

May summary in lieu of minutes for scheduled Cocolalla Lake Association
Meeting May 28th, 2020

Annual CLA BOD Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 25th, 2020 at the
Cocolalla Community Club House at 7PM

Treasurer's report - we have a total of \$58,633.50 in the bank. This amount is net of the Harvest Festival remaining funds (Trans Canada Grant) of \$3614.18 and \$250 in the Fireman Fund. We have received \$790 in donations in excess of membership dues this year so far. These extra donations are greatly appreciated as they are helping offset the boat inspection expense we are now 100% covering. The report is attached to this email.

- Membership report - We received 2 renewals in May plus one new membership to bring our current paid members to 64. I would like to extend a welcome to Tom Herron, who retired from DEQ last winter and now has joined our organization as a private citizen!

New Business:

- May water level measurement was 5.5 ft taken on May 28th. This was .5 ft higher than last year.
- May Water Quality Test: Janet and Tom were able to get out on the lake on May 14th. They found 3.25 meters of secchi depth visibility and phosphorus of micrograms per liter at 3.25 meters and 12 at 11 meters. Temperature was consistent throughout the water column ranging from 55.4 F @ 1 meter and 51.8 @ 12 meters. Oxygen was at saturation to within a meter of the bottom. It was apparent that there was a phytoplankton bloom ongoing (good algae) and the fishing was reported to be good based on various reports from fishermen. Due to mandatory state budget cutback across all agencies, we were informed that DEQ would no longer be funding the lab cost associated with our continued water testing. Further we received a letter from Bob Steed, who replaced Tom Herron, inquiring as to the benefit of the CVMP (citizen volunteer monitoring program) and related water quality project outcomes that we and the other northern lakes (Rathdrum Prairie Lakes Watershed Council) have been participating in provided to our community. This letter was sent to all northern lake organizations. Our response is attached. Fortunately, we discussed this possibility at our October, 2019 BOD meeting and

approved funding for the lab costs associated with our ongoing water testing. As you will note in our response, the CLA has been at this for a long time and we are seeing data from these reports that support our efforts in reducing sediment and nutrient loading and the improving quality of the lake water. It is a difficult time for the agencies we depend on to continue the financial support we have been receiving. Hopefully, this will be corrected in the near future.

- Cocolalla Lake Milfoil Treatment update: I met with Jeremy Varley of ISDA on May 18th. We reviewed the earlier spring survey for curly leaf and there was only one small detection in the north end. As such, we have not been scheduled for a curly leaf treatment this spring. The curly leaf mapping that ISDA presented will be discussed at this June's meeting. ISDA has currently indicated that they plan to survey our lake at the end of June for EWM. At that time a final treatment plan will be formulated as to diver hand pull or herbicide treatment depending on the outcome. The new state applicator is Clean Lakes who has done work on our lake in past years. The website to keep informed of treatment and survey plans is: **invasivespecies.idaho.gov**.
- June is our Annual Meeting to appoint board members. We have 7 terms up for re-election: Fred Vincent, Vern Newby, Kathie McGonigle, Dale Sprecher, Janet Conlin, Dave Crow, Gary Suppiger. We encourage anyone who would like to join our board to email: Fred Vincent: fredvincent4@gmail.com or Kathie McGonigle: 1923ek@comcast.net.
- Lake Host Station update- I met with Nic Zurfluh on May 18th as well. Nic oversees the boat inspection program for the State. Unfortunately, due to the required state government cut backs, the ISDA is not being allowed at the moment to hire any seasonal employees that they utilize to create their roving crews that were utilized by us and others for partial inspection coverage at various public boat ramps throughout the state . This is probably the case for this year's summer season. The board voted electronically in early May to hire Bob Brimmer back on a Thursday thru Sunday, 10 hour days, beginning 5/17 thru July 4th weekend. Thru 5/31 Bob inspected 182 boats. Last year through 5/23 Bob had inspected 57 boats. Also, the CLA received \$183 in map donations through Bob's efforts at the boat launch so far this season. Way to go Bob! We will review the continued funding for the balance of the season at the June annual meeting.

Old Business:

Community tour of Fish and Game Wetlands: In addition to the Southside School tour Fish and Game and ourselves put on in the fall, Fish and Game has in the past indicated their interest in putting on a similar tour for our community. A good time for this tour would be August. Please contact Fred Vincent at fredvincent4@gmail.com if you are interested. Based on the interest Fred will reach out to Fish and Game and organize some possible dates. Based on the last 3 school tours, Fish and Game does a great job of showing off the workings of these wetlands and hopefully we may see the results of previous year's planting of milkweed in the return of Monarch butterflies!

Other Business:

On behalf of the CLA, I want to thank Bob Howard and Bonner County Parks and Recreation for removing the dock that was anchored in the north end of the lake. After a close call with a fishing boat it became apparent that the dock had become a hazard to the boating community using the lake. Again, it would be helpful to the CLA and community agencies that you register your dock so that if it does become dislodged we can more easily locate the owners.