

Becker County COLA Meeting Minutes

Richwood Winery

Thursday, July 21, 2022, 5:00 PM CST

Attendees:

Larry Anderson – Floyd Lake
Bob Backman – Big Sugarbush Lake
Chuck Becker – Big Sugarbush Lake
Jim Brown – Height of Land
Becky Burns – Buffalo, Rice, Rock
Rich Cieslak – Buffalo, Rice, Rock
Stephen Corbin – Fox Lake
John Cox – Lake Detroiters
John Flynn – Lake Detroiters
Bill Guy – Floyd Lake
Marilyn Guy – Floyd Lake
Marietta Keenan – Island Lake
Karl Koenig – Becker County Soil & Water
Steve & Lynn Lindow – Bad Medicine Lake
Marge Lorentzsen – Bad Medicine
Ken Mattson – Big Sugarbush Lake
David Oberlander – Stakke Lake
Julie Raphael – Lake Detroiters
Wanda Roden – Melissa/Sallie
David Suby – Pickerel Lake
Trish Young – Middle Cormorant
Brad Wimmer – Lake Detroiters

5:00 pm Social/pizza

5:30 pm Sheriff Todd D. Glander presented information on the duties/responsibilities of the Becker County Sheriff's office. Deputy Brad Houglum joined Sheriff Glander to address water safety/enforcement issues/questions. Since May 1, 2020, the Sheriff's Office has responded to 356 boat and water related service calls. There have been five crashes and six drowning incidents, two of which have resulted in deaths.

According to Sheriff Glander, Water Safety consists of five major concerns:

- Wear a life jacket
- Tell someone when you are coming back from being on the water
- Be weather aware
- Do not drink alcoholic beverages
- Be a safe boater with concerns of others while boating.
- Loud noises on the lake are a public nuisance, but there is no statute/law concerning the operation of loud music/speakers on the lake.

- Deputy Houglum handled many questions regarding the legality of wake boats/law surrounding their use around other activities on the lake. Deputy Houglum said that there has to be “intentional” recklessness, if the Sheriff’s office were to become involved in boating issues surrounding wake boats.

6:30 pm

Business Meeting – David Oberlander presiding

Old Business:

Approval of May 21, 2022 minutes. Ken Mattson made a motion to approve the minutes. Stephen Corbin seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

Because we did not hold a business meeting in June, due to the MAISRC conference, we did not have minutes for the June meeting.

New Business:

Becky Burns provided an update on the **Treasurer’s report**.

2022 Payment of **dues**: We still have many lake associations that have not paid dues. Another dues form will be sent out to COLA representatives to encourage payment of dues by their individual Lake Associations.

Admin Assistant responsibilities: Wanda Roden will be leaving this position at the end of the year. We need to find a replacement for this position! The BCCOLA Board would like to divide this position into two parts so that it will be easier to manage and hopefully find people to take on these responsibilities. One position will center on secretarial responsibilities. The second position on event coordination.

Wanda announced that the **slide presentations from the June 9th MAISRC update** would be posted on their website until August 12, 2022.

Wanda also announced the **MAISRC would be sponsoring another showcase in Minneapolis on Wednesday, September 21, 2022**. For additional details, please go to their website. BCCOLA will be able to reimburse members that would like to attend the conference. Please speak to a BCCOLA Board member if you are interested in attending, so that the proper amount of reimbursement can occur.

Members asked that all future copies of the **MN COLA Newsletter** and minutes be sent on through the BCCOLA email list.

Wake Boat Discussion:

Chuck Becker reported on the Wisconsin Wake Boat Study. Chuck then made a motion to donate \$1000 to Phase II 2022 of the St. Anthony Falls Wakeboat Study. Ken Mattson seconded the motion. President Oberlander asked for discussion on the motion:

This brought about many comments/questions supporting future studies that will demonstrate potential damage to the environment of our lakes and laws to promote safety in recreational areas. President Oberlander also mentioned that we have already designated \$500 in our 2022 budget to support the St. Anthony study. We would only need to approve another \$500.

Becky Burns made it very clear that BCCOLA was not against wake boats. We just wanted the appropriate studies to be done to support positive water quality and the future environmental issues surrounding our lakes.

Motion passed with an appropriate quorum present at the meeting. \$1000 dollars will be donated for the St. Anthony Falls Phase II 2022 study.

2022 Starry Trek

Karl Koenig told us that the 2022 Starry Trek would be held on August 20, 2022 from 8:30 – 12:00. He explained the Starry Trek process which is sponsored by the MAISRC Research Center.

7:15 pm Meeting adjourned