

CCROA Annual Business Meeting Minutes  
July 18, 2020

Present: Bob McGuffin, Omar Shabaz, David Fauntleroy, Susan Anderson, Laura Mans, Mark Rolling, Bob Warren, Roy Knoth, Ann Rapp, Mark Johnson, Dean Challed, Rod Brost, Eugene Clark, Joan Cavanaugh, Jay Sweney, Helen Hayhurst, Gary Ebert, and Christina Studlow.

Absent: Greg Wenzel, Tom Krautkramer and Dean Stanton.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Bob McGuffin.

**President's Report**

Bob stated that the heavy lifting is done on the Michigan Special Assessment District and the Wisconsin Lake District. His job now is to see that they continue smoothly before he passes on his job to the new president. Bob's term is ending next July and a new president will be elected at the 2021 annual meeting.

**Vice President's Report**

Omar Shabaz reported that we have extended our Wisconsin DNR grants for West Bay and Big Lake to December 31, 2021. We moved up the Big Lake grant to change to the different chemicals. He gave a recap on the cameras stating that he is still trying to get in touch with the guy. He also reported that last year CBCW gave 200 hours at Palmer Landing and this year they increased to 250 hours. Becky, a reporter for the Lakeland Times who has some experience with CBCW, has been volunteering at Palmer and has been getting the word out.

**Treasurer's Report**

David Fauntleroy stated that our financial condition is similar to the last few years. He now only receives two checks from the Lake District and the Special Assessment District which helps get the funds through easily. At the end of 2019, we had \$329,000 in assets which was down from \$357,000 in 2018, but we spent quite a bit on AIS. As of July 6, 2020, we have assets of approximately \$417,000. All the taxes have been received. At year end, we had \$213,000 in the general working fund which gives us flexibility to use as needed; \$51,000 in the lake management fund; and \$37,000 in the walleye fund as one person transferred all his dam fund donation to the walleye fund. The remaining dam fund balance is just under \$20,000 and we are still trying to track down the remaining donors.

On motion by Joan Cavanaugh, seconded by Omar Shabaz, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

**Membership Report**

Laura Mans reported that we have 337 active members, down 10 from last year. The breakdown by lake is as follows:

Big Lake	48	Little Africa	1
Cisco	42	Mamie	24
Clearwater	14	Morley	2
East Bay	20	Poor Lake	19
Fishhawk	14	Thousand Island	103
Lindsley	25	West Bay	23
		Off Water	2

There are 112 members expiring this year and she will make one final push to get them renewed.

On motion by Lois Bates, seconded by Mike Grimm, the Membership Report was approved.

## **AIS Report**

Gene Clark gave the following AIS report:

A new operating budget format was presented to the CCROA members in the June newsletter. We identified all AIS activities on the Chain with the costs and funding sources for those activities. There are a lot of moving parts to these activities.

EWM is currently in 6 lakes and a channel: West Bay, Big, Morley, Thousand Island, Lindsley, Fishhawk, and then only one plant in the channel from Lindsley to Cisco. We are working closely with our biologists, Barb Gajewski and Bill Artwich of Many Waters. We just finished applying the new chemical, ProcellaCOR, to three areas on Big Lake covering 3.5 acres. We started using this chemical last year, and Many Waters said that results were good. It performed well on Morley and Lindsley, but on the north side of Thousand Island Lake it was mixed. So, we will continue with its use. DASH permits have been filed for work on West Bay and Thousand Island Lake.

The orange EWM buoys have been deployed a few weeks ago. Please urge friends and neighbors to maintain a distance from them, so as not to fragment the EWM and cause further spread.

We will conduct Aquatic Vegetation Monitoring (Point Intercept) on Big, Cisco and Little Africa this year. Thanks to the volunteers who do the secchi disk reading on their lakes.

Lastly, I want to emphasize our valued partnership with the ISCCW. The ISCCW spends approximately \$21,000 per year on 1) EWM work not covered by any grant, 2) Education & PR, and 3) boat inspection/washing activities at the two busiest public landings on the Chain: Cisco Lake landing and Thousand Island Lake landing. An estimated 1,400 boats put in at the Thousand Island landing in a season and an estimated 900 boats put in at the Cisco landing. About one third of CCROA members are also ISCCW members contributing approximately \$12,000, covering about half of the monies the ISCCW spends on the Chain. ISCCW's work on other Watersmeet Township lakes also benefits the Chain by preventing the spread of EWM. So please continue your support of the ISCCW, and if you are not a member, please consider becoming one! Jay Sweney asked if CCROA membership in ISCCW stayed approximately the same. Gene said that it did.

