

PICKEREL/CRANE LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT
FALL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 26, 2023 9:00 AM
TOWN OF NASHVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER
1038 CTH "Q" PICKEREL, WI

1. Call to Order: Chairman Chuck Sleeter called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
2. Roll Call: Board members present were Chairman Chuck Sleeter, Vice-Chairman Craig Farah, Treasurer Kathy Kupfer, Secretary Dan Stoehr, and Commissioner John Shuppe.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Welcome: New members present were Doug and Dawn Neumann and Bob Weber.
5. Approve May, 2023 Spring Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Len Hadovski and seconded by Dan Vosters to approve the minutes of the Spring 2023 meeting. No discussion. Motion carried.
6. Treasurer's Report: Kathy reported that as of August 25, 2023, we have spent \$29,393.84 out of our 2023 budget of \$43,800.00. She stated that the district is in good shape for this time of year with a remaining balance of \$14,406.16 for 2023. A motion was made by Keith Verhagen to accept the treasurer's report and seconded by John Duernberger. Motion carried.
7. Old Business
 - a) Summer 2023 Harvester Report: After a slow start this season, the weed harvesters are keeping very busy with currently 25 loads having been removed from Pickerel Lake. It was noted that there are a lot of floating plants on the water this year due to recent high winds that have uprooted many of the weeds. Chuck reported that the board would like to thank the 15 volunteers for all their help for without them our weed problem would be much worse. Also, a special thank you to the Snowmobile Club and Marty Birchbach for the use of their tractor. Chuck also reported that Jim Huss is stepping down after many years as the weed harvester coordinator, but John Shuppe has graciously agreed to take over. Thank You, John, and Thank You, Jim!
 - b) Wild Rice Report: John Shuppe reported that last fall 500 pounds of seed were planted and this spring it appeared to have been well germinated. Due to excess water in the bay, however, the rice didn't mature. Reseeding that same area probably will not help, so he is looking for new areas to plant that are shallower. He is also looking for a volunteer who would like a test spot in front of their property, if it is appropriate for planting. More information on the benefits of wild rice can be found on our website, pickerelcranelakedistrict.org.
 - c) Lake Management Plan Update: Brad Kupfer gave updates on the following lake management items:
 1. Trolling change: The recommendation to the DNR to change the number of lines used for trolling has already passed several hurdles and is still in the slow process of being approved. Hopefully we will know more by next year's spring meeting.
 2. Fisheries Update: The stocking of 16,500 walleye fingerlings will begin on October 1st of this year. 13,000 fingerlings will be released in Pickerel Lake and 3,500 in Crane Lake.

