

**CCOLA MEETING MINUTES: JUNE 3, 2022**

**SHAPP CENTER GUNFLINT MID TRAIL**

**PRESENT:** Jerry Caple-Gunflint Lake, Dave Coleman – Clearwater, Barb and John Bottger-Hungry Jack, Al Flieder-Aspen, Jerry Wilkes-Devil Track, Joel Halvorson – Gunflint, John and Barb Bottger, Larry Montan – Hungry Jack, Carrie Framsted – Pike, Peter Rauen – Voyageurs Point, Gary Maciejewski – Tait, Kathy Bogen– Loon, Irene and Larry Mullen – Caribou, Carol Berg- Mid-Trail Property Owners -12 lakes Greenwood to Iron Lake, Ilena Hansel-CC SW, Karen Evens – MPCA (by phone)

Item	Discussion	Action
Approval of 9.21.2021 Minutes		Minutes approved unanimously.
Treasurer’s Report, Jerry Maciejewski	Dues for 2021-2022: \$230 have been paid. 12 Lake Association’s dues are unpaid thus far. The balance in the checking account is \$1,668.95	Please send in your checks to Gary Maciejewski P.O Box 323 Lutsen, MN 55612
Citizen’s Advisory Group (This is a Coalition of representatives from International Joint Commission responsible for water quality of all the lakes included in the BWCAW.) Jerry Caple	Jerry attended all 3 zoom sessions held. One was on microplastics. It turns out that the greatest source of microplastics is the wear from our tires. Other sources include plastic packaging.	Jerry recommends that fast food places use cellulose-based products and color it green so it can be better seen.
	Another topic was gold mining	
	Third concern is a plan by the Canadian Government to create a nuclear waste site North of the Rainy River. No analysis was provided on what the leachates contain.	
	Rule curve, which doesn’t concern the Cook County lakes, is the control of water flow. This does affect water levels in Rainy Lake.	
	Another concern is the Twin Metals proposed mining. One recommendation is that a sign be posted at the point Laurentian Divide to note that the water at that point flows to the Rainy River watershed. Question was asked about who would be responsible for erecting such a sign. Elena noted that most likely the Highway Department would be the Department to contact.	
	Building on the Canadian side affects Gunflint and Saginaga lakes affects the water. Gunflint Lake on the American side has reached its maximum. On the Canadian side, land is up for grabs. There is	

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	no control on the American side of the lakes.	
Surface water use subcommittee	<p>Kerry, Gary Biz, Irene Mullen met to discuss what could be done to address the surface water issues that have been brought up at CCOLA. This group has planned a workshop to address the issues and provide information. Presentation invitees include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pat Eliason, Cook County Sheriff</li> <li>• Kylene Hill, DNR</li> <li>• Elena, Cook County Soil and Water</li> <li>• Tim Nelson and Neva Maxwell, Cook County Land Services</li> <li>• Area realtors</li> <li>• Cascade Rentals and Superior Rentals</li> </ul> <p>It was suggested that there be more emphasis on surface water issues in the publicity for this workshop.</p> <p>Another topic that will be brought up is aircraft use. This comes under the jurisdiction of the Sheriff so it would be good to give the sheriff a heads-up that this will be a topic that will likely be brought up.</p> <p>The workshop will be recorded and available on the CCOLA website CCOLA now has a new email: <a href="mailto:cookcountycola@gmail.com">cookcountycola@gmail.com</a></p>	Publicity for the workshop: Irene will draft a concise memo to send out to Lake Associations and others to email to their contacts.
Lakes and Streams to be surveyed this year. This year it will be a survey of fish populations.	Kate and Irene are on the task force for AIS (Invasive Species) Fish are netted with gill nets and then species are counted.	
Renewal of memberships	CCOLA is a part on MNCOLA Minnesota Association of Lakes and Rivers	John Bottger moved that we re-up membership in these organizations. Larry seconded. Motion passed unanimously
MNCOLA functions and benefits of CCOLA being connected.	At next MNCOLA meeting, there will be a report on lake turbulence. Jeff Forester has been an excellent advocate and would be a good person to invite to our CCOLA meeting.	
Report from Karen Evens	New lead for Lake Superior Watershed will be Lindsey	

