

MEETING MINUTES
2022 PICKEREL/CRANE LAKE P&R DISTRICT SPRING MEETING
MAY 21, 2022 9:00 AM
TOWN OF NASHVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER
1038 CTH "Q" PICKEREL, WI

1. **Call to Order:** 9:00 AM by Chairman Chuck Sleeter
2. **Roll Call:** Chuck Sleeter, Chairman; Craig Farah, Vice-Chairman; Kathy Kupfer, Treasurer; Dan Stoehr, Secretary; Curt Haga, Commissioner
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Welcome New Members to the Meeting:** Joe Servi, Tom and Corinne Tipton, Bruce Welch
5. **Approval of Fall 2021 Meeting Minutes:** A motion to approve the fall 2021 minutes was made by Larry Grassl and seconded by Dan Vosters. Motion carried.
6. **Commissioners' Meeting Minutes:** Approved commissioners' meeting minutes from 9/21/2021, 2/15/2022, and 3/29/2022 were available as handouts, but also are able to be viewed on the lake district's website.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Kathy discussed the district's 2022 year-to-date treasurer's report including the current budget comparison. She emphasized that we are under budget and the district is in very good shape financially. In March, the district received a check in the amount of \$6,250 from the WI DNR. The amount received was the balance of the \$25,000 LMP grant which was approved in 2019. This final installment was awarded after we submitted our completed Lake Management Plan. In addition, we recently applied for and were awarded a grant from the WI DNR for the district's Crane Lake Eurasian Milfoil Initiative. In May, the district received the prepayment of \$5,354.64 of the \$7,139.52 approved grant.
8. **Old Business**
 - a. **Jerry Hietpas Aeration Update:** Jerry thanked all those who helped out this winter with both setting up and taking down the aerator and fencing around it. He mentioned that there was one incident of someone who went through the fence and took out two of the poles. The person thankfully survived the ordeal and did not go into open water.
 - b. **Aquatic Plant Harvesting 2021 Update and 2022 Changes:** Chuck reported for Jim Huss, our weed boss, that the weed harvester operated from June 8th through August 13th with 101 loads harvested at a weight of about 505 tons. 90% of harvesting time was for "floaters" (unattached aquatic plants). Repairs on the harvester have recently been completed by Steve Bailey. If anyone is willing to help out with weed harvesting, please contact Jim Huss or any member of the district's board.

Brad Kupfer's update on 2022 weed harvesting included the following highlights:

 - Maintain the harvester lanes as established in 2012 on Pickerel Lake
 - Allow the district volunteers to cut a 24 foot wide section and 100 feet out from the culvert on the Pickerel side of the bridge/culvert.

- Allow the district volunteers to hand cut an area 8 feet wide by 10-15 feet long away from the culvert, on the Crane Lake side, using a rake or similar tool.
 - Allow the Lake district harvester volunteers to pick up any floating fragments of cut aquatic plants and to cut surface matted beds of non-native milfoil (whether hybrid or Eurasian), to allow clear navigation of boats on Pickerel Lake.
- c. Crystal Lake Pumping Update:** Chuck reported that due to high water in Crystal Lake, there had been pumping of water from Crystal Lake into Pickerel Lake in the fall of the last two years. Pumping has now stopped due to meeting the minimal drawdown. If water levels increase due to excess rain, etc., pumping may be restarted but a permit from the DNR would first have to be obtained.
- d. Wild rice planting update:** Mike Pruel, director of Mole Lake Fisheries, was unable to attend today's meeting, but provided this information:
The benefits of wild rice planting include food for human consumption, wildlife/waterfowl habitat, fisheries, nutrient uptake, and viewing aesthetics.
Future plans are dependent upon Mole Lake's rice survival and donation.
Current beds will be surveyed with possible reseeding and possible new locations in Pickerel Lake.