3. Bullhead Removal Project: The removal of bullheads is important for the sustainability of our walleye population since bullheads feast on young walleye fingerlings up to 13 inches. An attempt this year to use fine nets to capture the swarms of baby bullheads was not very successful so Brad thought that maybe having a bullhead tournament would be a better idea. He is looking for a volunteer to help him organize the tournament for next year, so if interested please contact Brad Kupfer at 715-484-2520. Chuck asked if we could use fyke nets to trap the bullheads and Brad responded that currently the DNR isn't scheduled for bullhead removal on our lakes until 2025. After discussion, it was decided to have Chuck and Brad look into working with the DNR into purchasing the fyke nests ourselves and then work on removing the bullheads ourselves with either volunteers or paying someone to remove them.
 4. Eurasian Milfoil: Brad reported that we are in the second year of a LMP Eurasian milfoil grant that is used for the removal of Eurasian milfoil on Crane Lake. A group has come in to identify the EM concentrations and work has already begun on its eradication in the moderate areas. The highest concentration of EM is in the channel between the two lakes so education to the boaters to remove weeds from their props before entering the channel was emphasized with signs explaining this at the entrance to the culvert.
 - d) Crane Lake Limnologist Update: Brad thanked the following volunteers who have helped with providing useful data used in the study: Mark Starich, Gene Ebben, Brian King, Brad and Kathy Kupfer. This information will be provided to White Water Associates who will use that data to make their recommendations in the future.
 - e) Boat Landing Update: First of all, Chuck thanked Curt Haga for all of his work on the writing of a grant and then getting the process started on the improvements of the Pickerel and Crane Lake boat landings. Curt reported all 3 boat landings are permitted by the DNR and fully funded by monies from the DNR, Town of Nashville, Forest County Tourism Commission, and the Pickerel/Crane Lake District. Curt explained how the work will be done by Krueger and Steinfest using 5 concrete planks weighing about 9,000 pounds each. All 3 boat landings will be done this year shortly after Labor Day.
8. New Business
- a) By-Laws Update: Kathy Kupfer reported that the board is recommending a change to Article IV, Section 1 of our bylaws changing the time of our two membership meetings from "Memorial and Labor Day weekends" to "the Saturday one week before the Memorial and Labor Day weekends" to reflect when we currently have been having our meetings. Also, under Article VII, Section 1, from "All contracts exceeding \$5,000 for work or materials" to "All contracts exceeding \$10,000 for work or materials" to reflect the increase in costs of work and materials since these bylaws were first written. Therefore, the membership would now need to approve purchases greater than \$10,000 rather than \$5,000. A motion was made by Gary Stoffel to make these two changes in our current bylaws. Seconded by Len Hadovski. Motion carried.

- b) Three volunteers needed for 2023 Audit: Kathy reported that 3 volunteers are needed to review and audit the treasurer's books after the first of next year. The three people who volunteered to help are Marge Shuppe and Fred and Linda Maas. Thank you to the three of you.
 - c) New Aeration boss needed: Although Jerry Hietpas mentioned at the spring meeting that he was getting older and thought he should step down, his "crew" said he can't and that he is still the "Boss." So he agreed and they all will work together to make sure the work gets done.
9. Budget Hearing/Adoption of Tax Levy: Treasurer Kathy Kupfer presented the budget for 2024 in the amount of \$36,800. This is actually a decrease of \$7,000.00 from the 2023 budget. She also explained that the tax levy will remain the same at \$27,800. After more explanations and discussion, a motion was made by Len Hadovski and seconded by Curt Haga to accept the 2024 budget of \$36,800 and the tax levy of \$27,800. Motion carried.
10. Election for Vice Chairman and Secretary: Chuck opened up nominations for the vice chairman position. Craig Farah was stepping down as the vice chairman and Noah Pearson agreed to be nominated. No other nominations were made so by a unanimous vote Noah Pearson is our new vice chairman for the next three years. Chuck thanked Craig for his years of service. For the secretary position, Dan Stoehr agreed to run for one more 3-year term. Chuck asked for any other nominations and hearing none, a unanimous vote was taken. Dan Stoehr was re-elected for another 3-year term.
11. Public Comment
- a) Floating Dock: Fred Mass told the membership that when the ice went out this spring, he "acquired" a floating dock and would like to get rid of it. If it is yours or if you have any interest in it, please contact Fred at 920-850-0130.
 - b) Wake Boats: Gene Ebben commented about the damage that wake boats can do on small and shallow lakes. After a great deal of discussion, it was decided that the board would take a serious look at this and have more information by our next meeting in the spring. Doug Newman offered to help out since he is currently dealing with this same situation in his hometown. Thank you, Doug.
 - c) Filamentous Algae: There was discussion about the green scum on top of the water and Brad Kupfer explained that this is filamentous algae. Although he explained that the best way to get rid of it is to physically remove it, water samples are being taken and we are working with White Water Associates on the best way to move forward.
12. Announcement of Raffle Winners:
- Torch Light: Mark Starich and Dan Welhouse
 - Garnish Server: Larry Grassl
 - Lure Flashlights: Doug Newman, Travis Jacak and Dan Mitchell
13. Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Mark Starich and seconded by Marge Shuppe. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:53 AM by Chairman Chuck Sleeter.

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