



Pickerel Crane Lake P&R District Fall, 2016

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CHUCK SLEETER

I can't believe I'm writing the fall newsletter already. It just seems like we finished the spring letter. Time just seems to fly in the summer when you are on the lake.

If you were unable to attend the 2016 Spring Lake District meeting you are probably not aware of the discussion and vote on whether or not aquatic plant harvesting will continue on Crane Lake in the future. After a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons for harvesting, the final vote was 11 yes votes for continued harvesting and 3 no votes for discontinuing harvesting. As far as the commissioners were concerned, this was the fairest and most democratic way to settle this controversy. Mr. Len Hadovski from Crane Lake has agreed to be the Crane Lake Weed Boss. He will be responsible for scheduling the Crane Lake weed harvesting volunteers who will help transport the harvester and also schedule the harvester operators to do the harvesting. The Crane Lake volunteer harvester operators will be trained by Pickerel operators before we move it to Crane Lake. The Pickerel harvester volunteers all wish Len and the Crane Lake volunteers the best of luck and they will assist you in any way possible.

A discussion took place at the spring meeting in reference to possible improvements at the north side Pickerel Lake boat landing. This landing is owned by the Town of Nashville, and any improvements must be approved by the Nashville Town Board. Present at this meeting was the Nashville Town Chairman Jamie Anderson who is also a member of our Board of Commissioners. Jamie was able to discuss some of the options available to the Town and the Lake District. Chairman Anderson is employed with the engineering firm of MSA out of Rhinelander. His firm has engineered improved boat landings in Rhinelander and Three Lakes. He suggested that we travel to these landings to observe first hand some ideas of what these possible improvements could look like. The folks at the meeting voted to create a Lake District Boat Landing Committee that includes folks from both lakes and a member who owns a cottage adjacent to the landing. It is important to note that the driving force behind making any improvements to the landing is for the safe launching and loading of the harvester by our volunteers. If the committee suggests making some improvements at the landing, I assure you that the process will be transparent and that our members will have the last word.

At the fall meeting we will discuss a request for a donation from the Wisconsin Shoreland Initiative. This organization was developed in the fall of 2015 by the Plum Lake Association, and they were joined by 71 other lakes and river groups in Wisconsin. The purpose of the organization is to prevent more damaging shoreland legislation. They have hired attorney Bill O'Connor, who has been representing the Wisconsin Association of Lakes for over 30 years. I have personally worked with Mr. O'Connor and know him to be well respected and very experienced in this area and feel he is a great choice to represent and help guide this organization in achieving their goal of stopping the rapid erosion of lake protections laws.

Please remember that at our upcoming fall Annual Meeting we will have our budget hearing and adoption of our 2017 tax levy. This is your chance to see how the Board of Commissioners is managing your Lake District. You will be able to discuss expenditures and revenues for the upcoming year. This is your chance to see how the district operates.

Finally, we have two positions up for election, Secretary and Vice Chairman. Our Secretary Lauren Freston will not be running again. We would like to thank Lauren for a great job. Lake District Secretary is an essential position on the board, and I have always felt that, along with the Treasurer, they are the most important positions. We will not be able to operate without a secretary so please consider volunteering and helping out your lake community. I, along with the other commissioners, will do everything we can to assist anyone choosing to run for these two positions.

Have a safe and fun fall!

Chuck Sleeter

Wisconsin DNR Fisheries Biologist Greg Matzke 2016/17 Planned Activities for Pickerel/Crane

Next year (2017) is a big year for fish survey work on Pickerel and Crane Lakes for our fish team. We plan to do what we call a "comprehensive survey" of both lakes, which includes: Early Spring Fyke Netting, Early Spring Electrofishing, Late Spring Electrofishing, Late Spring Fyke Netting, and Fall Electrofishing. Between all the different survey types we hope to estimate the number of adult walleye and largemouth bass while using a standardized survey to assess the abundance of pan fish species. During this survey we will be weighing a subsample of each species along with removing structures to estimate the age of individual fish. When the survey is completed, we will be able to analyze the abundance, size, structure, body condition, and growth rates of all the major fish species in the two lakes. This data can then be compared to previous surveys of Pickerel and Crane Lakes to see where the overall fishery stands.

What will be real interesting about the 2017 survey is we will get our first opportunity to assess the efforts of the "Walleye Rehabilitation Plan" which began in 2012. Since 2012, steps have been taken to increase walleye abundance and make the current fishery more suitable for walleye. The two major changes that have taken place is an increase in stocking large fingerling walleye and the removal of the majority of an overabundant bullhead population that had established itself in the lakes.

Since 2012, a total of 36,419 large fingerling walleye have been stocked by your Lake District and WDNR, and a total of 19,953 bullhead (weighing approximately 12,600 pounds) have been removed from the two lakes. During the 2017 survey we will try to estimate the abundance of age-4 and age-5 walleye, which will give us an idea of how successful the recent stockings have been at creating adult walleye.

