

Caribou Lake Property Owner's Association Board Meeting  
December 12, 2007, Telephone Conference

Call to Order 7:05 PM Present: Bill Dunn, Sally Westby, Marj Ryan, Louise Suomi, Bob Hewitt, Larry Mullen, Diana Kamp, Pat Vaughan, Fred Morris, Jesse Neihart, Guests: Tom Fredeen.

Motion to approve minutes of September Board Meeting, (Westby, Suomi second).  
Motion passed.

Bill begins by thanking everyone for electing him as current president of the association. Explains the current situation as far as telephone conference calling is concerned, that Tim Nelson had volunteered to continue the service but that he had just changed jobs and was no longer able to do so. Fred offered his firm to cover phone costs but the offer was limited to only 6 lines, which was not enough. Bill contacted several phone services and negotiated a deal to have 5 cents per minute, with 13 lines which includes all members and possible guests, scheduled 2 hour periods and would be charged only for lines and minutes used. We would have at least two telephone conferences per year and keep close to scheduled agenda. Sally moved to accept this service as negotiated, Bob Hewitt, second.  
Motion passed.

Larry Mullen introduced himself to the current members. Tom Fredeen, guest, was introduced and who was invited to join in the conversation about the proposed use of part of the gravel pit for slash. Tom had graciously offered his services to help monitor this pit.

#### Firewise/Slash Pit

Discussion was had regarding the Memorandum of Understanding from Tim Nelson, Planning Director for Caribou Lake Gravel Pit Slash Disposal:

#### MEMORANDUM

**To:** Paul Nelson, Caribou Lake Property Owners Association  
**From:** Timothy J. Nelson, Planning Director  
**Date:** 4/26/2009  
**Subject:** Memorandum of Understanding for Caribou Lake Gravel Pit Slash Disposal

Cook County has secured a lease from the U.S. Forest Service for the Caribou Lake Gravel Pit for the sole purpose of slash management & disposal. In turn Cook County is hereby providing the use of this facility, at no cost, as a courtesy and convenience to the residents of the immediate area specifically for this purpose. Both Cook County and the Caribou Lake Property Owner's Association (CLPOA) understand and agree to the following provisions regarding the use of this facility:

1. The Caribou Lake Property Owner's Association is responsible for the operation of the facility at their discretion including, but not limited to, security, controlled access, hours of operation, signage, and housekeeping.
2. The CLPOA will maintain the facility in good condition stockpiling the slash in a manner so as not to become a traffic or safety hazard.
3. The CLPOA will maintain the site free from any materials other than slash (including, but not limited to, appliances, garbage, construction debris, demolition debris, etc.). If any such prohibited materials are found at the facility, it is the responsibility of the CLPOA to clean up and transport the materials to an appropriate disposal facility at the association's expense. Cook County may provide assistance on a case-by-case basis in transporting the prohibited material, or in the cost of disposal if it is deemed appropriate to do so by the Board of Commissioners.

4. If the facility is not maintained in an appropriate manner, as determined by Cook County, or the U.S. Federal Forest Service, and corrective actions inadequately address the concerns, the lease may be terminated and the facility shut down.
5. The final disposition of the accumulated slash shall be determined and approved by the U.S. Federal Forest Service.

Several members raised question of liability on the part of the association and how likely it would be that people would start dumping their waste/junk along with their slash. Bill had the same concerns until he spoke to Paul Nelson about other pits that already are in operation elsewhere in the county. It was opinioned that if people began abusing the situation, we would just terminate the agreement and disallow use of the slash area. There also is language in the memorandum for assistance in disposing of dumped good on a case-by-case basis and that if this occurs we will pursue that with the county. Pat Vaughn raised concerns about liability from car accidents. Discussion was had over what kind of signs were required with it being decided that we would investigate what kind of signs were posted at other pits. At the minimum we would post ground rules, i.e. what could be dumped, period of operation, number to call if trouble, etc. Bill spoke about how this was a great positive environmental opportunity for everyone to clean up their property. Marj volunteered how costly it was to have only a portion of slash from her property mulched by local operators. Tom Fredeen volunteered, along with Sharon Platzer to monitor the pit. We spoke about how this was not supposed to be a full time job, but that we would appreciate periodic inspections. Perhaps more people could be recruited to watch over the pit. It was decided that time period for operation would be from May 1-Nov 30. The road into the gravel pit is not plowed year round and that would be a limiting factor in its use. Discussion was had that this information should be published in the spring newsletter with articles on why clearing your land is so important (remember the Ham Lake fire). Marj moved to accept the memorandum of understanding as provided by Cook County with annual review by the CLPOA, operating from May 1-Nov 30 and no more than \$300 spent toward proper signage for the slash pit. Sally second. Pat Vaughn opposed based on concerns about illegal dumping and costs to the association. With one nay, motion passed.

