

Commissioners Meeting Minutes
Pickerel – Crane Lake P&R District
July 14, 2017

Called to Order at 5:00 PM

Roll Call

Chuck Sleeter, Kathy Kupfer, Rod Sternhagen, Mike Zelinski, Dan Vosters

Old Business

a. 2017 Aquatic Plant Harvesting Program

Weed harvesting commenced on Pickerel Lake on July 5th and through July 13th. There have been 15 loads extracted. This is a very positive start compared to previous years. Concurrent to harvesting, property owners and crew members identified floating weeds along the shore line that were not a result of the harvesting process. The weeds appeared to be fully intact from root through the leafing end. After further evaluation it was determined that it has a high potential to be the Eurasian water milfoil. Contact was made with the WIDNR and their assessment concurs. However, further analysis must be completed to validate conclusively. Also in question is why the plants are detached 100% intact. Discussions to continue with WIDNR to determine future course of action. Short term, all loose plants that can be extracted by hand or with the harvester will be removed.

From an equipment standpoint, both trucks received some minor repairs and are now in good working order.

b. Possible date and time changes for spring and fall meetings

Based on feedback from the district to review changing the dates for the spring and fall meeting, the following date changes will be recommended; May 19th for the spring meeting and Aug 25th for the fall meeting. The recommended dates are one weekend prior to the holiday weekends. Meeting start time to be changed to 9 A.M.

c. Possible north side Pickerel Lake boat landing widening project

The recommendation to widen the landing 15 feet was brought to the county board and approval provided. The District will be responsible for seeking the permit and subsequent actions required to complete the project once the permit is obtained.

d. Walleye Restoration Project

In the fall of 2017, 12,000 walleye fingerlings will be released into Pickerel and 4,000 will be released into Crane Lake.

By the end of August, WIDNR will have completed their assessment and will provide the District the framework to move forward with the gravel reef on the south end of Crane Lake. Once requirements and timelines are known, work will begin to recruit volunteers to support the project which will take place in February of 2018.

Committee will be meeting in August with WIDNR to discuss current and future state fishery strategies. Outcomes will be available for the fall meeting.

e. Discuss alternative methods to disseminate newsletters

Questions remain as to the best methodology to issue newsletters. Discussions were held with regional districts to solicit ideas. Mailing remains the most reliable method with limitations identified with the utilization of email and local pickup. Committee's recommendation is to continue to use the US postal service.

In addition to the newsletter, the future state of the District's web site was discussed. Key topics discussed were content, overall management, and ownership for the site. Main concern is the time required to update and manage the site. No action taken.

New Business

a. Budget and Treasurer's Report

1. Review CD values and discuss if allocations align to L/D expectations

All (5) existing CD's were reviewed and deemed to be a valid and relevant to support the current and future needs of the district. Recommendation made to retitle one CD and transfer funds to a CD.

Motion by Dan to retitle CD #16 from Septic Inspections to Weed Harvesting - seconded by Rod – all in favour – motion passes

Motion by Dan to move \$3,000.00 from Capital Purchase Reserve to CD #12 on 7-15-2017 seconded by Rod – all in favour – motion passes

2. Treasurer's report (June and Year-to-Date)

Budget reviewed with no major concerns. YTD expenses coming in under budget with a special note to be proactive in addressing weed harvester preventive maintenance as funds are available.

Motion by Chuck to accept budget for June and YTD 2017 – seconded by Rod – all in favour – motion passes

3. Review multi-year budgets

No actions taken

4. Finalize recommendations for 2018 proposed budget for budget hearing

All line items discussed and recommendation finalized.

Motion by Rod to accept 2018 budget proposal – seconded by Dan – all in favour – motion passes

b. Concern on aquatic plants that are floating along shore on Pickerel Lake

Discussed under OLD BUSINESS section a.

c. Discuss future fisheries strategy

Initial recommendation by WIDNR is to change the bag limit on bass to 14" minimum and 5 in possession. Walleye to remain at a minimum of 18" with a possession of 3. Once natural reproduction is present a number of options available including a slot limit. More to follow after August WIDNR meeting.

d. Discuss our water testing program and future testing plans

Water testing is performed and overseen by Dan. Topic to be added to fall agenda

e. Discuss agenda items for fall 2017 meeting

Agenda outlined and agreed

f. Discuss office rental at Nashville Community Center

No change to current agreement

Motion to adjourn by Kathy - seconded by Rod – All in favour – motion passes

Meeting Adjourned at 7:35