9. New Business

- a. Crane Lake Weed Harvesting 2022:** Brad Kupfer discussed the 2022-2024 Crane Lake Eurasian Milfoil Initiative. This included an approved grant from the WI DNR of \$7,139.52 for the eradication of Eurasian milfoil in Crane Lake. White Water Associates will be retained for a three-year period. They will determine where the Eurasian milfoil exists on Crane Lake and will then communicate those findings with Aquatic Plant Management LLC of Minocqua, WI for the eradication of the milfoil. White Water Associates will then conduct a follow-up survey to gauge the success of the eradication.
- b. Boat Landing Improvements:** Curt Haga discussed what is currently being done and the goals for the district's 3 boat landings that are owned by the Town of Nashville. These include the Pickerel Lake north and south landings and the Crane Lake landing off of Doemel Road. Our district's board recently (5-09-2022) approved the use of budgeted funds in the amount of \$12,000 (\$4,000 per landing) for boat landing maintenance. This along with some other funding will help us move forward with the maintenance projects as soon as this fall, starting with the Pickerel north landing. The Pickerel south landing is projected to be worked on either this fall or fall of 2023. The Crane Lake boat landing either the fall of 2023 or 2024. For more information and any questions regarding the proposed maintenance projects, please contact Curt Haga. A comment was made by Faye Randerson who lives next to the Crane Lake boat landing that due to very soft conditions, the boat landing is very rutted and almost unusable. She asked if we could temporarily close the landing until repairs are made. Chuck stated that the Township owns the landing and they will not close it. Calls have already been made to the Township and they did make some repairs, but it still is in very bad shape. A member of the Township was present at today's meeting and she will make sure that the message gets through to the board that repairs are needed immediately, especially with the Memorial Day weekend coming up in one week.
- c. Pickerel Lake Citizen Lake Monitoring and Action Committee:** Chuck was happy to report that they now have 8 members for the Pickerel Lake citizen lake monitoring and action committee. Chuck will head the committee and members include Jerry Hietpas, Dan Vosters, Craig Farah, Curt Haga, Jim Huss, Gail Duernberger (who volunteered to

be the clerk), and Sally Ferguson. They will work with Brad Kupfer and his Crane Lake monitoring committee to make our lakes better for everyone.

- d. Select Nomination Committee for Two Commissioners Positions:** At our fall meeting there will be two board positions coming up for election. These include the Treasurer and the at-large Commissioner. Kathy Kupfer has chosen to run again for another 3 year term as Treasurer and Curt Haga has also chosen to run again as the at-large Commissioner. Anyone else interested in running for either of these board positions should contact Craig Farah who was appointed by Chuck to be the head of the nomination committee. His phone number is 920-470-8845.

- 10. Public Comment:** Brad asked that anyone who would like to help get rid of bullheads should pick up a volunteer form, fill it out, and keep it with them when they are out on the lake “scooping” up baby bullheads. This is done by using a fine mesh net and looking for swarms of tiny bullheads that are generally near the shore in shallow water. Craig Farah told the members that our treasurer, Kathy Kupfer, saved the district \$600 by getting a 3-year weed harvester permit instead of just a one-year permit. One of the members reminded everyone that even though the no wake signs are now down entering the channel, according to WI DNR Boating Regulations, it is still a no-wake zone due to being so close to the shore on both sides. George Rock thanked everyone for all their work on the lakes so that future generations can benefit from our efforts. Chuck thanked George also for all the work he has done for the district. Faye Randerson asked about a new sign for no power loading on the Crane Lake dock. Chuck said that some of the signs have been damaged and removed and questioned the effectiveness of the signs. After some discussion it was decided to replace the NO POWER LOADING sign on the Crane Lake dock. Curt mentioned that there are some free booklets available for kids titled “My Lakeshore Field Journal”. There are also some educational place mats, “Aquatic Invasives” available to anyone or business who wants them. 3 lure flashlights were given away by a drawing to 3 lucky winners.

- 11. Adjourn:** A motion was made by Brian King and seconded by Larry Grassl to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan Stoehr, Secretary, Pickerel Crane Lake P&R District