

Meeting Minutes
Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R District Fall Meeting
May 23, 2015 - 9:30 a.m.
Nashville Town Hall

32 attendees / All board members are present and Duanne Marshall.

Moment of silence to remember veterans and Frank Zimmer and Jim Stormer who passed away this past fall.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's reports was read and treasurer publicly thank Walt Ferguson who audited the books this past year. He did a thorough job and asked questions resulting in better accountability to land stake holders. 1st Q Report was read which was in the newsletter. Spring meeting is when we can make changes. Printing fees have increased as well as Mileage/Meeting and Telephone lines need to be increased. These items need a change for if residents allow. Anticipate that these will continue to be over budget again. Proposing to take the money of \$7,500 which was put into walleye restoration - could we possibly move the money from this area since this is an off year? Brad Kupfer moved to move \$600 from Walleye Restoration to these areas. Jim Huss / Weed Harvester does not charge mileage for their work. In the future this may need to change. We use Jim's truck and Phil Hollman - in the future what will happen? Do we have money to reimburse for the transportation and fuel? They do have right to put in for reimbursement. In addition, we did receive a donation from Sokaogon Tribe \$3,000. We are very appreciative for this.

Check into returns on newsletters. - If we raise to first class through printer can we solve this problem of not getting returns?

Move to amend agenda: Motion made and seconded

Harvester Report: Jim Huss needs to change the oil in the Harvester - The new truck has had more repairs - trying to get a rebuilt injector pump; it is on truck and seems to be working. The plan is to put a load on the new truck before we change all the sideboards to make sure that it will work and is fixed. Once it passes this test, we can look at switching things from old truck. Timing is important when the Harvester is transported to Crane Lake because the snowmobile club's truck will be tied up when they put a mower on it. Do we want to put the elevator on the North end? We need to get approval from Nelson's for this. Call Jim Huss - 715-216-2453 (cell). We do have until 2017 before we need to renew the harvester permit.

Aeration Report: Hot Dog: On January 3, 2015 14 volunteers staked the lake which took two hours. Steamed out the aeration line and it was up and running by 4:00. Accidentally drilled a hole into a line. Blowers were turned on and it took two days to open the water hole. Ran #1 through season - checked every other day. On March 12, took ribbons off / left rope and stakes until the day before Easter; the stakes floated in and pulled them up onto shore. Will need more ties for next year. 1 cable tie on two stakes was not enough. Needed 4 more between each stake. There is great support between two lakes as many volunteers from both lakes. We had almost no spring kill. This system is essential for getting permission to stock.

Greg Matzke's Fisheries update: In newsletter. This is the year that the DNR will stock larger walleye in both Crane and Pickerel. It is the largest stocking that these two lakes has ever seen. Over 16,000 fish, and without the bullhead, this should increase their survival rate. Brad Kupfer recapped some of our successes: 2012 began the walleye stocking - 2,800 in Crane / 2013 - 8,200 from DNR because of Lake District's initiative. In addition, we put in 4,200 walleye ourselves. Bullheads were also taken out of Crane Lake that same year and replaced with 12,400 walleye to help biomass / 2014 - Mole Lake hatchery put 8,500 walleye into Pickerel which also had bullhead removal / 2,000 fingerlings in Pickerel - 1,000 in Crane 25,700 fish put in overall. 2015 - another 16,000 from DNR of fingerlings! split evenly be-

tween two lakes. In four years 42,700 fish put into our lakes!!!!!! Mike Preul - The fish that will come in from the DNR will be raised in Mole Lake fisheries. Different lakes will get stocked differently. (12,724 for Pickerel / 3,752 for Crane. We are appreciative of Mole Lake. Partnership with DNR and Mole Lake Tribe is essential. A fish survey is expensive. Because of budget cuts, there is a worry if this will get done. If we need help funding this, can we donate money for transportation? Do we have permission for \$80 - \$100 to cover this? Mike Preul is donating boats for that survey. Motion made / seconded / all in favor.

Seasonal Dock Installation: Thanks to the volunteers who donate time and expenses in putting these docks in. Dan and Dennis Wellhouse & Ron Fields checked on the donation box - Kathy was given check from Len for donations from Crane Lake. The sign that was cracked for 15 years has now been painted and stained. Len would like \$150 to replace the sign on Crane Lake landing - money in fund - motion made and seconded. All passed. Donation from Crane Lake box \$64.

Commissioner's needed - Dan Vosters will be stepping down, and we need to find a replacement. Duane Marshall has retired from the Nashville Board, so he is no longer a representative. Jamie Anderson, the new town board Chairman will be sitting on the board as an appointed member. Three total commissioners need to be reelected. Chuck will go for one more term. Kathy is also up for reelection. Linda Hansen is in charge of nominations: 715-484-3507 / 920-499-2638 call for.

Guest Speaker - John Preuss / Mike Preul: Gave history of the Mole Lake Fishery project and how the walleye are raised in the 15 acre fishery. Their goal is to produce 50,000 fingerling walleyes - Walleye Initiative which is the state funding a portion of the costs which is benefiting most lakes with walleye potential. Brad asked if he needs volunteers. Mike always willing for ride-along. He assumes we will do a survey in the fall. Contact Chuck or Brad if interested. It will happen before the stocking which is after Oct. 1. Sometime between Sept 15-25.

The bullhead extraction on Lake Motanga resulted in an explosion on the walleye reproduction. Perhaps due to the increase of yellow perch. Bullheads like to eat young walleye and perch. Matzke feels we made a dent in the bullhead population in Pickerel / Crane is smaller, results will be more significant. Do we plan a repeat extraction again? Right now the focus is on replacing the void from the bullhead with walleye. Will Pickerel see the same success rate in Pickerel/Crane as in Motanga? Crane is key to the success of this project Crane is the best chance for natural reproduction. The question is if Crane will be the spawning habitat, for Pickerel has more competition from northern, pan fish, and bass.

John Preuss - presentation on EWM and how to eradicate - hand pulling, EWM Beetle, harvester, chemical. Discussion on options of EWM - Some lakes have spent up to \$250,000, but EWM comes back. Takes a whole lot of beetles / \$1 per beetle. Best option is prevention and maintaining with harvester to keep lake open. Education is key. These plants fragment on their own in the fall. The Harvester breaking them does help keep the lake open enough for recreating.

Guest / Dave Walls, Woodruff area Warden. Aquatic Invasive species laws - Clean Boat Clean Waters education. Most are aware of the law. Now it is rolling over to enforcement. Fines range from \$230 - \$275 for not removing vegetation, not draining water, transporting live fish. Hotline number -1-800-TIP-DNR for hotline 24/7 live manned. Brad Dahlquist local DNR / can also call sheriff.

Motion to adjourn - 11:40

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Freston