a plinko or spinner game for the booth and get prizes.</p>
<p>Treasurer’s Report (Gary Maciejewski)</p>	<p>Gary Maciejewski provided details of the CCCoLA Revenues and Expenses: Total revenues since 8/31/2023 are \$1,092.11 Total expenses 9/01/2023-5/21/2024 are \$1511.40 Ending Balance 5/31/2024 is \$724.12 Total accessible funds \$734.85</p>	<p>Lake Associations are encouraged to send in their annual dues to Gary Maciejewski P.O. Box 323 Lutsen, MN 55612-032</p>
<p>Welcome Packet Team</p>	<p>At our May 9 meeting, we discussed developing a “welcome packet” education outreach to lakeshore residents with a special focus on residents new to the lakeshore communities in our areas. The packet will contain a welcome letter and some contact numbers of lake association members, shoreline management brochure, copies of applicable ordinances, and anything else we come up with. There will be an e-version of these packets available for all lakeshore residents.</p>	<p>Ilena (materials) has materials we can include in the packets.</p> <p>It was suggested that we include a “cup of coffee” coupon which CCCoLA would underwrite or find a coffee shop willing to donate.</p> <p>Kathy will coordinate getting the</p>

		<p>manila envelopes and materials from Ilena. Carol Berg and Kate Kelnberger will work on putting the packets together.</p> <p>We can get links to the materials so that all lakeshore residents can access them electronically.</p>
VRBO Placards	<p>There are required placards for VRBO units with key information (ordinance language):</p> <p><i>5.45 Placement of Informational Placard. Every vacation rental unit shall have a conspicuously placed informational placard that will clearly identify the names of the license holder and management entity along with the license number and pertinent information such as the physical address and emergency contact phone numbers. Information shall also be clearly posted regarding use of water, septic systems and waste disposal.</i></p>	<p>Andrew Beavers is the Cook County VRBO Administrator. He will send out information about the Septic Workshop and the placards regarding Septic Care to his list of VRBO owners.</p>
Closing reflection (11:25-11:30)	<p>Good job! John Bottger noted that the Firewise pits will fill up early this year. Doug Laiho mentioned that he has noticed 2 nesting swans on Greenwood Lake this year and that the presence of these swans is a reminder of how important our work is to preserve and protect habitat and our campaign to reduce wildlife deaths from lead tackle and shot.</p>	
T-Shirts	<p>There are some extra T-shirts available for \$17 each for those who didn't order them ahead or if you'd like to exchange size or color.</p>	<p>All extra T-shirts and those not picked up at this meeting will be brought to the July 11 meeting.</p>
Adjournment		<p>Meeting adjourned at 11:55 am</p>
Next Meeting	<p>July 11, 10-11:30 Cook County Community Center. This will be an in-person meeting focusing on Wildfire prevention and Emergency Preparedness.</p>	<p>Please invite others on your lake neighborhood to attend!</p>