**Becker County COLA Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, June 20, 2019 Holiday Inn, Detroit Lakes, MN

**Attendees:**

Ken Mattson – Big Sugar Bush Lake

Bob Backman – Big Sugar Bush Lake

Mike Becraft – Melissa/Sallie Lakes

Jim Brown – Height of Land Lake

Gene Boyle – Turtle Lake

Sue Boyle – Turtle Lake

Stephen Corbin – Fox Lake

Brad Wimmer – Lake Detroit

Jules DuVall - Cotton Lake

Rick Cieslak – Buffalo, Rice, and Rock Lakes

Jennifer Thompson – Island Lake

Wanda Roden – Melissa/Sallie Lakes

Guest Speaker: Jenn Johnson, Director of Research, Becker County Historical Society & Museum

**6:00 pm** Lake Sharing:

* Jim Brown asked if people would share about attendance at annual meetings and ideas about improving attendance. Jim mentioned the high water on Height of Land. HOL has 4 accesses. Wanting to close one of these accesses, as there are not inspectors.
* Steve Corbin: About 40 people attend annual meeting. Reinstatement of walleye stocking program on Fox Lake. Steve attended the MN COLA meeting. Fox Lake joined the MN COLA organization. Possible future guest speaker on climatology.
* Jennifer Thompson: Recent drowning on Island Lake. RMB labs conducting plant survey at all 6 accesses at a cost of $1100.00.
* Mike Becraft: Annual meeting report. Guest speakers were Tera Guetter (PWSD) and Becky Mitchell, Becker County Historical Society. Talked about the Environmental and Foundation funds collected each year. Promoted membership in the MN Lakes & Rivers Organization. Mike mentioned that Philip Oswood is a valuable contact at RMB Labs.
* Gene Boyle: High water on Turtle Lake, but had gone down 10 inches due to the Buffalo River watershed and the DNR continuing to siphon lakes. Water clarity is good. They have 100 properties on the lake with about 80 members paying $30 annual dues. Their annual meeting consists of a business meeting, lunch, games, etc.
* Brad Wimmer: Reported on the 75th Anniversary celebration to be held on June 22. Historical video of Detroit Lakes will be made available. Concerned about volunteer burnout. Considering hiring a secretary/treasurer to maintain their database. The Association has received a grant through the Becker County Historical Society and Museum to help with the event.
* Lake sharing had to stop based on speaker presentation.

**7:00 pm:** Jenn Johnson, Director of Research

Becker County Historical Society & Museum

* Discussed the history of Detroit and surrounding lakes, looking at Detroit Lakes as the headwater. Handouts were provided by Jenn which opened up a great discussion.
* Discussed the new museum: 3MM Bond grant from the MN legislature, and 2MM pledged. Building to begin 2020/2021. Focus of the Museum will be on science and history, together.

**7:40 pm: Business:**

* Minutes from the May meeting had been forwarded via email prior to the meeting & copies available at meeting. Gene Boyle made a motion to approve the May 2019 meeting minutes. Jennifer Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes were approved.

* Treasurer’s Report:

The 2019 Budget was emailed to members prior to the meeting. Treasurer, Rachel Moen, provided a summary of the treasurer’s report & budget. A discussion followed regarding donations to MAISRC and MN Lakes and Rivers. Jim Bond made the motion to donate $1000 to both. Jennifer Thompson seconded the motion. Motion approved.

* MN COLA/MN Lakes & Rivers Meeting

Several attendees had attended this meeting which was held in Walker, MN. BCCOLA offered registrations could be paid.

* Discussion on the scheduled Lake Koronis bus tour to view the effects of starry stonewort on the lake. Members asked if the bus could leave at 8:00 AM instead of 9:00, so as to arrive back a little earlier. Wanda to contact bus company and tour guide. This was followed by a raise of hands to learn membership interest in attending this trip. About 8 hands went up.

**8:10 pm Meeting Adjourned**

**2019 COLA meeting dates:**

**Lake Sharing: 6:00 PM**

**Meetings adjourned between 8:00 and 8:15 PM unless otherwise designated.**

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| **May** | **23** | COLA Social at the Richwood Winery. 6:00 PM. |
| **June** | **20** | Lake Detroiters to present info on their 75th anniversary celebration. Presentation by Jenn Johnson, Research Director, representing the Becker County Historical Society & Museum. Jenn’s presentation will focus on the history of Becker County/Lakes. |
| **July** | **18** | Presentation by Logan Ridell, Becker County Soil & Water. This presentation will precede a pontoon shoreline tour to view various shoreline treatments around Detroit Lakes. Holiday Inn |
| **August** | **15** | Koronis bus tour. Bus will depart DL at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be provided. DL is 2.5 hours, one way from Lake Koronis and the lake tour will last about 1.5 – 2 hours. Plan on arriving back in DL around 5:00 – 5:30. |
| **September** | **19** | Presentation by Patrick Mulcahy, AIS Program Coordinator for Extension and MAISRC Center. Possible Steve Fode (10 – 15 minutes) Holiday Inn |
| **October** | **10** | Jeff Forester confirmed 4/16/19– MN Lakes & Rivers. Holiday Inn |

Minutes submitted by Wanda Roden