

RLA Board Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2026

Located at: Tinnies Tavern 5:00 pm
in-person meeting

Board Members Present: Deb Henry, Zach Luedtke, Tony Thrasher, Heather Hanks, Kim Niedziecki, Mike Bartizal

Board Members Absent: Johan Sogge, Tim Keane, Jeff Crary, Jack Hanks

A quorum was present.

Regular Meeting Minutes:

Approval of Minutes from Board meeting June 5, 2026, Reviewed and Approved

Approval of Agenda July 16, 2026.

Meeting Updates:

AIS Update – Blue Water Science conducted a full lake vegetation survey on June 16th. The survey showed 3.64 acres of Starry Stonewort (SSW) by the north public water access. The previous 5 sites that were treated for Starry Stonewort last year showed no Starry Stonewort. Another full lake vegetation survey is scheduled for the end of July to monitor and manage the treated area of SSW at the north access and to determine if there are other areas in the lake where SSW has spread. Grant funds of ~\$9,700 from Stearns County were awarded and received for SSW. No CLP grant funds were received from the DNR.

Board Responsibilities:

Update needed for check signers on Rice Lake Associations Perennial Bank account.

Motion was made to add Board members, Tony Thrasher and Johan Sogge as check signers and remove Glenn Bundy's access. Motion was seconded and motion carried and approved unanimously.

Appointment with the Bank at 1:00 pm on Friday July 17 for bank setup. Deb will get signature cards for Tony and Johan if they are unable to attend.

Tony to create a shared Google Drive for RLA Board Members to access. The drive will be used to store documents including meeting agendas, financials, meeting minutes, Annual Meeting presentation and other documents and information for the Board.

Financial Position:

Report for June financials sent out for review. \$37,816.60 is end of June's bank balance with projected expenses for the year of ~\$28,000. Membership revenues as of June/July are trending higher than prior years.

Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting Agenda that was created for the August 15th Breakfast Meeting will be out in the shared drive for board members to work from. Each person can sign up for what they want to present during the meeting. Welcome, Elections, AIS update, Acknowledgements, Questions. Guest Speakers?

Heather to send out a Zoom Meeting for August 3rd to Board Members for further discussion and prep for the annual meeting.

Sign-up sheets for Meat Raffle and Roadside Cleanup at the annual Meeting.

RLA to purchase \$100 of GC. (4 \$25 Tinnies gift cards) to use for drawing during annual meeting.

Newsletter:

Spring Newsletter went out June 11. Good content. Membership listing in the Newsletter was the list of members from 2025. Some questions on the member listing wondering why their names not listed. Slight confusion thought the listing was 2026. Member listing in the fall Newsletter will be 2026 members as of a specific date in 2026. Make the heading clearer in the Newsletter.

Membership status:

Currently member count 146. Additional members sign up at annual meeting. 2026 Membership forms were mailed May 2nd to all property owners. This helped generate a lot of membership.

Website:

Jack will be taking over the updates on the website. A list of items that need updating periodically were provided. Kim and Jack will work together on updating members on the website page who have paid the dues.

Roadside Cleanup:

Need date from Tim on when the fall Roadside Cleanup. Maybe talk about the timing at annual meeting.

4th of July Boat Parade:

Good turnout. 21 boat entries. Prizes were awarded.

Board Meeting Schedule:

Board meetings will revert back to second Saturday of the month.

Next regular board meeting is Saturday September 12th 9:00am at Tinnies.

Annual meeting prep zoom call scheduled for August 3rd.

Annual Meeting, August 15th 8:30am registration, 9:00am Business Meeting

Other Business:

Deb updated board on the direction of funding from Stearns County. AIS inspector funding and funding in general for 2027 and 2028. Inspectors are expensive and keep increasing (\$30K a year with \$8K matched by RLA) and not 100% preventive. We still get SSW. Briefly discussed the possibility of installing ILids at the Public Water access. These would not be 100% either, but ongoing cost would be significantly less. First year cost \$15,000 a unit, this may be covered in 2027 by grant funds. Annual cost ~\$2,000. At some point, funding may not be available in future years. More information to come on this.

Next Board Meeting Sept 12th 9:00 am

Next Prep Meeting – Zoom format August 3rd prep annual meeting for Annual Meeting August 15th.

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm

DHenry 7.16.2026