

Pickereel/Crane P&R Lake District Commissioners Meeting
Minutes - April 7, 2018
 Town of Nashville Community Center & Town Office Building

Call to Order: 9:05AM

Roll Call: Chuck Sleeter, Kathy Kupfer, Rod Sternhagen, Dan Vosters, Mike Zelinski

Treasurers Report

Kathy reported a 1st Quarter opening balance of \$178,644.07 and a closing balance of \$199,496.16. Additional revenue driven by tax levy receipts and donation from the Mole Lake Tribe.

Year to date report reflected expenses tracking to budget with no unforeseen issues or concerns.

Kathy continues to try and secure insurance for the weed harvester. Decision made to insure the harvester for replacement value of \$251k versus fair market value of \$151k.

Old Business

(a) Water Testing 2017

Water clarity assessments in 2017 concluded with no change to the previous rating of “Excellent - Good” for both lakes. The next assessment for phosphorus and chlorophyll will be included in the LMP Report proposed for 2018/19.

(b) Update on Walleye Spawning Reef

WDNR is planning to move forward with the establishment of the reef in the winter of 2018/19. Greg Matzke will begin mapping the lake in June which will determine the type and quantity of materials required. Mike Preul (Dir. Of Fisheries Mole Lake) has submitted a grant request for \$25k and if received should cover the cost of the reef. If the grant is obtained but at a lower value the P&C Lake District will cover the additional expense.

(c) Rental Agreement with Town Of Nashville

In alignment with the new agreement with the Town we are required to relocate the current 1st level office to the upstairs storage area. Relocation to be completed by Mike and Brad Kupfer in the spring. Kathy confirmed the Town Hall is available for the Saturdays of May 19th and August 25th. Kathy conveyed that the copier/printer does not function and will need an alternative option. Going forward, Kathy will utilize a local printer and pay for the services. It is yet to be determined if we can continue to buy fuel from the town.

(d) Crane Lake Comprehensive Fish Survey

The final report was issued to the committee in December with the following key takeaways:

Crane Lake - 2017	Adult Population (Abundance)	Adult Population (Per Acre)	Size Structure	Average Adult Size
Walleye	Low	1	Moderate	15"
Large Mouth Bass	Average	5.4	Below Average	13"
Nothern Pike	Average	3.1	Poor	18"
Yellow Perch	Average	NA	Average	7"
Black Crappie	Low	NA	Very Good	9"
Blue Gill	Low	NA	Very Good	7"
Yellow Bullhead	Moderate	NA	Good	10"

WDNR will be submitting a rules change for Large Mouth Bass at the spring 2019 meeting. Rule to change from 1 fish >18" to 3 fish >14".

New Business

(a) Update on Snowmobile Incident at Aeration Site

In February Chuck was informed that a snowmobile was driven into the open water surrounding the aerator on Pickerel Lake. The driver was able to get out with no issues however the snowmobile sank to the lake bottom. Chuck has recently been informed that the operator was identified and the snowmobile was removed within 30 days so no further action will be taken.

(b) Lake Management Plan Progress and Possibilities

Working in collaboration with the WDNR Mike reached out to six potential consultants to initiate the issuance of an RFP to update our lake management plan. After initial discussions it was clear that there are really only two consultants that could support our expectations. They are Onterra out of Green Bay WI and White Water Associates out of Amasa MI. Next step is to outline clear expectations for the LMP so each company can move forward with a proposal. Mike will issue an initial list of topics to the committee and will seeking feedback no later than April 20th. After the list is finalized we will review with each consultant.

(c) Updating Info on Web Page

Kathy reached out to Go-Daddy and was informed that the current application utilized today will be discontinued. Kathy was then provided guidance on a new application which would support the Districts future needs. A three year contract was signed and Mike and Kathy will collaborate with Go-Daddy and create a new site for the district. An initial review would be available for review prior to the spring meeting.

(d) Aquatic Plant Harvesting Permit and New Guidelines

A 3 Year permit was obtained from the WDNR for 2018-2020. One stipulation to receiving the permit is that the District must initiate a new LMP and have it completed prior to the next harvesting permit request. Included in the permit are additional requirements which focus mainly on disinfecting the harvester prior to transferring the harvester from Pickerel to Crane Lake to assure there is not an undue transfer of AIS. Chuck will work with the harvester volunteers to determine the best approach to meet permit requirements.

(e) Annual Walleye Stocking Schedule

WDNR has recommended we continue to stock walleye in both lakes with a focus on Pickerel now that the overall lake condition has improved and is better able to support an additional population. WDNR will support the stocking and recommended the District purchase additional larger fingerlings from the Mole Lake hatchery.

(f) Five Year Plan for District

An overall approach to creating a plan was discussed and Mike will be submitting an outline to the committee for review and refinement prior to the Spring Meeting.

(g) Harvester Repairs Remaining from 2017

Chuck outlined a number of repairs that are required prior to utilizing the harvester this year. All repairs are deemed minor with no major expenditures projected. Chuck and the harvester team will complete repairs in May.

(h) Harvester Yearly Spring Maintenance

All maintenance actions to be completed in May by the weed harvesting team.

(i) Truck Spring Maintenance

All maintenance actions to be completed in May by the weed harvesting team.

- (j) Discuss Harvester Wash Down Plans for 2018
Multiple approaches were discussed with a recommendation for Chuck to review all requirements with the weed harvesting team and determine an appropriate path forward.
- (k) Winnebago Boat Landing Report
Dan reviewed a project completed by the lake association on Lake Winnebago. Since the lake is shallow and realizes severe ice heave, the new landing design is expected to resist seasonal damage. P&C District will review applicability for the north shore on Pickerel Lake.
- (l) Possible Langlade County Summer Pontoon Classrooms
Pontoon classes were brought up as a potential educational program to further expand the knowledge of district members as it relates to lake plant species. Previous classes attended by committee members were enjoyable and overall educational for all participants. Chuck to review the feasibility of additional classes and report back to the committee.
- (m) Mike Preul Request to Practice with Their Harvester on Pickerel Lake
The committee agreed to work with Mike and his team to train and practice on Pickerel Lake.
- (n) Newsletter Articles
Ideas were formulated and added to the standard list of topics covered in the newsletter.
- (o) Agenda for 2018 Spring Meeting
Agenda topics discussed with an action for Chuck to outline his recommendations and forward to the team for final review. Agenda will need to be completed prior to April 20th.

Added Agenda Items

- (a) As a result of the severe winter in 2017/2018, Mike brought up the topic of considering placing an aeration system on Crane Lake to mitigate the potential of a major fish kill. Board agreed to table the topic and evaluate the outcome of this year's ice out and discuss at the next commissioner's meeting.
- (b) Minutes read from September 2, 2017 commissioner's meeting.
Motion to approve minutes by Kathy and seconded by Rod. Motion passes
- (c) Minutes read from September 20, 2017 commissioner's meeting.
Motion to approve minutes by Kathy and seconded by Chuck. Motion passes

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Chuck and seconded by Dan. Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55