#### Land Swap/Land Auction

Diana Kamp explained to the board about a possible land swap that a developer with land in Hovland for land near Holly Lake on the Caribou Trail. Apparently, this same person tried to swap this land for property on the Gunflint and was unsuccessful because of opposition. There also was an apparent land auction of a parcel on Caribou Lake, just next door to Bob Hewitt. It was 1.02 acres, 260 ft of shoreline with a bid of \$220,790.00 Auction was held by DNR with proceed to school board. Discussion was held why no one knew about this before hand. Apparently, the party who bought the parcel found out about it thru connection from the Grand Rapids DNR office. Concern was raised about the multiple miles of shoreline on our lake also used for school funding and as to whether that could also be sold without notice. Even the local planning and zoning board was unaware of the sale. In reality, all Caribou Shoreline is developable no matter what anyone says and the AUAR is supposed to govern how much development is acceptable. Diana voiced concern about piecemeal development chipping away at the remaining forested areas and how best we can oppose this kind of development and how we can be better informed about potential sales. Should we develop an action plan? Decided to try to recruit experienced people in this area. Apparently, there is a

DNR list for notification of pending sales, Diane will pursue this matter and get us on this list. Sally mentioned getting our legislature involved, Linda Slocum has some connections and may have suggestions as to how best deal with development in a proactive way.

Water monitoring

Bill greatly praised Bob Reid for his efforts in writing a wonderful grant application. Discussion regarding why the county would not implement a tax (from AUAR) to help pay for costs in water quality monitoring. Bill made motion, Sally second to discuss AUAR water monitoring costs via letter to Tim Nelson on Board’s behalf. Passed. Bob Reid also directed the board to pass a resolution regarding water quality monitoring. Marj moved that resolution #2007-1 regarding Authorization for filing of the Application for the STAR grand as proposed by Bob Reid be accepted by the Board, Pat Vaughn second. Motion passed.

**SAMPLE RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION**

*Below is an example of a resolution of authorization to be passed by the governing body of the applicant. An applicant may use its own ordinance or resolution format to authorize filing of the application. The resolution should also address acting as legal sponsor and authorizing the expenditure of funds. The person signing the resolution must have signatory authority.*

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota, through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources-Waters, administers financial assistance for coastal management purposes, through Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program and,

WHEREAS, the Caribou Lake Property Owners Association. desires financial assistance under  
(Name of applicant)  
Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Caribou Lake Property Owners Association as follows:  
(Name of applicant)

1. That the Caribou Lake Property Owners Association approves filing an application to  
(Name of applicant)  
Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program.
2. That Pat Vaughan & Bob Reid are hereby authorized and directed  
(Project Manager)  
to execute and file an application with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and to provide  
all information and documentation required to become eligible for possible funding assistance.
3. That Bill Dunn has signatory authority to enter  
(Title of authorized person)  
Into and agreement with the State of Minnesota.
4. That President does agree to act as legal sponsor  
(Title of authorized person)  
and to obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the proposed project and become  
eligible for reimbursement under the terms and conditions of the Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program.

**CERTIFICATE OF RECORDING OFFICER**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Caribou Lake Property Owners Association

\_\_\_\_\_ held on \_\_\_\_\_ 10th day \_\_\_\_\_ 2007 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday \_\_\_\_\_ of Dec. \_\_\_\_\_  
and that I am duly authorized to execute this certificate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Original Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

#### Lake Management Plan

Bill spoke about how critical it is to move forward with the implementation of the Lake Management Plan. Dave Stark will be of some help but pulled in many directions. Question was raised about hiring qualified people to move forward. Karen Evan would be a good contact. Agreed to reexamine the existing Lake Management Plan as outlined by Cook County at next board meeting.

#### Horse Corral

It was brought to the Board's attention that a horse corral was now found on the South Caribou Trail. Concern was raised about manure washing into the lake, especially now that we worked so hard to get septic updated. Was a permit issued for this? Environmental committee will make some calls regarding this issue. Question was also raised whether there is a mailing notification list for special use permits via Tim Nelson, planning dept.

It was reported that the DNR still has not installed water level gauge on Sally's property.

#### Newsletter

Firewise will be a featured part of the spring newsletter. Marj offered to get it going again and will solicit people to help write articles. Diana suggested article on rain gardens, and plantings and how we can live lightly on the land. Suggestions for the do's and don't of how to live on the land. Question was raised as to whether we continue to send to non-members. It was decided to continue doing so since it did bring in 12 new members last year and is a great way to educate the whole lake.

#### Spring Meeting

Spring meeting set for Saturday, May 24 at the Luthern Church. Marj will contact church again. Meeting should be 1/2 education and 1/2 business. Should Bruce Martinson be invited- decided would be mentioned to him that "he was welcome to attend".

#### Treasurer

Louise gave a brief report that 22 crime watch signs were sold and all sales tax was accounted for.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM