



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
December 8, 2021 – Grand View Lodge

ATTENDANCE

Board Member	Present/Absent	Advisory Board	Present/Absent
Claudia Allene	Present	Dave Anderson	Present
Uldis Birznieks	Present	Marc Bacigalupi	Present
Jay Chaney	Present	Kevin Egan	Absent
Robert Eliason	Present	Matt Ezzell	Absent
Steve Frawley	Present	Sheila Johnston	Present
Sue Friedrichs	Present	Kathy Lundberg	Present
Linda Harrier	Present	Tim Plude	Absent
Jon Mendel	Present	Brian Turner	Absent
Joel Meyer	Present	Dorothy Whitmer	Present
Rick Quackenbush	Present		

GUESTS

Brad Birkeland, Jeff Forester, Rosemary Goff, Dana Gutzman, Chuck Herrig, Steve Katka

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order by Chair Harrier at 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion by Frawley and second by Quackenbush to approve the November 10, 2021, Board meeting minutes. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

ORGANIZATION	GCOLA*	Gull Chain Preservation Endowment Fund
YTD Time Period	11-30-21	10-31-21
Total Income (Loss)	\$153,298.51	\$58,231.87
Total Expense	\$89,710.12	\$285.89
Net Other Income (Expense)	\$1,099.70	(\$3,688.57)
Net Income (Loss)	\$64,688.09	\$54,257.41
Total Current Assets	\$311,271.51	\$488,285.28

* The treasurer's report was set aside subject to audit.

Friedrichs reviewed the financials and Harrier confirmed that she compared the operating checking account statement to the Transaction Report and found no discrepancies.



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CORRESPONDENCE

- None

DONATION REQUEST

- None

GOVERNMENT AGENCY UPDATE

- Cass County – Gutzman reported the AIS meeting will be held on 1-12-22 at 10 a.m. in the Cass Count Courthouse and she plans to attend the Brainerd Jaycees Fishing Extravaganza to spread the word about AIS.
- DNR – Bacigalupi announced the walleye fingerlings are doing better again this year than the fry. Etzell attended the Avid Angler meeting and has material to share about the event.

BOAT OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PERMIT

- Jeff Forester, Minnesota Lakes & Rivers Advocates, is recommending that during 2022 we work with legislators to discuss and work out the details of the permit process and then have the legislators vote on it in 2023. Chaney will work with the Government Relations Committee on these discussions. Forester will email the presentation to Friedrichs for distribution.

EVENTS UPDATE

- MN COLA Board meeting – Birznieks stated MN COLA will dedicate \$3K to public relations activities regarding the wake study.
- MN COLA Membership meeting - Birznieks said the wake study is now in the external review process and that U of M will start another campaign to fund a second study about prop wash. Amy Schrank gave a presentation regarding invasive cattails. Birznieks reviewed the MN COLA legislative priorities which align well with GCOLA's list.
- MLR annual meeting – Birznieks recommends that Quackenbush attends the MLR AIS grant webinar in January. He reviewed the legislative agenda which is similar to GCOLA's goals.

TO-DO LIST

Accountable	Description	Deadline	Status
Allene	Explore different membership fees for business members.	1-12-22	New
Anderson	Add the National Loon Center to the website.	1-12-22	New
Birznieks	Recommend a process that the Board will follow to decide if the annual Endowment Fund distribution or annual operating funds will be used to fund a committee project.	12-8-21	Completed
Birznieks	Explore alternative investment options for the AIS contingency fund.	1-12-22	New



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Chaney	Contact Eric Sullivan (MN DNR) and Travis Collette (Cass County) to attend a future board meeting to discuss law enforcement issues on the lake. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collette scheduled for Jan 2022 	1-12-22	Open
Committee Chairs	Update committee information in the following documents and send to Lundberg. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infographic which is included in the annual membership mailing • 'Who We Are' section which appears in the quarterly newsmagazine • About Us>Committees webpage in gcola.org 	11-20-21	Completed
Committee Chairs	Provide a list of questions to Lundberg that you want to ask potential volunteers to vet their qualifications for your committee.	11-15-21	Open
Committee Chairs	Review list of committee members and send changes to Harrier and Friedrichs.	12-8-21	Open
Etzell	Sign up volunteer group for Brainerd Jaycees.	ASAP	Open
Frawley	Get clarification on details of the Watercraft Operator's Safety Certificate from MLR and present the Government Relations Committee recommendation at Board meeting.	12-8-21	Completed
Friedrichs	Send annual Endowment Fund donation request mailing.	11-30-21	Completed
Friedrichs	Send Allene's email to Etzell regarding parking and Chaney's email about a fish house for the Jaycees fishing contest.	12-22-21	New
Friedrichs	Place the Membership list in Dropbox for Allene to access.	12-22-21	New
Friedrichs	Notify committee chairs that the 2022 budget has been approved.	12-15-22	New
Friedrichs	Transfer \$25K from checking to AIS savings.	12-15-22	New
Johnston	Check to see if there are any regulations for boats keeping a certain distance from loon nests.	12-8-21	Completed
Quackenbush	Make a recommendation to the Board about sponsoring a local AIS detector class.		Remove
Quackenbush	Make a recommendation to the Board regarding incentive to any GCOLA member who attends an AIS detector class e.g., gift card.		Remove
Quackenbush	Apply for DNR AIS grants to treat curly leaf pondweed for Margaret and Love lakes.		Remove

AIS COMMITTEE

- No report



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- Lundberg said the newsletter will be mailed around 12-15-21 and Mullane is working on the volunteer vetting questions for the Government Relations and Loon Preservation committees.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

- Eliason informed the Board that a permanent dock does not require a permit if it meets a list of requirements. Brad Birkeland will work with the Government Relations committee regarding dock length requirements at each of the cities on the Gull Lake Chain.

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE

- Motion by Frawley and second by Allene to approve 2022 budget. Motion approved.
- Motion by Eliason and second by Quackenbush to approve a \$25K transfer from the operating checking account to the AIS savings account. Motion approved.
- Birznieks explained the Finance Committee has approved the use of bill payment by Friedrichs since it reduces postage and creates efficiencies.
- Birznieks reviewed the new process for committee chairs to follow if they want funding from the Endowment Fund.

FISHERIES COMMITTEE

- No report

GALA COMMITTEE

- No report

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE

- Frawley discussed the 2022 legislative priorities which are:
 - Consider regulations for watercraft creating enhanced wakes that are a safety issue, cause shoreline erosion and sub-surface ecological damage.
 - Provide sustained funding to MAISRC for finding solution(s) to eradicate zebra mussels, starry stonewort and other AIS.
 - Maintain/increase current funding level to counties to prevent the spread of new or existing AIS.
 - No more stocking of muskies in the Gull Lake Chain.

LAKE STEWARD COMMITTEE

- Whitmer reviewed the proposed budget along with the committee goals which include:
 - 15% of members become Lake Stewards within 5 years which will be accomplished by contacting more owners through a Lake Steward Ambassadors program, creating more visibility at resorts and HOAs and making some website enhancements.



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- Streamline the process for Shoreland Habitat and create more visibility about the program.

LOON PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

- No report

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

- No report

RECREATION AND SAFETY

- No report

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Frawley and second by Birznieks. Motion approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m. Minutes recorded by Sue Friedrichs.