

**PICKEREL/CRANE LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT**

**2025 FALL MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 23, 2025**

**9:00 AM**

**TOWN OF NASHVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER**

**1038 CTH "Q" PICKEREL, WI**

1. Call to Order: Chairman Chuck Sleeter called the annual fall meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
2. Roll Call: Board members present were Chairman Chuck Sleeter, Vice-Chairman Noah Pearson, Treasurer Kathy Kupfer, Secretary Dan Stoehr and Commissioner-at-large John Shuppe.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Welcome: Chairman Chuck Sleeter welcomed all who were present including two new members.
5. Approve 2025 Spring Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Dan Mitchell and seconded by Craig Farah to approve the 2025 spring meeting minutes with the change of removing the word "significant" from paragraph 7c (2024 Audit Report). Motion carried.
6. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kathy Kupfer gave an update on the current budget with a closing balance of \$228,093.27 as of August 20, 2025, that included current 2025 revenues of \$34,818.06 and expenditures of \$12,846.68. Marge Shuppe made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and it was seconded by Craig Farah. Motion carried.
7. Old Business
  - a. Summer 2025 Harvester Report (John Shuppe): John reported that as of August 23, 2025, there have been 116 loads of weeds removed from Pickerel Lake. This includes over 260 hours of the weed harvester being out on the lake operated by 18 volunteers. Chuck Jackson offered the use of his scale and one load of weeds weighed approximately 8,000 pounds. This means that over 900,000 pounds (464 tons) of weeds have already been harvested from Pickerel Lake. John thanked all of the volunteers who have put in many hours as well as Chuck Jackson for the use of his scale, the snowmobile club for the use of their tractor, Don Albright for renewing the harvester permit and the Sugden's for donating a grease gun. Weed harvesting will likely continue to the end of September.

- b. New Off-Site Parking Place for Harvester Equipment: Chuck reported that the harvester is currently parked on private property adjacent to the north Pickerel Lake boat landing. The owner has given us permission to leave it there, but a new site has been found just off of Pickerel Lake Road to store the harvester and other equipment if needed.
- c. 2024-2025 Aeration Report: Keith Verhagen reported there have been some maintenance issues that have been taken care of and their crew is ready to go for the 2025-2026 winter season.
- d. Wake Boat Update (Brad Kupfer): Brad was pleased to announce that as of August 19, 2025, the Town of Nashville passed an ordinance banning the use of wake boats for the purpose of wake surfing on all lakes in the Town of Nashville. Creighton Litt, who attended the Town of Nashville meeting, reported that the Township will be taking care of promoting the ordinance. Copies of the ordinance will also be on our website as well as in the 2026 spring newsletter. Chuck advised, however, that the State of Wisconsin can still pass a legislative law that would override local ordinances in the future so we are all encouraged to contact our local legislators and advise them of our views on wake boating in Wisconsin.

#### 8. New Business

- a. Bullhead Competition: Dan Vosters reported that there has been an excellent response to the bullhead competition hosted by two of our local bars. 20 people have signed up and currently over 800 bullheads have been harvested.
- b. Boat Landings: Chuck asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add two more items under 8b, Boat Landings, that include boat landing posting signs and power loading at the boat landings. Craig Farah made the motion and was seconded by Sarah Stoehr. Motion carried.
  - Fishing Line Containers: The fishing line containers are up and being used at all 3 of the boat landings. They were furnished by the Forest County Lake Association (FCLA).
  - Boat Landing Posting Signs: One of the spots where there was a posting sign was where the old Schuh's bait shop had been. The signs and poster board were salvaged just before it was torn down. Chuck is working with the new owners as to where the refurbished posting sign will end up going. The other posting sign of concern is at the south landing of Pickerel Lake off of South Shore Drive. The sign needs to be refurbished and Chuck will work with the landowners as to the final placement of the sign.
  - Power Loading at the Boat Landings: Chuck reported that there was a rather large hole created by power loading at the south Pickerel Lake boat landing. He contacted the Town of Nashville and happily reported that the hole was filled in the next day. Also, at the Town of Nashville's August 19, 2025 meeting, a No Power Loading ordinance was adopted and was to go into effect immediately. Chuck said the District would purchase the NO Power Loading signs for all 3 boat landings and offered to put them up.

- c. Purchase of New Shirts and Caps for all Volunteers: Chuck reported that volunteer shirts and caps have been ordered for all District volunteers by our vice-chairman, Noah Pearson. These shirts and caps have been graciously donated by Noah and his wife, Melinda. The District thanks Noah and Melinda for their generous donation.
  - d. Bullhead and EWM Postcard Mailings: Noah Pearson reported that all District residents should have received a postcard this summer providing information on how we all can help curtail the spread of the Eurasian Water Milfoil. New signs, including a large red stop sign, were also placed on top of the culvert to remind boaters to clean off the weeds from their props before entering the channel. There was discussion about how to effectively alert people to the importance of removing weeds from their props. Creighton Litt discussed the use of high-tech cameras that can be used in the area of the culvert to monitor the compliance of weed removal.
9. Budget Hearing/Adoption of Tax Levy: Treasurer Kathy Kupfer reported on the District's 2026 proposed budget and tax levy. The 2026 budget of \$37,800.00 increased only \$300.00 from the 2025 budget while the tax levy of \$27,800.00 remained the same. Brad Kupfer reported that a recent grant was denied to get rid of EWM by the use of D.A.S.H. There was a great deal of discussion regarding the best way to get rid of the EWM, whether it was by D.A.S.H, preventive measures or even chemical treatments. Kathy reported that there is \$15,000 in the budget for EWM removal. There was a consensus amongst the members present that the District's board should come up with a solution using the \$15,000 budgeted monies whether it be D.A.S.H. or by chemical means. The board will take it under advisement at a future board meeting. A motion was made by Rose Starich and seconded by Craig Farah to approve the 2026 budget of \$37,800 and a 2026 tax levy of \$27,800. Motion carried.
10. Elections of Treasurer and Commissioner
- Chuck asked for nominations from the floor: For Treasurer, Kathy Kupfer nominated Teri Geurts. There were no other nominations. Kathy made a motion for Teri Geurts as the new treasurer. It was seconded by Creighton Litt. Motion carried by a unanimous show of hands. For Commissioner-at-large, current Commissioner John Shuppe agreed to stay on for another 3-year term. There were no other nominations. A motion was made by Mark Starich and seconded by Gene Ebben to have John Shuppe continue as Commissioner-at-large. Motion carried by a unanimous show of hands.
11. Special Acknowledgement of Treasurer Kathy Kupfer: Secretary Dan Stoehr presented Kathy Kupfer with a wooden plaque of Crane Lake along with a gift card for her 14 years of service to the Lake District as treasurer. He expressed the District's gratitude to Kathy for her many volunteer hours and thanked her for her tireless service.

12. Public Comment: Dan Mitchell discussed the need to have cameras at the culvert as well as enforcement of the violators. As mentioned earlier, Creighton Litt said that he has high-tech cameras that can be very effective in monitoring compliance. He offered to come up with a proposal and will offer it to the board at a future board meeting. It was also discussed to have the new ordinances printed in future newsletters and on the District's website.
13. Announcement of raffle winners (donations from Kathy Kupfer): Pennie May and Dan Mitchell. Dan declined and Rose Starich was the winner.
14. Adjourn: A motion was made by Creighton Litt and seconded by Kathy Kupfer to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 AM by Chairman Chuck Sleeter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Stoehr, Secretary

Pickereel/Crane Lake P&R District