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	<p>If we have ideas for projects, we should send these to Karen under Lake Superior North so it can get on the agenda and be a candidate for funding.</p> <p>The next cycle of funding is getting ready and if there are ideas for projects that would require funding, these ideas need to be suggested now.</p>	
Funding for boat landing signage	AIS funding for smaller projects is available.	Contact Elena regarding project ideas.
By-Laws review for adoption at next CCOLA meeting.	<p>This is Irene’s last meeting as CCOLA Chair. She has drafted a set of By-Laws for us to ponder and decide how we can divide up the duties involved in the organization of CCOLA. Irene has been the chair for 6 ½ years. We need members of this meeting to volunteer to take on the leadership role(s) of Chair or as a shared responsibility among Co-Chairs. Co-chairs are needed to lead the next CCOLA meeting on July 8 at the Cook County Community Center. It would be ideal to have one of the co-chairs be a resident of Cook County.</p> <p>It was suggested and agreed that one of the Co-chairs be designated as primary contact. Note: the cookcountycola@gmail.com address can go to all of the co-chairs.</p> <p>Other By-Laws changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to note that communication is via email.</li> <li>• Need to add “subsequent monthly statements”. Note that the treasurer should have authority to sign checks. There should also be one of the co-chairs designated to sign checks. Currently under \$250.00, the Treasurer can write a check without Board approval.</li> </ul>	<p>John Bottger volunteered to chair the next CCOLA meeting scheduled for July 8 at the Community Center in Grand Marais. He will continue to be a co-chair beyond that time. He will be the main point of contact for the organization.</p> <p>Peter Rauen is volunteering to do the duties listed under communication.</p> <p>Kathy Bogen will be a Co-chair and will run meetings as needed.</p> <p>Larry Mullen will take care of the CCOLA website</p> <p>Gary Maciejewski will be the Treasurer</p>

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Elena Hansel, Cook County Soil and Water	<p>Staffing changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theresa Oberg is leaving the office and Steven Jannesy is replacing this position. He will be doing water monitoring.</li> <li>• Tia Parks with the Highway Department will be working with invasive species.</li> <li>• Need a new Board member for Rainy River Headwaters</li> </ul> <p>“Take a Kid Fishing is next Saturday from 9-noon at Kimball Lake. No license required. Lunch provided.</p> <hr/> <p>Lake planning: Why is this important?  Broke into dyads to share vision for our lakes.  In lake plan, could include: Understand impacts of waves created by wake boats and large-motor boats. Ultimately, limit motor-size on lakes.  Work with resorts to limit types of boat use docked and used.  Vigilance to protect lakes</p> <p>Put vision into our Lake Plans. Have some actions that are attainable.  Elena’s office hopes to “beef up” the lake plans. Elena asks that we look at the survey and see if the priorities have changed. This group agreed that they would like to have the survey sent to see if there are changes Lake Associations would like to make in their surveys</p>	<p>Action item: let lake association members know that the surveys will be coming out and be sent to them.</p>
Next CCOLA Meetings	<p><b>July 8</b>, 9-11 am. Cook County Community Center 317 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street  Grand Marais</p> <p><b>August 12</b>, 9-11 am. Mid-Trail Shapp Community Center</p> <p><b>September 9</b>, 9-11 am. Cook County Community Center 317 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Grand Marais</p>	<p>John Bottger will chair these meetings with support of Co-Chairs Peter Rauen and Kathy Bogen as needed. Please send agenda items to: cookcountycola@gmail.com</p>

Respectfully submitted:  
Kathy Bogen

