

Meeting Minutes  
Pickerel/Crane Lake P & R District Spring Meeting  
May 28, 2011 - 9:30 a.m.  
Ainsworth Town Hall

Official meeting was called to order by Chairman Chuck Sleeter. Commissioners present for roll call were Chuck Sleeter, Rod Sternhagen, Peg Hollmann, Dan Vosters, Duanne Marshall, & Lauren Freston. Also in attendance were 55 property owners (17 residents & 38 non-residents).

Lauren Freston read the minutes from the September 4, 2011 fall meeting. Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report & seconded. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Peg Hollmann presented the Treasurer's Report which is now made part of these minutes. Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report & seconded. Motion carried.

**Aeration Report:** Phil Hollman reported that the stakes on the lake went up on December 20 and by the 31<sup>st</sup> the aeration system was up and running. February turned warmer, so it was turned off during the warm spell. The system ran through April 8. On April 22 the stakes were pulled. This year there will be maintenance cost as new rope, reflective material, and possible electrical issues will be needed.

**Lake Docks:** Phil Hollman, Joe Sanderfoot, and Dan Wellhouse put in the docks. The Porta-Poddy was also placed on the North side boat landing.

**Fish Stocking:** Greg Matske from the DNR predicted that Crane received 11,935 walleye fingerlings (1 1/8" - 2.2") and Pickerel received 45,465. This number is up, but they are very small in size. A discussion ensued about the possibility of turning two spring fed ponds on 47 acres of wetland which the P&R District owns into a walleye raising facility. Pros were that these ponds are connected to both Crane and Pickerel by streams and the fish could be directed to the different lakes by screens. Fingerlings have a 7% survival rate whereas if these were allowed to grow to 6 - 8" there is a 75% survival rate. The growth season would be from spring to fall. This project had been done successfully on other lakes. Jerry Wasieiewski was familiar with the project on Arbutus Lake. Cons were that 6" - 8" fish are still edible to the pikes. There is a cost to the project because we would be responsible to feed these fish and one otter could destroy the whole pond. Minnows are also cannibalistic, so there would be loss there. Brad Kupfer from Crane Lake volunteered to work with Jerry to research the issue and will report back at fall meeting. Also on the topic of Walleye, it was reported that a carpet of walleye had been seen spawning up the creek which implies that the Lake is capable of reproducing some walleye on its own.

**Harvesting:** Jim Huss reported that the truck is ready and will be in the water soon. He is not anticipating any costs. The snowmobile club will loan their tractor to move it. He informed the members that the Harvester is available to go to Crane Lake more often as they can use pressurized water to clean it to remove the threat of transferring any invasive weeds. The more volunteers each Lake provides will allow for the harvester to be used more. The permit has been applied for and paid for, but still waiting for it to arrive. Jim was waiting for Crane Lake to let them know when there is a need for the harvester to be moved to Crane.

**Lake Management Plan:** No new news.

**Nashville Community Center:** The building is coming along, and will hopefully be ready for the Fall meeting.

**New Business:**

**Web Site:** A motion was made to create a website for the Lake District. Lauren Freston volunteered to oversee this. A \$100 cap was put on for the project. The motion carried.

**High Speed Internet:** Residents questioned if this was still in the work. Comments from the floor discussed about options available until the local carrier provides High Speed Internet. Some have had success with Cell Com routers, US Cellular cards, Verizon network.

**ATV's:** On June 21<sup>st</sup> there will be a Nashville Town Hall meeting on the possibility of allowing ATV's on Pickerel Lake Road. As this will directly affect Lake Residents they were made aware of the issue and asked to go to the meeting if they had any comments. Some residents were concerned about the possibility of other Lake roads being opened to ATV's.

**Bass Resolution:** Donny Miller reported that it will take up to three years to follow the process of having the bass levels lowered. Three Counties were represented by Lake District Members to present the Bass Resolution. There will be a survey by fish biologists to study the request.

**Langlade County Representative:** Langlade County representative, Joe Barnett had recently passed away. Dave Solin will research who will be our next representative.

**Boat Power Loading:** Hot Dog (Jerry) reported that there was a boat being loaded by a power loading. This is a concern because it puts a hole in the boat landing. Is it possible to put up a sign on the boat landing to not allow this type of launching. Motion approved.

**Shore Restoration:** Walter Ferguson commented on how there is a Shoreland Restoration program for Forest County that can fund up to 70% of restoration. Residents can contact him if they are interested.

**Forest County Zoning Regulation:** NR115 Bill is a statewide restoration bill that will require a 35' shoreland set back. There are meetings scheduled on the third Friday in July and August at 9a.m. at the County Board Room for anyone interested in attending.

**Recycling:** This year's spring cleanup will accept electronics at the local dump from 10-3 this weekend.

Meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Freston