

**Caribou Lake Property Owner's Association
Board Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Mullen at 8:00 PM, via conference call.

The following board members were on the call: Bill Dunn, Bob Reid, Bob Hewitt, Diana Kamp, and Fred Morris. Absent: Louise Suomi.

The meeting agenda was approved with no additions.

The 2012 Financial report prepared by Louise Suomi, and presented by Larry Mullen was approved. The \$3,514.16 checking account balance does not include an \$800 reimbursement for lake monitoring lab fees due from Cook county which are expected to be received in the next few weeks. Bill Dunn requested that the financial report be also prepared in a format that summarizes normal operating income and expense separate from extraordinary items. Larry Mullen will work with Louise in formatting a report. Louise Suomi has filed the annual state sales tax report and Larry Mullen will be filing the state and federal corporate income tax forms prior to the March 15 deadline.

Bob Hewitt reported that the Governance committee will be conducting a financial audit of the association's books this summer. Members of the committee are Bob Hewitt, Fred Morris, and Tim Nelson.

Mullen reported that the board officer position of secretary was still open, being vacated by Sally Westby last September. He also stressed recruitment of new board members, with a goal of one or two new board members by the fall meeting.

A number of new members have been added to the association over the last couple of years. Mullen will work with Suomi in getting an updated membership list out to the board.

Communications to the general membership in the past have been done by mailings. Discussion was held on ways to streamline the process, with the goal of reducing labor time in assembly, postage costs, and printing costs. Consensus was given to utilizing our e-mail lists and web site more in the future. For the spring general membership informational meeting, it was agreed, that a post card would be utilized, informing the members the meeting time and place and directing them to our web site for the meeting agenda and other meeting items. A contact number would also be given on the post card to request a mailed copy of the agenda and other items. The notice would also go out thru a mass e-mail to all members that we have email addresses for, with the agenda and any other applicable items as attachments.

Lab fees for surface water samples incurred by the association will again be reimbursed by Cook County. Cook County recoups their costs through a property tax assessment to property owners in the AUAR area. The lab fees for out lake bottom samples, which were initiated last summer through the association's purchase of the needed equipment, will need to be covered by the association. The lake bottom samples are planned to be taken four times this summer, at one site, the deepest where stratification will occur. The board approved the estimated \$100 cost to cover the lake bottom samples lab fees.

Fred Morris reported on discussions he has had with Beth Rom, who was active in the issue of an exchange of 93,000 acres of school trust lands in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area for acres of Superior National Forest land outside of the BWCA, with the purpose of facilitating mining of the Superior National Forest land. Morris reported that he also has been in touch with Molly Pederson of Conservation Minnesota on the issue.

Bob Reid gave an update of his enquiry to Bill Lane, Cook County Zoning Administrator, regarding a request for a variance by the Cathedral of the Pines camp. The camp plans to rebuild an existing cabin of the same footprint and location of an existing cabin. There is a wetland positioned inland to the site, preventing the structure to be positioned further inland. A variance meeting is to be held on February 15 at 5:00PM at the Cook County Courthouse regarding this application. Mullen reported we encountered a similar situation about four years ago, when the camp was replacing an existing cabin. Mullen represented the CLPOA board at that variance meeting. Through that process we found out that Minnesota statutes allow resorts and camps to replace existing structures, on their existing sites, as long as the size doesn't differ. That year the camp was given the variance, which technically they didn't require because it was allowed by Mn statute. The feeling of the board is that the variance will pass, similar to the circumstances from the request from four years ago and rather to oppose a variance that will inevitably pass, a better approach would be to work with the COP to create plant buffer zones along the lakeshore, which they have indicated recently they are open to. We plan to proceed with that this spring.

Mullen requested that the board start thinking about ideas for a spring newsletter, and let him know their ideas/thoughts.

Discussion was held on possible topics and location for the annual spring membership informational meeting. Mullen suggested pursuing the idea of holding the spring meeting at the new Lutsen Township meeting room at the fire hall, with the possibility of an update from the fire department. Other guests to invite would be Commissioner Bruce Martinson, Firewise representative Paul Nelson, and representation from Arrowhead Electric for a broadband update,

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM