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Outcomes Oct. 13th, 5-6 pm, 2022

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

Kanabec Lake Associations:

Ann Lake Watershed Alliance
Fish Lake Improvement Assn.
Knife Lake Improvement District
Lewis Lake Property Owners' Assn.
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: Dennis McNally, County Commissioner; Deanna Pomije, Kanabec SWCD; Jon Sanford, Fish Lake & Kanabec SWCD Supervisor; Oren Larson, Lewis Lake; Chris Jahnke, Pomroy Lake; Ron Meinen, Quamba Lake; LuAnn Johnson, Knife Lake; Ray Penwarden*, Ann Lake; Paul Weingart, Kanabec Rivers

*Remote attendees

Agenda Items:

1. Call Meeting to Order 5:00PM
 - Pledge to the Flag
 - Introductions, if new members present

2. *Approve Agenda – Any additions...

Ron Meinen motioned, Ray Penwarden seconded to approve the meeting agenda, passed unanimously.

3. *Approve outcomes, July 14, 2022 - corrections and additions

Oren Larson voiced a correction needed on his name in the outcomes.

Oren Larson motioned, Ron Meinen seconded to approve the meeting outcomes from 7/14/22 with the correction sited, passed unanimously.

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

AIS Expense – total \$7,086.60

- 2022 Boat Inspector (1) salary & expenses: subtotal \$4,366.24

- Boat Inspector salary, \$3,777.07
- Mileage, \$589.17
- Other Expenses: subtotal \$2,720.36
 - Starry Trek mileage SWCD expense, \$22.69
 - Kanabec SWCD Q3 AIS Coordination time, \$1,045.32
 - Kanabec SWCD Q3 AIS Education time, \$1,652.35

Ron Meinen motioned, Oren Larson seconded to approve the presented AIS treasurer's report and expenses listed, passed unanimously.

5. Follow-up Comments on the 2022 Kanabec Co. AIS Fair booth volunteer schedule, July 28-31, 2022
 Most shared around their experience's pros/cons on the AIS fair booth this July. Paul W. mentioned poor coverage during the fair of only 39% of the available booth hours. Tracking busy hours at the fair helps us to staff those hours as a priority. Chris J. said many good conversations occurred with the public on AIS education and issues. The candy for kids and the spinning wheel provided great connection opportunities with the public. Overall, it was agreed to continue this outreach event.

6. Starry Trek Event follow-up comments – thoughts / ideas for next year or don't hold the event
 Idea – one lake to host the event in conjunction with one of their existing activities?
 It was reported that 6 volunteers signed up with 3 that attended. They surveyed 4 lakes and 5 access sites. The report on what was found statewide from Starry Trek was shared around via email. At Lake Mora we did find Chinese Mystery Snails, only listed as regulated species. There was a discussion on how to change up this event to encourage more participation. It was suggested for the boat inspectors to take the rake out and survey accesses to help report/monitor new infestations. However, the event is meant to be educational, so how can we promote the event more. Possibly promote it in coordination with lake assn. events throughout the summer. Paul W. mentioned that there are 23 lakes statewide with Starry Stonewort.

7. Self Service Decontamination Unit Signs for 2023 – quoted at \$525 each installed, Knife Lake has requested 2, 1 for each access, any other lakes?
 +Input on sign language, layout (will need DNR approval)

 Knife, Fish (need confirmation) and Ann Lakes were chosen to have a new sign with self-service tools placed at one access as a pilot program. There is no request for a sign at Pomroy Lake. To deter theft stickers could be placed on the sign's tools saying, 'property of Kanabec COLA'. Someone suggested a squirt bottle with bleach to kill some of the AIS on boats.

Next steps - It was recommended to check with the Co. on sign ordinances first. Another suggestion was made for just replacing the current AIS signs with a new plastic overlay of the new display for the self-service AIS tools. Will need to see if this is possible. Will need to confirm new sign placement with each lake assn. and get sign approval from the DNR.

8. Reminder to gather the details on your 2022 AIS volunteer work & ideas of 2023 AIS activities – will be sending out a request for this information for our 2022 year-end and 2023 planning reports.

As requested, Deanna P. provided an update on the Snake River Watershed planning process. The final public hearing, seeking comments on the plan was completed on 9/20 in two locations. The plan

has been finalized, now seeking approval from the local govt. stakeholders. Eventually to be submitted to a state agency for a 90-day final review. All the local stakeholders will now be in discussion over how to organize ourselves in preparation for plan implementation. Staff have started work on the first 2-year work plan, as needed for the implementation grant to come. *To seek funds for implementation in the fall of 2023.*

Lake Assn. Check-Ins / Discussion:

- ✓ Each Lake Assn. open to discuss concerns they have & report on activities
- Lewis Lake – Oren L. said they’ve started a new private Facebook page with mostly just photos so far. It’s named the Lewis Lake Property Owners. Their Phosphorus tested at 31 ppm and Chlorophyll A in the medium range of 7 mg/L.
- Knife Lake – LuAnn J. said the Knife Lake Improvement District (KLID) has started the process for sending our letters to landowners for lake vegetation spraying for next year.
- Pomroy Lake – Chris J. retold a story of suspicious activity by the lake where police were contacted.
- Ann Lake – Ray P. said their vegetation spraying worked well and there was a bumper crop of wild rice this year. A core sampling study was done on the lake this year through the U of MN. They are looking into the history of the lake-bed sediment with the results due next spring.
- Quamba – Ron M. also said he saw lots of wild rice this year. There was also a lot of coon tail vegetation. There are no plans to spray for curly leaf in 2023. This year’s spraying around the docks showed the opposite results.
- Rivers – Paul W. mentioned that the Groundhouse waters are low.
- Fish Lake / Ann River - Hwy 65 bridge erosion project site – an update was provided that the County highway dept. is now looking into this project, seeking coordination with MN-DOT, as a rock improvement maintenance site for DOT.

Other Items:

- Open Public Comment Period
 - Luann
- Meeting Evaluation / Share around the table – How did things go? Were you heard? Were the agenda items covered?
- Next scheduled meeting: **Dec. 8th, 2022**, from 5-6pm, in person meeting SWCD Office or remotely with WebEx

*Voting action requested.

Ron Meinen motioned to adjourn; Ray Penwarden seconded. Passed. 6:18 PM adjournment.

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.