But for 2016 we will only be doing the fall electrofishing survey of both lakes, which has been conducted annually since the start of the "Walleye Rehabilitation Plan." This survey assesses the recruitment of game fish and the survival of stocked walleye from age-0 to age-1

As always, if you have any comments, questions, or concerns, feel free to contact me.

Greg Matzke, Fisheries Biologist, WI of Natural Resources

Harvester Report

On June 7, 2016 five Lake District volunteers transported the harvester to the north side Pickerel Lake boat landing. On arrival, the harvester and elevator were put into the lake. This job took over 8 hours. Thankfully, we were able to use the Pickerel Tombstone Sno-Club tractor with the help of Phil Hollmann as the operator. Many thanks to Phil and the Sno-Club, for without your assistance we would not be able to transport the harvester. So far this summer we have harvested only 3 loads of plants from Pickerel Lake. It seems to be a summer very similar to the summer of 2015. We expect that the demand for harvesting will greatly increase in August. We would like to thank the following volunteers for their help:

Jerry Heitpas (Hot Dog), Phil Hollmann, Jim Huss (Weed Boss), Ted Corona, and Chuck Sleeter

We would also like to thank all of our faithful volunteers who work so hard to help our Lake District!!

North Side Pickerel Boat Landing Improvement Committee

On July 25, 2016, the boat landing committee drove to view an improved boat landing on Boyce Drive in Rhinelander WI. There they met with Mr. Jim Bollmann and Town of Nashville Town Chairman, Mr. Jamie Anderson. Both are employed at the engineering firm of MSA Professional Services. The committee was able to observe the launch and dock area where they were able to ask several questions about the construction and the time lines involved in building the launch. The committee came away with the opinion that this type of landing would be suitable for Pickerel Lake. The members asked MSA to come up with rough plans and prices for the construction as well as what possible grants would be available. The committee will meet sometime in August and will discuss the possible project. If you would like to know more about the project or have an opinion please come to the September 3rd fall Lake District meeting.

Expenditures	2017 2017	
Administrative	500.00	
Aeration	3,000.00	
Boat Landings	6,000.00	
Capital Purchases	3,000.00	
Dues	300.00	
Insurance	3,500.00	
Lake Monitoring	800.00	
Meetings/Mileage/Phone	2,500.00	
Misc./Contingency Fund	5,000.00	
Postage	1,500.00	
Printing/Ads	1,000.00	
Rent	3,000.00	
Walleye Restoration Project	0.00	
Web Page / Newsletter	1,000.00	
Weed Harvesting	5,500.00	
	\$36,600.00	
Revenues	2017	
Boat Landing Donations	0.00	
Donations	0.00	
Interest	800.00	
Tax Levy	27,800.00	
Variable Rate/Contingency Fund	5,000.00	
Capital Purchases Reserve	3,000.00	
Walleye Restoration Reserve	0.00	
	\$36,600.00	

**2017 Proposed
Tax Levy
\$27,800**

**Percentage
of Change
0%**

District Web Page

Be sure to check out the Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R District Web Page at pickerelcranelakedistrict.org for archived newsletters and meeting minutes.

Crane Lake Weed Harvesting!

- August 19-28
- Green Flag on dock indicates request for harvesting
- Contact Brian King 920-264-6446 or 715-484-2807

Pickerel/Crane Lakes Protection & Rehabilitation District Mid-Year Treasurer's Report 1/01/16 - 7/31/2016

