



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
 October 9, 2024 – Zoom & Grand View Lodge

ATTENDANCE

| Board Member | Attendance | Advisory Member | Attendance |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Uldis Birznieks | Present | Dave Anderson | Present |
| Jay Chaney | Present | Camden Droppo | Absent |
| Robert Eliason | Present | Kevin Egan | Absent |
| Steve Frawley | Present | Steve Henry | Present |
| Sue Friedrichs | Present | Sheila Johnston | Present |
| Kathy Lundberg | Present | Mike Knapp | Present |
| Tim Thoele | Present | Dan Simons | Absent |
| Jim Woll | Present | Amy Stoneking | Absent |
| | | Brian Turner | Absent |
| | | Dorothy Whitmer | Present |

GUESTS

None

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Frawley at 8:29 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion by Birznieks, seconded by Chaney to approve the September 11, 2024, Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| GCOLA* | YTD 8-31-24 |
| Total Income (Loss) | \$221,822.97 |
| Total Expense | \$97,944.41 |
| Net Other Income (Expense) | \$29,803.75 |
| Net Income (Loss) | \$153,682.31 |
| Total Current Assets | \$609,476.08 |
| GULL CHAIN PRESERVATION ENDOWMENT FUND** | YTD 8-31-24 |
| Operating Revenue | \$33,085.30 |
| Expenditures (including grants to GCOLA) | \$68,522.44 |
| Change in net Assets | \$(35,437.14) |
| Net Assets | \$404,651.63 |

*The treasurer's report was set aside subject to audit.

** Assets are not reported on the GCOLA balance sheet, so information only.

CORRESPONDENCE & DONATION REQUESTS

- None

ADVISORY UPDATES

Cass County – Henry reported Cass County received a grant from the US Fish & Wildlife for starry stonewort remediation.

Crow Wing County – No report

DNR – Mike Knapp reported:

- Hand pulling for starry stonewort has been completed at Rush Lake (Whitefish Lake Chain).



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- Surveying in Gull Lake resulted in the second-best results for walleye which means fingerlings will not be stocked in 2024 or 2025.

USACE – No report

EVENTS UPDATE

- ACCL** – Johnston reported they will be providing bins to loon rescue volunteers.
- MN COLA** – Frawley reported they are working on setting 2025 strategic priorities.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Lake Steward Committee – Whitmer reported:

- On behalf of GCOLA, she has submitted a “public comment” document in response to the Crow Wing River Watershed Comprehensive Management Plan. The document explains why a project to treat pollution runoff from Home Brook would protect Lake Margaret and Gull Lake, and would fulfill the objectives of the watershed plan. She plans to follow up with calls to individuals on the Steering and Executive Committees for the Watershed Plan. Board members are encouraged to contact these individuals.
- She would like to explore new ways to increase membership in GCOLA, including using LinkedIn networking.

Loon Conservancy Committee - Johnston reported:

- Two loons were found entangled in fishing line and only one survived.
- A couple of loons likely died from lead poisoning.
- 32 individuals from seven counties were trained in loon rescue. There will be another training session in the spring of 2025.

Safety & Recreation Committee – Chaney reported:

- Buoys will start coming off the lake on October 14.
- He’s exploring buoy location changes near Point Narrows.

Communications Committee – Lundberg reported:

- Newsmagazine articles are due November 1.
- Gala survey will be completed on October 15.
- The Board confirmed it’s OK to continue using Stewards of the Gull Lake Chain on the website and other communication.
- The Privacy Policy will be approved at the next Board meeting.

Finance & Audit Committee - Birznieks reported:

- Motion by Frawley, seconded by Chaney to approve recommended donations totaling \$22,300. Motion carried.

| | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Recommendation</u> | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| ➤ Gull Lake Lighted Trail | \$ 500 | \$ 500 | |
| ➤ MAISRC | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | |
| ➤ MLR | \$3,000 | \$3,000 | |
| ➤ Safe Wakes | \$2,500 | \$2,500 | |
| ➤ MN COLA | \$1,000 | \$2,000 | |
| ➤ St . Anthony Falls Lab – Wake Study | \$4,000 | \$ 0 | |
| ➤ Wild & Free | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | |
| ➤ Loon Center | \$1,000 | \$ 500 | |
| ➤ Wildlife Rehab & Release | \$1,000 | \$1,500 | |
| ➤ Gull Lake Sailing School | \$ TBD | \$ 500 (\$100 already donated) | |
| ➤ Loon Project Boat & Motor | | \$4,800 (Total cost \$14,800 w/\$10K donation) | |
| TOTAL | \$20,000 | \$22,300 | |

