

Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association, Inc  
Annual Membership Minutes on Saturday, July 11, 2020  
at Eagle Waters Restaurant with Zoom recording

9:08 AM Meeting called to order by President, Chuck Berg

All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Teri Stecker, Secretary, explained Zoom procedure with participants for voting on a motion with Raised Hand or Thumbs Up option. To ask questions or offer comments use the Chat or Dialog Box option. Zoom process & voice level were tested and worked well.

37 Attendees: Chuck Berg, Mark Brenner, Dennis Burg, Dave Mueller, Teri Stecker, Julie Brenner, Gary Conger, Marc Groth, Dave Cyrtmus, Greg Hendricks, Bill Krostue, Jody Voight, Aubrey Dalbec, Dan Newitt, George Katich, Bill Morgan, Bill Lochte. Zoom - Tom Atchison, Jocelyn Francoer, Richard & Linda O'Dwyer, Joseph Keenan, Kim Mantey, John Steigerwald, Richard Lewandowski, Steve Simon, Lisl Gapinski, Jim Hanrahan, Kip Erzinger, Tom Batterman, Kristi & Tim Maximoff, Alan Queoff, Mark & Kay Meitzen, George Wagner, Margaret Norcross & Ron Janicek.

A quorum was present, per Secretary Teri Stecker

Mark Brenner, VP-Operations introduced all Officers, Board Members, Lake Captains and Co-Captains present.

Chuck Berg, President gave a Year-in-Review presentation highlighting a reduction in Shoreline and Aquatic Species presence, Board changes and accomplishments. Chuck shared background information on ERCLA's special relationship with Vilas County Sheriff's Department and their 2020 plans for more exposure and patrol hours, on the Chain. A help wanted article in our Winter Newsletter for volunteers to represent several lakes, was met with enthusiasm and all Co-Captain positions, except Lynx, are filled. Chuck gave a special thank you to Julie & Mark Brenner for their extra duties last year as temporary Treasurer and Secretary, respectively, and the new Volunteer Co-Captains.

Teri Stecker, Secretary, presented the July 13, 2019 Annual Membership minutes. Motion made by Marc Groth and Seconded by Dennis Burg to waive the reading of the minutes and accept written copy presented to those attending. Motion passed by Unanimous vote. (2019 & 2020 meeting minutes will be posted on our website)

Teri Stecker, representing the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of 2020 Directors to serve a two (2) year term: Gary Conger-Catfish Lake Captain, Greg Hendricks-Eagle Lake Captain, Dave Mueller-Otter Lake Captain, Teri Stecker - Voyageur Lake Captain, George Katich-Yellow Birch Lake Captain. A request for nominations from the floor was made, hearing none, nominations were closed. Motion made by Dennis Burg, Seconded by Mark Brenner to accept the slate of officers as presented. Motion passed by Unanimous vote.

Chuck Berg reviewed leadership changes. Two new positions are filled by Julie Brenner as Membership Coordinator and David Tidmarsh as 2nd Director-at-Large. David Cyrtmus will be presented as nominee for Treasurer at the Board of Directors meeting, immediately following the Annual Membership meeting. We are thankful these 3 volunteers stepped up to fill the openings.

David Mueller, AIS Coordinator discussed the Lake Management report. Onterra, LLC will quantitatively measure the presence of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) and selectively remove any EWM thru diver assisted suction harvesting. Hand harvesting by DASH, LLC, a professional diving company, will occur this summer on Catfish and Cranberry Lakes. Our continuing maintenance program keeps the EWM at a low level. This past spring, Unified Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commision (ULERCLC), was awarded a three (3) year Aquatic Species Established Population Control grant. ULERCLC is funded by ERCLA, City of Eagle River and the Towns of Cloverland, Lincoln, Washington.

Marc Groth discussed Shoreline initiatives per the attached report. The Yellow Iris, Purple and Yellow Loosestrife Surveys will be performed this summer. Watch our website, [ercla.org](http://ercla.org) for all results and lake updates. Questions for both presenters were taken from the floor and discussion followed.

Chuck Berg, President and Dennis Burg, VP-Finance presented 1/1/20 to 6/30/20 financials per the attached report. The heavy balance in checking account is managed closely by Dennis Burg, VP Finance. Our banking institution, Peoples State Bank, has preferred checking account interest rates for Not-for-Profit organizations. We carry a higher balance, when this interest rate is better than our other options.

Under the Expense Category Grant-Funded Projects, the negative \$24,762 is our reimbursement from the WDNR grant fund request we filed last year. It takes the state several months to process, so this credit applies to our 2019 expense items. Our 2020 project expenses will be dispersed in the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2020. The Communication expense consists of Newsletter production, all Print and Mail campaigns, Social Media, Website and all other communication assistance costs. The Other Administrative cost category consists of insurance, accounting fees, database maintenance and the annual social event, that was cancelled this year. Motion made by Bill Lochte, seconded by Gary Conger to approve Financial Report. Motion passed with Unanimous vote.

Mark Brenner, VP-Operations presented the Membership Report as seen in the attachment. Total riparian number is from a Vilas County report. Our database conversion process moved the prior year unpaid members follow up to late April. A Postcard solicitation to 625 prospects was sent in late May. The summer newsletter with another copy of the membership form was emailed and mailed, in late June. The next 60 days should get us back on track with 2019 membership levels. Motion made by George Katich, seconded by Greg Hendricks to approve Membership Report. Motion passed with Unanimous vote.

Teri Stecker, Secretary and Marc Groth explained the Communication Committees responsibilities and activities, outlined in the attached report. With snowbirds, seasonal property owners and rental properties on the rise, our committee has made it a priority to populate the membership database with current and accurate emails. Our printed mail pieces, sent at a reduced bulk mail rate, are not forwarded, whereas Emails, reach our intended targets wherever they are located. The key take away, mark our email address [erclaonline@gmail.com](mailto:erclaonline@gmail.com) as safe in your contact file and sign-up for our E-Newsletter on the membership form or on our "News" website page at [ercla.org](http://ercla.org).

President Chuck Berg opened the floor to questions and comments from the participants: Q-Can members get an extra ERCLA lake sign for their pier? Q-Are there any State or County noise and/or shoreline illumination laws? Boats parked, late at night, in waterways with loud music and businesses/homes with light fixtures or motion detection lights with very bright illumination, cause problems with property owners. Q-Any thoughts to add docks to Cranberry Island picnic area? Q-Any thought of a boat parade in August instead of a social event? Q-What can we do to improve no wake and 100-200' rule compliance, to protect our shoreline and keep everyone safe? Discussions followed. All of these issues will be taken up at the next Board meeting, as

most of these questions require us to follow-up with local government officials and other parties. The Board will post their findings in the bi-annual newsletters and on our ercla.org website.

Motion made by Mark Brenner, seconded by Chuck Berg to set the next Annual Membership Meeting for Saturday, July 10, 2021 at 9 AM. The Motion passed with Unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn by Dennis Burg, seconded by Teri Stecker. Motion passed with Unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned by President Chuck Berg at 10:28AM

Minutes prepared by  
Teri Stecker, ERCLA Secretary