RALALA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 15, 2026
Via WebEx

Present (8): Bob Eddy, Gary Langer, Diana Lee, Kim David, Bob Lee, Mark Mosman, Lloyd Thyen, Betsy Skagen

Absent (3): Carolyn Gallagher, Bonnie McGowan, Lisa Bonafede

Welcome: Bob Eddy

Secretary's Report: Diana presented a draft of the December 18 board meeting minutes and no changes were requested.

> ***Upon motion made by Gary, seconded by Kim, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the December 18, 2025 board meeting were approved as presented.***

Treasurer's Report: Diana presented the following financial statements (as distributed prior to the meeting): (a) Income & Expense Report along with Balance Sheet for the month ended December 31, 2025, and (b) Budget vs Actual for the year ended December 31, 2025.

She highlighted the $9,350 pass-through income collected in 2025 that will be disbursed in early 2026 as follows: $3,025 to Fireworks fund (Outing Chamber of Commerce), $4,685 to Outing Quick Response (Crooked Lake Township), and $1,640 to Emily First Responders (City of Emily), and explained that the "first responders" donations are allocated based on the local address of each donator.

> ***Upon motion made by Bob Lee, seconded by Gary, and unanimously carried, the financial statements were approved as distributed.***

Newsletter: Kim indicated she and Betsy will send out a "call for articles" for the Spring newsletter including due dates, with the goal of a print date of May 1 (per the newsletter calendar agreed upon at the September board meeting).

2026 Budget: Diana presented the current draft of the proposed 2026 budget and noted that three proposed new line items still need to be addressed prior to finalizing the budget at the February meeting. Line items include:

- Logo Merchandise (which could be "swag" give-away items at events or merchandise intended to sell at events or online). Betsy agreed to present a proposal at the February meeting.

- Recognition Event for recognizing 2025 volunteers and large donors. Bob Eddy agreed to set up a January 21 small-group conference call to discuss ideas on what this may look like as well as ideas for a possible Recruitment Event.

Gary reported that he attended the CLT Board meeting on January 8 and that the budget for the CLT Lakes and Shores Committee was increased by 25% (from $15,000 to $18,733). As a result, Gary is confident that the $8,000 that RALALA is figuring into our budget for CLT grant income is realistic.

Zebra Mussel Initiative: Bob Eddy reported that he attended an "AIS detectors" meeting and came away with some contacts – people that are dealing with zebra mussels and may serve as a resource for sharing information. He indicated he will also schedule a meeting with U of M's MAISRC. Bob also noted that volunteers will be needed when we create a definitive "plan". After discussion, it was agreed that once we have a plan of action and are in need of community involvement, that one of the ways RALALA could seek volunteers is to host a "townhall" type meeting. It was suggested that when Glen Goodwin gives a Lakes & Shores presentation at the CLT Annual Meeting in March, possibly that can include some zebra mussel information and a notification that plans are in the works for a townhall meeting on the topic.

AIS Inspectors' Schedule at Launch Sites: Gary explained that Steve Henry (Cass County AIS Lake Technician) contacts him each year to agree upon an AIS Inspector calendar/schedule for inspectors at Roosevelt and Lawrence launch sites. They work together on establishing a calendar of Cass-supplied inspectors and also additional inspector hours/days that RALALA is willing to pay for. Gary indicated he has been RALALA's contact person for several years and that someone else on the Board will need to take on this task starting next year. Gary encourages a board volunteer to come forward this year so that he can familiarize him/her with the process.

Gary provided copies of the 2026 AIS inspector calendar and a list of the date changes that he proposes for the Lake Lawrence launch site. In addition, Gary recommends spending $5,700 on 20 additional inspector days.

> ***Upon motion made by Lloyd, seconded by Mark, and unanimously carried, the board authorizes Gary to work with Steve Henry on finalizing the 2026 inspector schedule at Gary's discretion, and also authorizes the expenditure of $5,700 for hiring additional inspector hours.***

Membership Solicitation Process: Gary walked through the “process” document for the 2026 solicitation of family membership renewals, business renewals, new business solicitation and new member solicitation. He noted several tasks that remain unassigned and, after discussion, it was agreed that assignments will need to be addressed at a future meeting when more members are in attendance.

Bob Lee agreed to create a list of members in the database who paid dues in one or more previous years, but not in 2025. The list will include the year of last payment and contact information.

Funding for GoNorth Mn Event: Bob Eddy reported that he was contacted by Jan Mosman about the fact there is some funding available (provided by the City of Emily for GoNorth Mn) that could possibly be used for some type of educational program co-organized by GoNorth and RALALA. This topic was tabled for a future meeting.

Adjournment:

> ***Upon motion made by Mark, seconded by Kim, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.***

Prepared by:
Diana Lee, Secretary