

RALALA BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
September 13, 2023  
Via WebEx

**Welcome:** Bob Eddy

**Present (8):** Bob Eddy, Gary Langer, Diana Lee, Sara Parke, Kim David, Bob Lee, Lloyd Thyen, Mary De Hanson

**Absent (4):** Cyrus Malbari, Anne Bonnerup, Mark Mosman, Darril Wegscheid

**Secretary's Report:** Diana presented a draft of the August 17 board meeting minutes. No changes were requested.

Upon motion made by Mary De, seconded by Gary, and carried the minutes of the August 17 minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sara presented a financial report as of September 12, 2023 showing income to date as well as bank balances. She reported that family membership dues are still coming in, the EQPI contributions are much higher than budgeted, and that corporate donations have not yet been received but are still expected by year end.

**Finance Committee Report:** Sara indicated the committee will meet after she completes her analysis regarding cash flow needs and investment options. The committee will then create a plan to present to the full board.

**Membership Update:** In Darril's anticipated absence, he sent a written report to the board indicating that membership dues continue to roll in and that another round of reminders have been sent to those who have not yet paid. He indicated he is confident that the number of members will reach or surpass last year's level of approximately 300 members.

**AIS and Launch Site Management:** Gary presented a chart of costs related to (1) the new kiosk and signage, (2) the additional inspector hours at the landings and (3) the I-Lids maintenance, along with the reductions for grants and cost-sharing arrangements. In summary:

RALALA budgeted costs for all 3: \$16,650 less \$7,200 grants = \$9,450  
Anticipated actuals for all 3: \$14,507 (if the final invoice for add'l inspector hours shows all requested hours were supplied)  
Projected RALALA expense: \$8,795 (after reduction for anticipated cost sharing by Cass County and Crooked Lake Township Lakes & Shores Committee)

The chart also listed expenses related to RALALA's AIS survey done by PLM. The net cost to RALALA was \$2,417 (total cost \$4,835 less Cass County's contribution of \$2,418).

Gary then reminded the board that, as a 2024 initiative, exploration will be done regarding placing a decontamination station at Roosevelt boat launch site.

**Marketing:** Mary De reported that she and her daughter are continuing work to develop a RALALA Facebook page to serve as a place to post documents and communicate messages of interest to members and the community.

**Newsletter:** Kim reminded the Board of previous discussions about creating a subgroup to discuss newsletter frequency (currently three per year), ways to increase readership, whether it makes sense for an annual report to be issued (as an additional fourth publication or in place of one of the three newsletters), etc. Bob Eddy would like to hear from anyone interested in joining this group, and a meeting will be scheduled for the end of October.

**Water Quality Testing:** Bob Eddy indicated this year's final water testing on RALALA lakes will take place Sunday, September 17.

**Enbridge Pipeline Water Testing:** Bob Eddy reported that AW Labs has completed water testing at the north end of Lake Roosevelt near Spire Valley Creek, and no contaminants were found. After discussion, there was consensus that he should share those results with Enbridge.

**CLT Lakes & Shores Committee:** Lloyd reported that:

- 41 pounds of lead tackle were collected at the August Corn Feed
- Lloyd, Bob Eddy and Gary will be attending a meeting of the Crooked Lake Township Lakes & Shores Committee on September 14, at which Bob Eddy will give a presentation on RALALA and its initiatives, activities and accomplishments. They also indicated there will be discussion at the meeting with regard to the Committee's cost-sharing arrangement with RALALA to assist with covering the cost of hiring PLM for treatment of milfoil-infested areas. All members of the board were encouraged to attend.

**Milfoil Updates:**

**Milfoil on Lake Lawrence:** Bob Eddy reported that he received results of PLM's survey of Lawrence, Smokey and Leavitt lakes, and that milfoil was found on Lawrence. The findings and the treatment plan will be communicated to all RALALA members and also posted on Emily and Outing Facebook pages.

**Small Areas of Milfoil on Roosevelt:** As a followup to previous discussions regarding 21 identified milfoil plants that can't be chemically treated, Bob Eddy shared results of an estimate he received for hiring divers to pull the plants by hand. The estimate was \$6,900 to complete the project, including 16 diving hours at \$400/hr plus \$500 boat fee. Discussion points raised included:

- The cost is high considering that there are no guarantees regarding a success rate
- This year's chemical treatment of the larger areas could reach some of those individual plants without the need for hand pulling

- We may learn more by waiting until next year to see how many of those plants die from chemicals floating from the larger treatment areas and how much additional growth happens due to not treating or pulling

After lengthy discussion, there was consensus that RALALA will delay hiring divers and a subgroup should be formed to formulate a game plan with regard to milfoil challenges, including prevention measures, chemical treatment, hand pulling by divers and fundraising that will be needed for future surveys and treatment.

PLM Contract re Chemical Treatment of Milfoil: Bob Eddy indicated he will be receiving an updated contract from PLM with regard to chemical treatment of the large patches of milfoil found on Lake Roosevelt and Lawrence Lake.

Upon motion made by Lloyd, seconded by Bob Lee, and carried, Bob Eddy is hereby authorized to sign any contracts needed by PLM in order to move forward with chemical treatment of the recommended milfoil-infested areas.

**Remaining 2023 Meetings:** Bob Eddy indicated this meeting is the last formal board meeting scheduled for this year, but that subgroups will start meeting as early as October to address the ongoing and new initiatives. He suggested that initiative leaders are welcome to call a board meeting anytime that board approval is desirable or necessary relating to a project or cost. He anticipates the Finance Committee will have a budget prepared by sometime in December to present to the full board for review and approval.

Upon motion made by Bob Lee, seconded by Mary De, and carried, the meeting was adjourned.