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## COLA Meeting Outcomes May 9<sup>th</sup>, 5-6 pm, 2023

Meeting at Kanabec Soil & Water Office  
or remotely via. Google (login on the agenda)  
Kanabec County - Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA)  
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

### Kanabec Lakes & Rivers:

Ann Lake Watershed Alliance  
Fish Lake Improvement Assn.  
Knife Lake Improvement District  
Lewis Lake Property Owners' Assn.  
Mora Lake  
Pomroy Lake Assn.  
Quamba Lake Assn.  
Kanabec Rivers

**Kanabec County COLA Identity:** Concerned citizens of the lakes in Kanabec County working towards better water quality for the common good. Focusing on preventing the introduction and limiting the spread of AIS.

Civic Organizing Purpose: To broaden governing responsibility to include those impacted, but not replacing existing governing responsibilities of board members and supervisors.

In Attendance: Peter Ripka, County Commissioner; Deanna Pomije, Jon Sanford, Kanabec SWCD; Oren Larson, Lewis Lake; Marv Stutz, Fish Lake; \*Kyle Shepard, Mora Lake; Chris Jahnke, Pomroy Lake; Ray Penwarden, Ann Lake; Paul Weingart, Kanabec Rivers

\*Remote attendees

### **Agenda Items:**

1. Call Meeting to Order 5:00PM
  - Pledge to the Flag
  - Kyle Shepard introduced himself again to those that weren't at our last meeting

2. \*Approve Agenda – Any additions...

Larson motioned to approve the agenda as is, seconded by Jahnke, motion passed.

3. \*Approve outcomes, Jan. 12, 2023 - corrections and additions

Larson motioned to approve all the motions from our Jan. 12, 2023 meeting where a quorum was not present and to approve the meeting outcomes as written, seconded by Stutz, motion passed.

4. \*Approve Jan. 12 voted action item – no quorum

This action approved above.

5. \*Treasurer's Report & Expenses  
Any invoices from Lake Associations?

Educational Outreach Materials Proposed Purchases:

1. Reacher / Grabber – for self-service signs and AIS give away, \$2.95 each, 100 min., ~\$300

Larson motioned to approve the purchase of 100 grabbers at the price mentioned, seconded by Jahnke, motion passed.

2. Towels – AIS give away, \$1.82 each with Imprint – awaiting another quote.

Shepard motioned that any purchase of towels was decided that the SWCD board could make this call after more price quotes for towels are found, seconded by Penwarden, motion passed.

3. Other Ideas

Pomije presented an AIS video outreach campaign seeking funds contributions for a video production, for distribution this summer. Penwarden motioned to approve contributing \$500 toward this AIS video production campaign, seconded by Stutz, motion passed.

Material available yet:

- Placemats
- Many AIS ID cards
- Key chains, floating
- Reusable Bags
- Few hats & t-shirts

6. 2023 Budget, revised

Larson motioned to approve the 2023 budget as presented, seconded by Shepard, motion passed.

7. Boat Inspector Update – Pomije updated that the boat inspector positions were posted for 2-4 people to allow more part time flexibility, so they wouldn't have to work every weekend. With the addition of a third inspector additional materials are being purchased such as another tablet, chair, banner and vest etc. Renell Pagel is returning again for her third year with us at \$16/hour rate. Other interviews are underway. They will assist this year in the fair outreach and partnering with lake assn. in providing more AIS education. They will also be conducting early AIS detections using a rake as the access sites, as there is no planned Starry Trek event for this year.

8. Self-Service Sign Update – Pomije mentioned that the DNR is planning to take input and develop a self-service AIS sign template to use throughout the state. She reviewed with the group the options that the DNR is proposing. They like the addition of the QR code and that the sponsor listing wasn't needed.

Shepard motioned for the group's preference on self-service sign options for 2 or 5, seconded by Jahnke, motion passed.

**Lake Assn. Check-Ins / Discussion:**

- ✓ Each Lake Assn. open to discuss concerns they have & report on activities
- ✓ Ann Lake, Penwarden reported that it was too cold for their ice fishing tournament this year and that it was hosted inside. He's hoping for less curly leaf this year with the heavy snow we had. Their 3<sup>rd</sup> year timeframe is up to get lake shore residence sign-off on spraying permission.
- ✓ Fish Lake, Stutz reported that their fishing tournament was well attended but had only one perch caught. He said one of his lake assn. members attended a Carp Symposium.
- ✓ Lewis Lake, Larson said they have persistent black algae in the south bay. Shimshock from Lewis is researching why they have blue-green algae with low phosphorus numbers. They could use more funds for treating curly leaf.
- ✓ Mora Lake, Shepard said he's had difficulties meeting up with Kohlgraf from the city.

**Other Items:**

- Open Public Comment Period
- Meeting Evaluation / Share around the table – How did things go? Were you heard? Did the agenda items get covered?
- Next scheduled meeting: **May 18, 2023**, from 5-6pm, in person meeting SWCD Office or remotely with Google Meet

Penwarden motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 pm, seconded by Shepard, motion passed.

**Kanabec County - Coalition of Lake Assn. (COLA) - Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)**

**Purpose Statement:** Meet regularly utilizing civic standards to organize ourselves, building capacity and infrastructure as needed to support our goals in leading toward better water quality through a focus on Aquatic Invasive Species.

**Civic Standards:**

1. All those impacted by the problem are stakeholders. Together they define the problem, set goals and work toward solutions as active citizens.
2. The stakeholders are accountable for contributing resources (leadership/time, knowledge, constituencies and dollars) to solve the problem for the common good.
3. All stakeholders are engaged in making decisions and policies that contribute to the common good.
4. All stakeholders agree to be transparent throughout this process. We agree to implement policies where we individually have the authority to act.