

Eagle River Chain of Lakes Association
Annual General Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Dave Tidmarsh

Those in attendance were:

Ron Henkel, Gerald Petrovic, Tom & Tonia Atchison, Chuck & Nancy Berg, Mark & Julie Brenner, Charlotte Carey, Leroy Dahms, E. Gapinski, Marc & Sue Groth, Paul Hennes, Kenneth Holdmann, Peter Homan, Hornack, Bernie Hupperts, Eileen Innecken, Stewart Jackson, Marlys Jensen, George Katich, Mary Therese Keane, Gregory Laatsch, William Lochte, Karen Maahs, David Mueller, Margaret Norcross, Harvey Overturf, Donald Peterson, Michael Queoff, Craig Smith, John Smolko, James & Teri Stecker, Michael Sullivan, Herbert Tennies, George Wagner, Vic & Jennifer Wasieleski, Thomas Wojtasiak, Tom & Lori Brown, John & Mary Newman, Barbara Teahen, Rick Oberreuter, Richard & Linda O' Dwyer, Susan Catania, Dick Metkin, Rick Hornack, Michael Laue, Gregory McQueary, Dean Bordeaux, Thomas Brown, Gary Conger, Kevin Connolly, Tim & Lauren Cross, Scott & Patricia Peterson, David Schuh, Dennis Burg, Dave Tidmarsh, Daniel Newitt, Aubrey Dalbec

Total of 66

Dave Tidmarsh opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. He then welcomed all and introduced the ERCLA board members in attendance, Lake Captains, along with Director at large Bill Lochte

A quorum was validated

The ERCLA Native Plant Protection Pledge and Volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated.

Comment was raised that the annual meeting needs to be announced ahead of time using constant contact and the local newspaper

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2018 ERCLA annual general meeting by Gary Conger, second by Bill Lochte; followed by vote. All voting aye. No opposing votes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve existing Lake Captains & Board members by Dave Tidmarsh, second by Craig Smith; followed by vote. All voting aye. No opposing votes. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker Sheriff's Deputy-Jason Molle was invited to update all riparian's.

- Jason has been with Vilas County for 20 yrs.
- \$17K budget for boat patrol, State of WI reimburses a portion based on the year, they received \$13K the prior yr. The remaining cost is split evenly between Lincoln, Washington, Cloverland, Eagle River & ERCLA
- The boat patrol is on the chain 6 of 7 days over the July 4th holiday
- They also cover the ATV trails
- If you witness something bad or out of order, please call the NON-EMERGENCY number 715-479-4441, getting the boat registration # would be helpful
- The portion of Cranberry Lake located in Oneida county will be covered by the Vilas county boat patrol since Oneida does not cover the lake
- 100' distance for a boat to shore, raft or dock-200' for PWC's
- Floating rafts must be 100' or less from shoreline
- The boat patrol has a range finder to determine distance
- If born after 1989 everyone must take the boater safety class to operate a watercraft
- Question was asked if the boat patrol has a decibel meter to measure loud music
 - o They do not and they don't pay too much attention to music volume
- Pontoon boats must have registration #'s-no one can ride outside the rails
- Issued 13 tickets & 36 warnings so far-Many more verbal warnings

- Question was raised if there should be signs at all boat launches stating "These waters are patrolled". Discussion followed, no signs will be posted
- Alcohol rules apply to boats just like automobiles
- Sheriff's department is looking for a location to keep the patrol boat on water. This will give them more to patrol versus putting the boat in and out

Guest speaker Steve Gilbert-Woodruff Area Fishers Supervisor was invited to talk

- Eric Wegleitner was also present- he is the new guy
- Trap netting for spring walleyes was performed to measure size and age
- Fall check 4-6" range, 8-11" make it to 2nd year of life
- Regulation changes
 - o 1937-95 keep any size you want, 1990-95 5 fish limits. Mid 90's slot size started, 1990-2016 2-5 fish bag limit depending on lake, 2016-present 3 fish bag limit on all lakes on the chain
- Adult population is increasing, growth rate has not changed much
- Walleye recruitment is fine
- Have never stocked this side of the chain
- Next survey is scheduled for 2023
- There can be private stocking if you work with the local DNR fishery supervisor

