

EMILY LAKES AND RIVER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
April 23, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Mark Drewitz at 7:00 pm via video conference call.

Board members present – Mark Drewitz, Russ Boverhuis, Randy Manlick, Deb Hansen, Jason Herfel, Jean McLeod, Mike Peck

Board members absent – None

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's Report from the January 9, 2020 board meeting was distributed via email to all the board members prior to the meeting. There was no discussion or changes to the minutes. Jason made a motion to accept the report. Jean seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report dated April 22, 2020 was distributed via email to all the board members prior to the meeting. The board briefly discussed the status of the funds from the City of Emily. Mark requested Randy adjust how the donations are presented on future reports. Deb made a motion to accept the report. Russ seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Schedule Future Meetings: The board selected the following dates for the remaining 2020 board meetings - May 21, June 18, July 23, and September 17, 2020. The board also decided to have the annual Boat Parade on Saturday, July 4, 2020 at 1:00 pm. Starting point will be the mouth of Lake Mary again.

At the January Board meeting the annual meeting was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 15 at 9:00 am. It was decided to stick with this date but, due to COVID-19, change the format. Options discussed are listed below. Deb mentioned she has a document on how to hold a virtual meeting and Mark said we would have to send the meeting materials to the members or put them on the website. Mark will mention the options in the next newsletter and ask for feedback.

Annual Meeting Options

1. In-person meeting held at city hall or in the city park with social distancing.
2. Conference call.
3. Video conference call via something like Zoom.
4. Obtain proxies from members so a smaller meeting could be held.
5. Some combination of the above four options.

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2020 Membership Drive: Russ had emailed the latest version of the ELRA Membership list to the board members prior to the meeting. As of this meeting, we had 85 members. This count was on par with recent years. The board thought it would be prudent to mail reminders to the 154 people in our area who did not join. Deb will prepare and mail the material. Mark will provide Deb with the mailing labels.

Board Terms: Mark was concerned about finding two or more people willing to run for open board positions this year. He distributed a list showing when each board member's term expires. Two board members, Russ and Deb, have terms that expire this year. Since it is likely we will not be able to have an in-person annual meeting, it will probably be necessary to have a slate of candidates on the ballot before the annual meeting. This will require some recruiting by the board. Both Deb and Russ said they would likely run again for the board. Mark noted that this is his last term due to term limits in the bylaws.

2020 AIS Plans – Milfoil Treatment: Mark gave an update on the status of milfoil treatment program. As previously reported, we received a grant from the MN DNR for AIS mitigation. He believes this grant will cover our survey costs with possibly some funds remaining. We are also expecting up to \$3,000 from the Crow Wing County for our 2020 AIS activities and some funds from the City of Emily. Since we will have more grant money available this year, Mark suggested we have the river surveyed too. PLM and DNR paperwork have been signed. The legal notice will be published in the Northland Press at the appropriate time.

2020 AIS Plans – City of Emily Waters Committee Meeting: Deb reported that she was approved to be on the Waters Committee again. She plans to attend the next committee meeting scheduled on April 28th at 6:00 pm. Mark reported that the application for funds was submitted to the City of Emily Water Committee.

2020 AIS Plans – Crow Wing County AIS Plan: Mark is monitoring the AIS plans proposed by Crow Wing county. Plans for boat inspectors are the same as 2019.

OTHER BUSINESS

Veliger Testing: Mark reminded the board that at the last annual meeting we committed to do veliger testing in Mary this year.

Water Testing: Randy said he is going to contact Jim Fraser so he can take over water testing duties. Status of the training is up in the air due to COVID-19. Water testing starts in May.

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Tax Exempt Status: Randy mentioned that he completed and submitted the paperwork for our non-profit tax-exempt status.

Fish Stocking: Randy brought up that the DNR did not do any egg stripping this year. Lack of egg stripping could impact our fish stocking. Randy suggested we explore buying fingerlings from a private supplier. Mark said he would contact the DNR about fish stocking and have Doug contact our fingerling supplier.

Social Events: Jason reported that due to COVID-19, he and Russ have not met to discuss setting up social events. He does not anticipate much activity on this task this year.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Randy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jason seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Russell Boverhuis