



DATE:
TIME:
LOCATION:

Friday January 24th, 2025
6:17 PM – 8:51 PM
Alex Roofing Co., Inc.

Erie Pennsylvania Sport Fishing Association

Meeting Minutes: Friday January 24th, 2025

Call to Order Time: 6:17 PM

E.P.S.F.A. Board of Directors Meeting to Discuss: review old/new business, Kids Fishing Day, tournaments, brown trout report, Facebook/website, and fund raising.

Board Members Present: (In person): Pete Alex, President; Paul Olszewski, Vice President; Joe Nemet, Treasurer, George Kuhns, Secretary, Mike Vincent, Director.

Associate Board Members Present: 0

Directors Not Present: Brad Grimshaw and Todd Redmond

Current Active Membership: 41 **Facebook followers:** 2,291

Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion by Pete Alex and seconded by Paul Olszewski

Treasurer's Report

Motion by Mike Vincent and seconded by Paul Olszewski

- ✓ CHECKING: \$ 4,916.84
- ✓ SAVINGS: \$ 2,587.00
- ✓ BT SAVINGS: \$ 9,207.32

Reimbursements and costs:

\$1,277.00 paid for insurances

\$780.00 was paid for the construction of the new website

\$590.00 was paid to the Tournament Director

The Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council membership was renewed for \$75.00

Old Business:

- 1) Pat Crosby has resigned from the board of directors as of 12/20/2023.
- 2) Pete Alex has not heard back from the PFBC Director Timothy Schaeffer regarding the letter he sent requesting approval to use the Lake Erie Permit Fund to pay for removal of large naturally occurring navigational hazards. UPDATE: Pete again contacted both Timothy Schaeffer and Dan Pastore. No progress has been made.
- 3) The Nemesis Sport Fishing charter raffle has been awarded to Dave Lefavier. Congratulations Dave! Joe Nemet donated the \$200.00 charter expense reimbursement back to the EPSFA. In all, the raffle raised \$1,500.00.
- 4) George Kuhns made a motion for Great Lakes Special Events to redesign and maintain the EPSFA website and administer the registration process. A Budget was set not to exceed \$1,500.00 including the first year domain fees. Following years maintenance costs are not to exceed \$300.00 exclusive of the domain fees. The motion was seconded by Paul Olszewski and a vote resulted in 4Y / 0N approving the motion. UPDATE: The new website is complete, operational, and \$500.00 under budget.
- 5) Director Todd Redmond attended the Bob Hetz Memorial Boulder Dedication Ceremony at the Fairview Gravel Pit.
- 6) The Lampe Marina fish cleaning station is 90% complete and should be open in spring of 2024. UPDATE: The Cleaning Station is complete and has been in use.
- 7) A tournament meeting was held and the following dates have been set: April 21st – Spring Trout Challenge, July 27th & 28th – Summer Slam, and October 20th – Fall Trout Challenge. In addition to these tournaments, the Team of the Year and Trout Cup will also be up for grabs this year. The tournament committee also discussed the return of Big Fish Friday as well as a potential Big Fish Derby leading into the Summer Slam. UPDATE: All tournaments and Big Fish Friday took place. Please see the website for tournament results and read through the tournament summaries form the winning captains.
- 8) The Board of Directors is considering several fund raising opportunities in 2024. A Lake Ontario charter raffle aboard Vision Quest was suggested. UPDATE: This raffle was completed and generated \$1,810.00 in fund raising. Congratulations to the winner Scott McLaughlin. Thank you Captain Pete!

New Business:

- 1) The EPSFA made a donation including 12 rod / reel combos and 12 tackle boxes to the Crime Victims Center "Tackle for Tots" program.
- 2) Matt Duckett and Paul Olszewski are working with the Masonic Lodge towards a potential partnership for Kids Day.
- 3) Joe Nemet attended the PFBC meeting regarding the rule requiring anglers to leave a 2" x 2" square piece of skin on fillets while using the public fish cleaning stations. The end result is this rule will be removed. Thank you Dan Pastore for advocating.
- 4) Pete Alex applied for a position on the NOAA Marine Sanctuary Committee as a Sport Fishing Representative, as well as a Charter Fishing Representative. He has been accepted as a Charter Fishing Representative.
- 5) Pete Alex made a motion and George Kuhns seconded to elect Matt Duckett as a Board of Directors Member of the EPSFA. The motion was voted on and passed 5Y / 0N. Welcome Matt.

Brown Trout Report:

112,000 Brown Trout were stocked in 2024. This number will increase to 311,000 in 2025. The success of these stocking efforts will influence future stocking. The EPSFA wants to raise awareness of brown trout catches on Lake Erie and Lake Erie Tributary Streams. Paul Olszewski and Joe Nemet will be creating a Brown Trout Reporting Page on Facebook. Everyone who catches a Brown Trout and posts a report on the page will be eligible to win one of five \$100.00 Fish USA gift cards to be randomly selected at the end of the year. Please pass this along, and help us ensure the future of Lake Erie's Brown Trout Program.

Tournament Committee Updates:

- 1) Please see the website for last year's tournament winners and results.
- 2) The 2025 Spring Trout Challenge will be held Sunday April 13, 2025. Please renew your memberships prior to the Spring Trout Challenge. If you are unsure of your membership status, please contact Paul Olszewski at 814-566-4995.
- 3) The 2025 Summer Slam will take place Saturday July 19th and Sunday July 20th. Big Fish Friday will be held on the 18th. Locations to be announced. We are considering an exciting new format for the two day competition. Please stay tuned for details!
- 4) The 2025 Fall Trout Challenge will be held Sunday October 19th, 2025.
- 5) The 2025 Trout Cup entry fee was set at \$100.00 and entrants must be registered prior to the Spring Trout Challenge.

Kids Day:

- 1) Kids Day 2025 will be held Saturday May 24th. Details will be on the EPSFA website.

Unfinished Business

- 1) Club fund raising opportunities were discussed.
- 2) The EPSFA will be hosting a table at the Erie Boat and Fishing Expo (February 28th – March 2nd 2025) featuring ticket sales for a Lake Erie Fishing Charter donated by Captain Joe Nemet aboard Nemesis. Please visit EireBoatShow.com for more details on the show.

Motions Summary (aside from meeting start and end)

- 1) Pete Alex made a motion and George Kuhns seconded to elect Matt Duckett as a Board of Directors Member of the EPSFA. The motion was voted on and passed 5Y / 0N.

Announcements:

- 1) Next BOD meeting is to take place prior to the Spring Trout Challenge. Date and time TBD.

Other Business

- 1) There are still BOD's, and associate BOD's positions available.
- 2) Reminder to renew your membership and recruit a new member.

Public Comments

Closed meeting.

Adjournment Time: 8:51 PM

ACCEPTED BY: PETE ALEX (EPSFA PRESIDENT) DATED: 1/28/2025