Leadership changes:

- Dennis Burg-VP of Finance
- Mark Brenner- added VP of Operations while maintaining the Secretary position
- Chuck Berg-New incoming President
- Julie Brenner-Treasurer
- Looking for a suitable accountant- possibly Mary Schwaiger, Reach & Schwaiger

Chuck Berg presented the financial reports with slides and printed copies of the treasurer's report. He broke down where the dollars are allocated.

- Interest rate was over 2% on checking account for Non-Profits
- ERCLA is in a strong financial position
- Cash is up \$47K, but there will be larger expenses in the 2nd half of the year

Motion to accept treasurer's financial report by Dave Mueller, second by Greg Smith; followed by vote. All voting aye. No opposing votes. Motion carried.

Membership report was given by Dave Tidmarsh. Printed reports available at check-in.

- The membership year starts Jan.1 and ends Dec.31; no matter when a member pays their dues
- YTD members was 739 compared to prior year 656
- Winter newsletter is the largest generator of dues
- Kimberly Clark donated \$1,000
- We need to grow to at least 50% membership

Motion to accept membership report by Marc Groth, second by Gary Conger; followed by vote. All voting aye. No opposing votes. Motion carried.

Dave Mueller provided an overview of the EWM Management Plan-Handouts at check-in
EWM Project

- Grant funding is going to disappear
- Lincoln, Cloverland, Washington Townships & City of Eagle River are all donors
- If things remain the same, ULERCLC commission will run out of money in 2021
 - o ERCLA share is \$20K
- DASH will continue to be used, Yellow Birch, Watersmeet, Scattering Rice are scheduled
- Watersmeet Lake is the most difficult lake to hand harvest due to the shallow depth and murky water
- There is no consideration to use any chemicals, there are not enough large areas to treat. The chain is down to 30/31 acres versus 285 acres in the past

Wetland Project- Invasive species

- 2016 was last survey-doing it again in 2019
- Will be working with Vilas county mapping once data is fully collected to compare to 2016 data

Clean Boats/Clean Water (CBCW) - No dollars spent, will revisit in 2020

Mark Brenner spoke on the Buoy program:

- ERCLA donated \$4K
- Investigating what can be done for more robust lights on channel markers

Communication:

- 2300 likes and followers on Facebook
- Facebook is going well

Open Forum:

Social Event

- Scheduled for 8-11-19 from 2-6 pm
- Postcard reminders will be going out to all riparian's
- Do we add a donation bucket?
- Investigate a simpler menu

Questions asked:

- Is the water level down?
 - o Our side of the chain water level is held to +/-3" s
- The channel between Cranberry and the boat lift is shallow due to sand bars
 - o The channel will be dredged this fall
 - o ERCLA will issue updates
- Chris Smith asked if ERCLA could donate \$2,000 to the sheriff department to be used towards keeping the patrol boat on water. 2020 Budget committee will review
- A concern was raised not to have too many regulations-our waters still need to be fun

Next annual meeting date July 11, 2020

Motion to adjourn by Dave Tidmarsh, second by Gary Conger; followed by vote. All voting aye. No opposing votes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am

Minutes by Mark Brenner
ERCLA Secretary

After the meeting the members of the board met:

Motion to approve Co-Captains, by Dave Tidmarsh, second by Gary Conger; followed by vote. All voting aye. No opposing votes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve two year terms for Chuck Berg as President, Dennis Burg as VP of Finance, Julie Brenner as Treasurer and Mark Brenner as VP of Operations, by Dave Tidmarsh, second by Mark Brenner; followed by vote. All voting aye. No opposing votes. Motion carried

There was a boat donated to ERCLA for be used as a fund raiser. Aubrey to investigate permit. Do we auction on Constant Contact?