



**ISLAND CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION, INC**  
**MEETING MINUTES August 14, 2021**  
**HAWK'S RESORT**

**INTRODUCTION**

- I. Call to order – President Karl Nordin called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and opened with the pledge of allegiance.
- II. Karl asked for any new members to identify themselves if they desired, but no new members, if any were present, identified themselves.
- III. Karl advised that the secretary's report had been emailed to everyone and asked the members if there were any discrepancies found. No one identified any discrepancies and Lin Bobb motioned to approve the report and Sue Ottum seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
- IV.** Treasurer John Kowalewski advised that he had completed the annual report. The allocated funds totals reported during the June and July meetings were correct, but there was an error in the allocation between walleye and land. A copy of the annual report is attached to the minutes. John gave the treasurer's report as follows:
  - a. General funds total – \$17,274.09
  - b. Walleye account - \$19,430.48
  - c. Land acquisition - \$15,325.01
- V.** The committee reports were as follows:

- a. Walleye committee – Rod Steege advised that the DNR will be doing a fall survey of the lakes and will be restocking walleyes at a rate of 10/acre. The DNR had not told Rod what size of walleyes will be stocked. In December, 2021, the DNR will be publishing their annual report on the lakes surveys.
- b. Invasive species committee – Tom Frank advised that the purple loosestrife (PS) had been in full bloom around July 17, 2021. He had completed a survey of the lakes and found that the beetles released in 2019 still appear to be effective as he found no new infestations and the southeast border of Island and McCann lakes has a reduced number of PS. While the ICOLA was not able to obtain any beetles in 2021 the committee is trying to get beetles for 2022.
- c. Karl gave an update on the grant application process. He said the paperwork for the grants was submitted to the state in time. The state advised that the ICOLA did not qualify for the grants because our by-laws name associate members as being persons not owning lake front property and the state requires membership is open to anyone within a one mile radius of the lake. However, the ICOLA did qualify for the Qualified Surface Management grants. Karl asked for assistance with the paperwork for the grants due to the extensive amount of paperwork and bookkeeping involved with the grant application process.

Carol Deluga asked about the purpose of the grants and Karl advised the grants are for individual properties, however the individuals must apply for the grants through the ICOLA and that the DNR has five requirements for the grants. Mark Schmitt said that the Rusk Co. board has proposed a \$10,000 fund for shoreline restoration but that the money was for the entire county. Mike Bjorkstrand asked about the shoreline grants and Karl advised that riprap did not qualify but that native planting did. Connie Kozlak advised that the funding was not 100% and that the landowner had to provide about 20% of the funding for the approved grant project. Sandy Johnson said that per her understanding the minimum size of the project must be 350 square feet with a minimum of 10' along the shore. Lisa Prince asked Karl about changing the bylaws and he advised that due to the process required to change the bylaws, including having the state approve any changes, there is no current plan to change the bylaws at this time.

- VI. There was no other old business.
- VII. Karl asked if there was any new business and no one responded with any.
- VIII. Karl advised members that as in years past, members are encouraged to voice what they believe are priority issues for the board to address. Karl pointed out that there was paper, pens and a collection box on the pool table and asked anyone who wanted to bring up a priority issue to the board to write the issue on paper and put it in the collection box.
- IX. Karl introduced Richard Martin, who does water clarity testing on the lakes, to the ICOLA. Richard advised that anyone interested in assisting him with the testing would be helpful as he lives and works in Eau Claire and finds it difficult to do testing on the weekends due to the high amount of boat traffic, which limits testing capabilities. He then showed the instrument used to do the testing and related how to do such. Richard said that the more tests that are performed the more accurate the information is that is submitted to the state. He said that the DNR publishes an annual report which has a year to year comparative analysis. He asked that anyone interested in assisting him to see him after the meeting.
- X. Karl advised that while the ICOLA did not sponsor a lake days in 2020 or 2021 due to COVID, that the ICOLA does want to again sponsor the lake days in 2022.
- XI. Karl then held the elections for the four (vice-president, treasurer, McCann Lake and Chain Lake representatives) open board positions. Due to the treasurer position being the only currently

contested position, that vote was done via pre-printed paper ballots. The other three positions had only one person each who had expressed interest for the respective positions. Karl asked three times for each of the three positions if there were any additional nominations but there were no additional nominations. The results for the positions were as follows:

- a. Vice President – Sandy Johnson was uncontested and won by a unanimous voice vote.
  - b. Treasurer – Current treasurer John Kowalewski received 21 ballots while Chris Hirschinger received 19 ballots. Karl announced the results and asked if anyone wish to contest the vote count. After no on responded Karl asked for a motion to destroy the ballots. Lin Bobb motioned to destroy the ballots and accept John as the treasurer. Mark Schmitt seconded the motion. The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.
  - c. McCann Lake Representative – Ted Hakala was uncontested and won by a unanimous voice vote.
  - d. Chain Lake Representative – Jeff Pippenger was uncontested and won by a unanimous voice vote.
- XII. Karl reminded everyone that the Snowmobile Club, which is very supportive of the ICOLA, is having a corn feed today at Adventure Awaits from 11:30 am to 4:30 pm. He encouraged the membership to attend the corn feed if available to support them as they do the ICOLA.
- XIII. Linda Carpenter made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mark Schmitt seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.
- XIV. Door prize were drawn and the winners and prizes won were:
- a. Tammy Naves – Six pack of choice
  - b. Ralph Hutchinson – Six pack of choice
  - c. Richard Martin - Luggage Rack (made by John Kowalewski and Linda Carpenter)
  - d. Carol Deluga – Six pack of choice
- XV. Karl alerted the members that another theft of gas had occurred on boat landing road between Shep’s Northside and the boat landing. He asked members to be aware of any suspicious activity in the area.

#### REMINDERS:

- Important Phone Numbers
  - Rusk County Sheriff 715/532-2200 Call with any lake abuse and/or boating and jet ski issues
  - DNR Satellite Office Ladysmith 715/532-3911
  - Forestry Department 715/532-2113 Call with any boat landing issues

## ASSOCIATION MEETING SCHEDULE

May 14, 2022 - 10 AM Sheps (New Ownership 2022)

June 11, 2022- 10 AM Backwoods

July 9th 11:00 Sunny’s Bar- Brat Feed

August 13, 2022 - Hawk’s Bar 10 AM

Elections for President, Secretary, Island and Clear Lake Representatives.