

**Pickereel/Crane Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District  
Commissioners' Meeting Minutes / Conference Call  
February 22, 2023**

- 1) Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by Chairman Chuck Sleeter.
- 2) Roll Call: Present by phone conference call were Chairman Chuck Sleeter, Vice-Chairman Craig Farah, Treasurer Kathy Kupfer, Secretary Dan Stoehr, and Commissioner-at-large John Shuppe.
- 3) Treasurer's budget amendments: The following adjustments were made to the 2023 budget that was passed on August 27, 2023:
  - a) Revenue:
    - Remove Capital Purchases Reserve of \$2000 as the 2022 budget was depleted.
    - Add Weed Harvest Reserve of \$3000 (the amount remaining for the 2022 budget.)
    - Increase Lake Management Plan Reserve to \$9000 (the amount remaining in 2022 budget.)
  - b) Expenditures:
    - Increase Boat Landing expenditures to \$8,000 by adding \$3,000 from the 2022 Boat Landing Reserve
    - Decrease Weed Harvesting expenditures to 9,000 in order to create a balanced budget.

These changes resulted in a net increase of \$2,000 to the original budget for a new total of \$43, 800.00 which resulted in no changes to the tax levy. A motion was made by Craig to table the voting until further discussion on agenda items. Seconded by John. Motion to table was passed. Toward the end of the meeting, a motion was made by Craig to accept the original amended budget as presented. Seconded by John. Motion carried.
- 4) Old Business
  - a) Crane Lake Water Quality Update (Brad Kupfer): Brad Kupfer, along with Dean Primo of White Water Associates, Inc. (who joined us by phone on the conference call) updated us on the decreased water quality of Crane Lake. The Lake Management Plan that was conducted in 2021 advised a comprehensive water quality study. Dean Primo explained what the study would entail and costs involved. Kathy commented that we have up to \$20,000 that can be used from the budget and reserve accounts. After discussion, Craig made a motion to move ahead with the water quality study at a cost of \$7,306.70 plus management fees for an estimated total of \$9,000.00. Seconded by Chuck. Motion carried by roll call vote with all in favor. There was also discussion on the use of DNR grants that can be used for future studies. Dean will help with the grants and Brad will also contact Jill Sutherland, who is a grant specialist.
  - b) Aeration system update: Chuck talked with the aeration boss, Jerry Heiptas, who said that the aeration system has been working great. Jerry did ask for \$180.00 for a new drill and auger which will be covered in the aeration budget and approved by Chuck. In the future, there will be a need for new pump breakers.
  - c) Harvester 2022 report: Chuck reported that weed harvesting began on July 8, 2022 and ended on September 26, 2022 with 8 truck loads removed from Pickereel Lake. No harvesting was done on Crane Lake. Chuck mentioned that there will be most likely some maintenance costs for updating the safety of the harvester as well as some tires for the trucks. These expenses will be within the budget.  
ACTION ITEM: Chuck will look into getting the tires as well as getting a longer gas hose.

5) New Business

a) Bulleard extraction update and discussion (Greg Matzke): Greg Matzke of the DNR joined us on the conference call and discussed ways in which we can control the bullhead population on Crane and Pickerel Lakes. He said dedicated volunteers can greatly contribute to the success of the project as has been proven on Lake Metonga. He will be sending us some information on how best we can move forward with controlling the bullhead population including both a permission form and a volunteer form. Greg mentioned that removing the 0-age bullheads that pool generally near the shoreline from mid-June through mid-July would have the greatest effect. More information will be made available in the spring newsletter and at the spring meeting.

b) By-Law reference to the election committee: After some discussion, Chuck said that we will put this on the spring meeting agenda.

c) Spring meeting agenda items: Suggested spring meeting agenda items include water quality update on Crane Lake, rental properties update, boat landing update, use of balloons at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, by-law reference to the election committee, and bullhead extraction.

ACTION ITEM: Chuck will create a draft of the agenda for the spring meeting and share with the Board for edits. Final agenda must be completed and given to the secretary by April 4, 2023.

ACTION ITEM: Chuck will contact Curt Haga for the boat landing update.

d) Spring newsletter articles, etc.: All articles as well as the agenda are to be sent to the secretary by April 4, 2023.

ACTION ITEM: All Commissioners who are writing articles are to get them to Dan by April 4, 2023. Dan will be writing an article on the \$3,000 donation given to the Lake District by the Mole Band of the Sokagon Chippewa Community as well as a short article on the request for 3 volunteers to serve on the nomination committee.

e) Welcome to Our Lakes flyer: Brad and Kathy put together a flyer that highlights Boat Landing information, Boating Guidelines, and Fishing guidelines. This can be laminated and distributed to all the rental properties. It was also suggested to put it in the newsletter for all of the residents to keep.

ACTION ITEM: Dan will include the Welcome to Our Lakes flyer in the spring newsletter.

ACTION ITEM: Kathy will have laminated copies made for distribution.

f) Other: Kathy received a donation request from the Wisconsin Land-Water Conservation Association for the National Conservation Foundation's Envirothon, which is a high school environmental education competition that reaches more than 500,000 students. After discussion, Craig made a motion to donate \$100. Seconded by Dan. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM: Kathy will send a check for \$100 to the National Conservation Foundation.

6) Adjourn: Craig made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Dan. Meeting was adjourned by Vice-Chairman Craig Farah at 12:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Stoehr,  
Secretary, Pickerel/Crane Lake P&R District