- 2025 budget schedule:
 - 11-6: Committee budgets due to Birznieks and Friedrichs



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- 11-13: Initial review of Committee budgets at Board meeting
- 11-14 to 12-5: Finance Committee generates recommended budget
- 12-11: Review of Finance Committee recommended budget
- 12-12 to 12-31: Finance Committee makes final adjustments
- 1-9-25: Final approval of 2025 budget

AIS Committee - Thoele reported there are discussions with the DNR regarding the placement of I-LIDS at Gull Narrows public access.

Environmental Committee – Eliason reported he is analyzing the 2024 data.

Executive Committee – Frawley requested Committee members present committee goals and committee members at the November meeting.

Government Relations Committee – Frawley reported:

- He attended the MAISRC Showcase where GCOLA received the Partnership Award.
- MAISRC supports voting 'Yes' for the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund Renewal.
- The SAFL Phase II study may be available in February 2025.

Fisheries Committee – No report

Gala – Friedrichs reports:

Membership Committee - Friedrichs reported as of 9-30-24 there are 1037 paid members and 25 new members.

Nominating Committee – No report

TO DO LIST

| Accountable | Description | Deadline | Status |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------|----------|
| 1. Committee Chair | Preliminary budgets sent to Birznieks & Friedrichs | 11-6-24 | New |
| 2. Committee Chairs | 2025 Committee Goals & Members presented at Board meeting | 11-13-24 | New |
| 3. Friedrichs | Contact ACCL for lake association dues information | 10-09-24 | Open |
| 4. Friedrichs | Send email reminder to complete GALA survey | 10-10-24 | New |
| 5. Friedrichs | Work with Birznieks to mail BLACF AIS fundraising letter | 11-13-24 | New. |
| 6. Friedrichs | Send Lundberg the proposed Privacy Policy without redlines | 10-23-24 | New |
| 7. Friedrichs | Apply for sales tax exemption | 12-11-24 | Open |
| 8. Friedrichs | Work with Jennie Ward on proposal to sell GCOLA flags as a fundraising option | 12-11-24 | Open |
| 9. Friedrichs | Set up GCOLA LinkedIn when receive graphics | 12-11-24 | New |
| 10. Johnston | Send link to Board members to Cass County Environmental Services presentation at ACCL | 11-13-24 | New |
| 11. Knapp | Send article information to Lundberg for newsmagazine | 11-13-24 | New |
| 12. Lundberg | Include article on Fishing to End Hunger in the newsmagazine | 11-13-24 | New |
| 13. Lundberg | Include message about spiny water flea in the newsmagazine | 11-13-24 | New |
| 14. Whitmer | Update Board on action plan if someone purchases a Lake Steward property, makes changes, and the property is now ineligible | 10-09-24 | Open |
| 15. All Directors & Committee Chairs | Send input on the Crow Wing River Watershed Plan to Eliason who will respond on behalf of GCOLA | 9-22-27 | Complete |
| 16. All Committee Chairs | Contact Birznieks if want change to donation requests initially submitted during the budgeting process | 9-27-24 | Complete |



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| 17. Chaney | Contact Pelican and WAPOA lake associations for annual dues information | 10-09-24 | Complete |
| 18. Frawley | Send Sue a picture of Jim Woll for website & newsmagazine | 10-19-24 | Complete |
| 19. Frawley | Contact Driessen to discuss continued involvement in GCOLA | 10-09-24 | Complete |
| 20. Lundberg | Send Gala survey | 10-09-24 | Complete |
| 21. Lundberg | Send starry stonewort in Whitefish Lake Chain email | 10-09-24 | Complete |
| 22. Lundberg | Notify MAISRC on who will be attending event | 10-09-24 | Complete |

CALENDAR REVIEW

ADJOURN

Motion by Eliason, seconded by Birznieks to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m. Minutes recorded by Sue Friedrichs.