

**BIG GULL LAKE EAST END COTTAGE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

MINUTES JULY 25, 2026

TIME: 10 - 12:00

LOCATION: CLAR-MILL HALL

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(Attendance was 35 Cottagers)

1) Introduction of BLEECA Board

Donna Commerford introduced members of the Board.

2) Review and Approval of 2025 AGM Minutes

Lorna Merklinger moved to approve the 2025 AGM Minutes. Second by Fern Murray. Carried.

3) Cottager's Update: Memorials:

The passing of the following BGL cottagers was acknowledged:
Frank Silkman, Fave Shupp and Frank Damude.

4) Guest Speakers: Eric Kohlsmith and Sally McIntyre from MVCA:

Note: The speakers were well received, both delivering excellent presentations and timely information.

Sally reviewed the history and evolution of Conservation Authorities(CAs). Further, current responsibilities and existing legislation governing the operation of CAs was covered. Sally noted that due to budget constraints floodplain mapping has not been conducted for BGL.

Sally then covered the status of the regional CA amalgamation providing an overview of what's happening and the reasons for it. As to the impact on service to the BGL community and North Frontenac Township it is still being defined and evolving.

Sally mentioned the existence of a locally published book on the history of the Mississippi river. The title of the book is, 'The Canadian Mississippi River' (copy of cover attached), published in 1988. Authored and published by Hilda Geddes (The Queen of Snow Road and the Mississippi). There is no digital copy but may be available through the Lanark archives or by purchase on Amazon.

Who would of thought that a Saturday morning presentation on septic systems would have garnered as much interest and robust questioning

from the audience that it did! Eric reviewed the classes of septic systems and discussed the myths and misunderstandings of septic systems operation and importantly MVCA role. Eric provided statistics on the positive uptake of requests for voluntary septic systems inspections especially from BGL cottagers. So much so that North Frontenac Township added more funds in 2026 to meet demand. There are still 9 voluntary inspections available. If interested please contact Blayne @ MRSSO, 613 253 0006 to book your re - inspection.

5) Director Reports:

President's Report - Donna Commerford.

Donna encouraged members to add FOCA as a friend on Facebook to follow the important work they do on our behalf. Donna also encouraged cottagers to register to vote for the municipal elections for North Frontenac Township. We pay taxes and have the right to vote (Note: must hold Canadian citizenship). Cottagers can vote electronically if they register.

Vice President - Greg Best.

Greg acknowledged the support from all cottagers. He encouraged us to patronize the businesses that provide advertising dollars to support publication of our calendars. For area rep update Greg mentioned that two areas need a rep.

Lake Steward - Lynda Bernst.

Lynda, as rep of the lake she works with the MVCA focusing on invasive species and lake health. Lynda reports that based on longitudinal studies vegetation levels in BGL are normal.

Treasurer - Debbie Bird.

Debbie reports that the books are in excellent financial shape with a steady outlook. Of note Linda Radtke, auditor for the BGLEECA's books, stated that Debbie keeps impeccable books. Further Linda noted that the Association is spending less on social events and therefore the Board should discuss what the membership may want the Board to focus on going forward.

Debbie Bird moved that the 2025/2026 Financial Statements and Review Report be approved as presented. Seconded by Lorna Merklinger. Carried.

Karen Saer moved that Linda Radtke conduct the financial review in 2027. Seconded by Virginia Grant. Carried.

Roads - Murray Finch, Jim Commerford.

Murray reported that the roads are in good shape. Of note is cost for road supplies continues to be of concern.

Director at Large - Richard McIlveen

Information from Richard on the names of the islands on BGL and the process for establishing a formal name, if one does not exist was covered in the recent newsletter. The BGLEECA map is in desperate need of an update. To that end Richard has a survey prepared seeking feedback from cottagers to help with the update of the map. There is need to have the cottage community weigh in on the update. NOTE: FOR SAFETY REASONS THE UPDATED MAP WILL BE SHARED WITH EMERGENCY SERVICES. Richard has done a great job on this project.

6) Board Elections:

Karen Saer moved that the current board of directors be re-elected for another two years. Seconded by Doralene Berg. Carried.

7) Thank you to all our volunteers.

On behalf of the membership and board Donna thanked our volunteers. Linda Radtke for review of Financial Statements, Karen Saer for the calendar, Murray Finch for the shoal light placement, Lynda Bernst and Virginia Grant for the Water Rangers and Lake Partner Water Quality, Janet Sidey for our website and Wayne Bird as Newsletter Editor.

8) Other Business: None.

9) Upcoming Events.

Kid's fishing derby - cancelled.

Sailing Regatta - August 2.

North Shore Road Meeting - August 15.

10) Adjournment.

David Marsh moved to adjourn the 2026 AGM. Seconded by Debbie Bird. Carried.



Frontispiece

*The
Canadian
Mississippi
River*

by Kibler Sedden

Big Gull Lake East End Cottage Association

Year End Financial Report

Balance Sheet 31-Mar-26 31-Mar-25

<u>Assets</u>			<i>Changes</i>
Cash in Bank	19,017	18,631	387
GICs	15,128	15,128	-
Receivables			-
TOTAL Assets	34,146	33,759	387

<u>Liabilities</u>	-	-	
TOTAL Liabilities	-	-	

<u>Fund Balances</u>			
General	21,280	20,893	387
Environmental	12,866	12,866	-
Association Funds	34,146	33,759	387

Fund Revenue and Expense Summary, April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026

	General Fund	Environment Fund	Total Funds	
Beginning Balance	20,893	12,866	33,759	
Total Revenues	9,153	-	9,153	Total Net
Total Expenses	8,767	-	8,767	Gain
Current Balance	21,280	12,866	34,146	387

General Fund Income Summary

Dues	4,120
Bank Interest	420
Calendar Ads	3,825
Misc	-
Rd. Fees paid in error	788
Total	9,153

Calendar Report for Last Printing (2025)

Total Ad Revenue	3,940
Total Printing Costs	4,286
Total Cost to Members	(346)

General Fund Expenses Summary

Activities	-
Bank Fees	72
FOCA	893
Insurance	1,365
Shoal Light Repair	50
Printing, Website, Zoom, Signs	598
Picnic & AGM	440
Directors' Expenses	160
FLA Membership	115
Donations	-
Calendar Printing and Mailing	4,286
Return Rd. Fees Paid in Error	788
Total	8,767

Prepared by Debbie Bird

Financial Review completed by Linda Radtke on July 5th, 2026.