RALALA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 18, 2025
Via WebEx

All Present (6): Bob Eddy, Gary Langer, Diana Lee, Bob Lee, Bonnie McGowan, Betsy Skagen

Absent (5): Kim David, Mark Mosman, Lloyd Thyen, Carolyn Gallagher, Lisa Bonafede

Welcome: Bob Eddy

Secretary's Report: Diana presented a draft of the November 19, 2025 board meeting minutes and no changes were requested.

> ***Upon motion made by Gary, seconded by Bob Lee, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the November 19 board meeting were approved as presented.***

Treasurer's Report: Diana presented financial statements (Income & Expense, Balance Sheet and Budget vs Actual), distributed prior to the meeting, for the month ended November 30, 2025.

> ***Upon motion made by Betsy, seconded by Bonnie, and unanimously carried, the financial statements were approved as distributed.***

Communication to Members re Proposed Emily Mine: Bob Eddy asked for feedback on whether the board wants to forward to RALALA members mine-related articles and communications received from Emily Mine Information Group (EMIG), including articles published by the Star Tribune. It was agreed that Betsy can post those type of articles on RALALA's Facebook page without obtaining board approval for each document. Betsy will contact Dan Brennan (EMIG) to discuss whether there are copyright issues, including getting consent from Star Tribune to redistribute their articles. It was further agreed that RALALA need not take a formal position on the proposed mine at this time, but rather just serve as a source of information. Bob Lee expressed concern that taking a formal position on the mine may not adequately fall within RALALA's legal purposes and activities under the Articles and Bylaws of the lake association, and will take a better look at that question if and when the association is pressed to take a formal position. He believes the most likely tie to RALALA's mission would be if the mine presents a threat to water quality in our member lakes.

Bob Eddy reported that Dan Brennan (on behalf of EMIG) is in the process of seeking approval from MN Department of Health and Crow Wing County to get free water testing done for lake property owners in this area that are located in Crow Wing County (including the southern part of Lake Roosevelt). The purpose of the water testing would be to establish a baseline for current levels of manganese, and EMIG is intending to do "generalized tracking" of results. Dan suggested that RALALA reach out to Cass County, along with MN Dept of Health, about approving this same program for local property owners located in Cass County. Bob further suggested that we get the CLT Board involved in campaigning for this as well.

Gary indicated he plans to attend the January 8 CLT Board meeting and will contact Dan Brennan to discuss in more detail what message Gary should deliver to the CLT Board.

2026 Budget: Diana reported that the budget committee met in November and she presented a copy of the budget worksheet. She walked through it line by line and noted there are several expense categories that need more discussion and input from board members. In addition the Board will need to decide whether or not to roll over interest received on the two Certificates of Deposit, so that RALALA can collect interest on interest, since the cash is not needed this year. Diana noted that in the past couple of years, she cashed out the interest when the maturity date came up and only rolled over the principal into a new CD.

There was a discussion about the transaction fees that RALALA absorbs when dues and donations are paid via PayPal and credit card. It was agreed that RALALA should continue absorbing the fees, especially when we are in the early stages of accepting and encouraging credit card payments. The issue will be readdressed later in the year and before the 2027 budget after we have a realistic idea of how many people will opt for electronic payments and what that cost will be.

Zebra Mussel Plan of Action: Bob Eddy referenced the outline of a Zebra Mussel Project Plan that he created and distributed to the board. He asked that board members review it and be prepared to discuss at the January board meeting. He also encouraged the board to contact him directly with any questions or feedback prior to the next meeting.

Bob further reported that he sent the draft of the project plan to University of Minnesota's MAISRC (Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center) asking for their feedback, suggestions, and whether they would like to participate. He has not yet received a response.

<u>Membership Survey re Annual Meeting:</u> Bob Eddy referenced the sample survey that was sent to board members by Lisa, and provided a sample "survey results" document that includes graphs for each question based on the answers given. The board agreed that the survey questions were good and that the "survey results" document is easy to read and will be extremely helpful, especially if a large portion of members complete the survey.

It was agreed that Lisa needs to: (a) fix a problem relating to selecting multiple choices on certain survey questions, (b) distribute another "test" survey to the board, (c) provide the "second test" survey results for review at the January board meeting, and (d) if all looks good, distribute the survey to all members in late January or FebruaryJ.

Betsy agreed to send Lisa the RALALA logo in case Lisa can insert that into the survey document.

<u>Adjournment:</u>

> ***Upon motion made by Bob Lee, seconded by Gary, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.***

Prepared by:
Diana Lee, Secretary