## **Old Business**

### **Dam Purchase Funds Distribution**

The dam fund will remain on the agenda until we track down the remaining donors because we can't touch the money without approval. Bob has a list of donors if any members are interested and can help contact them.

## **New Business**

### **Open Forum**

- Joan Patton mentioned that on the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend, a large fish washed up on her shoreline on Big Lake. It looked like a carp, but she wasn't sure. She took pictures and Bob asked her to send him the pictures.
- Roy Knoth mentioned that safety markers put on West Bay have been removed by the DNR. He said they are put there so boats aren't damaged by underwater obstructions. Bob suggested he contact the Wisconsin DNR to see if there is any process we can go through; maybe it's something the Lake District can work on.

- Mark Johnson said that he contacted Mike Rogers to see if we could hold the hearing on the No Wake Zone ordinance at the pavilion since it must be held in person, and this could satisfy the social distancing requirements. Mike thought that might be an option. The No Wake Zone ordinance will also help with the sand cut issues. It can be designated as a safety area and then the police can write tickets.
- Mark said that he wants to purchase a boat for the Watersmeet police to use to patrol the Cisco Chain. He emailed pictures of 6 possible boats, but by the time they returned with a choice, the boat was sold. He will look for others, but told them they need to make a decision quickly once he sends them a picture.
- There was a question about the new police chief, and Bob said he would send out his name and phone number to the membership.
- Mike Grimm discussed a safety issue regarding aerators being put at peers. They make the ice unsafe, and it is not only an issue by that peer, but in other areas of the lake as well. Other lakes have ordinances against them, but he would suggest that we just ask the owners to leave the aerators turned off until April 1, after snowmobile and ice fishing season. Bob stated that he fell through on Morley and just asked the owner to wait until later in the season to turn on his aerator, and he was agreeable. He said that Wisconsin requires that the aerated areas are marked, but not sure about Michigan.
- A question was asked about the status of the barge in the channel. Bob stated that he is working with Watersmeet Township police, but the owner of the barge has not been cooperative. He claims he has business on the Chain. A comment was made that it hasn't moved in 2 years. Mike Rogers is going to be contacting the DNR to see if anything can be done.
- Christina Studlow reported that we have a soft launch of our Facebook page. It is set up so that no one can make comments. It is strictly informational. In order to block comments, she can only post information as her personal self and wants to know if that is okay with the group. She also commented that we might want to put membership information out on the Facebook page to encourage young people. All were in favor of Christina's work and suggestions.

#### Cisco Chain Lake District Meeting

The Cisco Chain Lake District meeting was called to order by Bob McGuffin at 10:44 a.m. Bob had sent letters to everyone in the Wisconsin Lake District with an agenda and the 2021 budget. This budget is similar to the Michigan Special Assessment District budget, but more funds are directed for chemical treatment on Big Lake. Bob asked if there were any questions on Eurasian Water Milfoil, water quality, or monitoring efforts. There were no questions, and the 2021 budget was passed by a vote of 7-0.

Bob stated that current Lake District board members were established with varying 1, 2- or 3-year terms. This year, Ann Rapp's one-year term is up. She has volunteered to continue for 3 more years and Rick Nevers also volunteered to fill the new 3-year term. Bob collected ballots from the Wisconsin landowners present, and Ann Rapp was re-elected to a 3-year term. Currently Roy Knoth's term ends in 2021 and Mark Johnson's term ends in 2022. Bob stated that after adjournment, the Cisco Chain Lake District board members will elect a Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

On motion of Mark Rolling, seconded by Roy Knoth, the Lake District meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

### Questions from Membership

Bob asked if there were any other comments or questions from the members. Joan Cavanaugh wondered how important it was to keep up CCROA membership. Bob stated that it is very important in order to stay informed and to have the right to vote.

### Election of Officers

On motion by Ann Rapp, seconded by Roy Knoth, the current CCROA officers were re-elected for another year: Bob McGuffin, President; Omar Shabaz, Vice President; Susan Anderson, Secretary; and David Fauntleroy, Treasurer.

### Miscellaneous Announcements

- Greg Wenzel asked Bob to remind everyone to ensure that children wear life vests and to promote water safety for kids.
- We have several "Saving Our Lakes & Streams" books available for \$15.
- We have Clean Boats/Clean Water license plates for sale for \$5.

On motion by Debbie Brost, seconded by Dick Barney, the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Anderson, Secretary