<p>Opening Balance</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>CD's Capital Purchases</td><td style="text-align: right;">45,070.97</td></tr> <tr><td>CD Septic Inspections</td><td style="text-align: right;">13,464.90</td></tr> <tr><td>CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control</td><td style="text-align: right;">37,331.79</td></tr> <tr><td>Savings</td><td style="text-align: right;">36,014.49</td></tr> <tr><td>Checking</td><td style="text-align: right;">5,956.19</td></tr> <tr><td>Variable Rate/Contingency Fund</td><td style="text-align: right;">26,832.19</td></tr> <tr><td>Prior Year Balance</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$164,670.53</td></tr> </table> <p>Revenues</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Boat Landings</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$169.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Donation</td><td style="text-align: right;">3,000.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Interest</td><td style="text-align: right;">37.17</td></tr> <tr><td>Tax Levy</td><td style="text-align: right;">18,645.95</td></tr> <tr><td>7-Month Revenues</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$21,852.12</td></tr> </table>	CD's Capital Purchases	45,070.97	CD Septic Inspections	13,464.90	CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control	37,331.79	Savings	36,014.49	Checking	5,956.19	Variable Rate/Contingency Fund	26,832.19	Prior Year Balance	\$164,670.53	Boat Landings	\$169.00	Donation	3,000.00	Interest	37.17	Tax Levy	18,645.95	7-Month Revenues	\$21,852.12	<p>Expenditures</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Administrative</td><td style="text-align: right;">70.52</td></tr> <tr><td>Aeration</td><td style="text-align: right;">733.09</td></tr> <tr><td>Boat Landings</td><td style="text-align: right;">125.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Dues</td><td style="text-align: right;">75.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Insurance</td><td style="text-align: right;">3,094.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Meetings/Mileage/Telephone</td><td style="text-align: right;">950.94</td></tr> <tr><td>Postage</td><td style="text-align: right;">214.08</td></tr> <tr><td>Rent</td><td style="text-align: right;">2,250.00</td></tr> <tr><td>Webpage /Newsletter</td><td style="text-align: right;">153.70</td></tr> <tr><td>Weed Harvesting</td><td style="text-align: right;">1,393.92</td></tr> <tr><td>7-Month Expenditures</td><td style="text-align: right;">9,060.25</td></tr> </table> <p>Closing Balance</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>CD's Capital Purchases</td><td style="text-align: right;">45,250.62</td></tr> <tr><td>CD Septic Inspections</td><td style="text-align: right;">13,511.82</td></tr> <tr><td>CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control</td><td style="text-align: right;">37,477.61</td></tr> <tr><td>Savings</td><td style="text-align: right;">36,086.19</td></tr> <tr><td>Checking</td><td style="text-align: right;">7,154.74</td></tr> <tr><td>Variable Rate/Savings</td><td style="text-align: right;">44,520.04</td></tr> <tr><td>August 1, 2016 Balance</td><td style="text-align: right;">\$178,001.02</td></tr> </table>	Administrative	70.52	Aeration	733.09	Boat Landings	125.00	Dues	75.00	Insurance	3,094.00	Meetings/Mileage/Telephone	950.94	Postage	214.08	Rent	2,250.00	Webpage /Newsletter	153.70	Weed Harvesting	1,393.92	7-Month Expenditures	9,060.25	CD's Capital Purchases	45,250.62	CD Septic Inspections	13,511.82	CD Invasive Aquatic Plant Control	37,477.61	Savings	36,086.19	Checking	7,154.74	Variable Rate/Savings	44,520.04	August 1, 2016 Balance	\$178,001.02
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Respectfully Submitted by *Kathy Kupfer*, Treasurer

Pickerel/Crane P/R District

PO Box 18

Pickerel, WI 54465

2016 Pickerel/Crane P/R District Fall Meeting
September 3, 2016 / 9:30 AM.
Town of Nashville / Comm. Center & Town Office Building
1038 Co. Hwy. "Q" Pickerel, WI 54465
Phone 715-219-0835

AGENDA:

- (1) Call to Order /Pledge of Allegiance
- (2) Welcome New Members to Meeting
- (3) Reading of the Spring, 2016 Meeting Minutes
- (4) Treasurer's Report
- (5) Old Business:
 - (a) Aeration Report, Jerry Hietpas Aeration Boss
 - (b) Weed Harvester Report, Jim Huss Weed Boss
 - (c) 1999 Ford Weed Truck Equipment Improvements
 - (d) Boat Landing Donation Boxes Report, Len Hadovski
 - (e) Walleye Stocking Update, Brad Kupfer
 - (f) Update from Walter Ferguson on Local History Response
 - (g) Greg Matzke's Pickerel/Crane Fisheries Recap
 - (h) Committee Report N. Side Pickerel Lk Boat Landing Possible Improvement
- (6) New Business
 - (a) Consider Donation to the Wisconsin Shoreland Initiative
 - (b) Consider Donation to the Pickerel Tombstone Snow Club for Use of Tractor
- (7) Public Comment
- (8) Budget Hearing / Adoption of Tax Levy
- (9) Election of Secretary and Vice-Chairman
 - (a) Nominations From the Floor
 - (b) Written Ballot Vote
 - (c) Announcement of Results
- (10) Adjourn

Notice: A Pickerel/Crane P&R Lake District Commissioners Meeting will be held immediately following the fall meeting adjournment.

Agenda: (1) Selection of Positions on Board
(2) Adjourn

Pickerel/Crane Lake District Commissioners & Representatives

Chuck Sleeter, Chairman	715-219-0835
Rod Sternhagen, Vice Chairman	920-540-4507
Dan Vosters	920-419-0317
Kathy Kupfer, Treasurer	715-484-2520
Lauren Freston, Secretary	715-701-0066
Jamie Anderson, Town of Nashville Representative	715-478-1038
James R. Jansen, Langlade Co. Rep.	715-623-6261

In order for us to keep our mailing list current, please notify us if you move. It would also be helpful if you would let us know the name and address of the new owners in the event your property is sold, so we can include them in the mailings. Thank you.