

**Pelican Lake Association Annual 2022 Membership Meeting.**

**June 11, 2022 Pelican Lake Fire District Building.**

**Meeting Minutes.**

**-Call Meeting to Order:** President Kerry Romsa called the meeting to order at 10:09 am.

**-Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited by all in attendance.

**-Roll Call:** President Kerry Romsa, present, Vice President Larry Burkhart, present, Treasurer Joy Herman, present, Secretary Todd Van Langen, present, Director Jim Fedel, present, Director Edwin Miller, present.

**-President Note:** President Kerry Romsa set expectations for Members during the meeting. Would like to keep the Meeting moving along in a timely manner. President Romsa stated there is time set aside near the end of the Meeting for Membership questions.

**-Register Proxies and Confirm a Quorum:** To date the Association has 351 members, present at the meeting were 76 members, with 36 signed proxies, for a total of 112 votes. Five members viewed the meeting on a Zoom connection.

**Proof of Notice of Meeting:** Notice was sent via mail or Constant Contact stating the date, time, location, and draft agenda for the meeting.

**-Approve the Agenda:** Agenda order at the discretion of the president or their designee. Motion to accept Agenda made by Robert Kraetsch, seconded by Mike Warpinski, voice vote, Motion carried unanimously.

**-Approve Minutes from 2021 Annual Membership Meeting held on March 12 2022:** Motion to accept 2021 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes made by Larry Burkhart, seconded by Rick Schroeder, voice vote, Motion carried unanimously

**-Report of Officers including Treasurers Report:** President Kerry Romsa reported on some of the activities of the current Board. The 2021 Annual Membership Meeting was held on 3-12-2022, this was necessary in order to maintain our non-profit 501(c)(3) status and remain eligible for Grants.

Corrected Association By-laws to adhere to State Regulations and Membership rights. The By-laws were reviewed by an attorney and will be voted on today.

In April three Members attended the Wi. Lakes and Rivers Convention in Stevens Point. They attended different seminars and made some valuable contacts.

Developed key relationships with the DNR, Scott Van Engren, Onterra LLC the lake management people who develop our five and ten year lake plan, our ten year lake plan will be expiring in 2023. Also met with Aquatic Plant Management who will be giving a presentation later today.

We published and distributed a great Newsletter. We also updated Members weekly on activities of the Association on Constant Contact, Facebook, and on our Webpage.

We are creating an open line of communication with the Membership for total transparency.

We will continue with the core mission of protecting the health of Pelican Lake while integrating public and business interests for a mutually beneficial path as we move forward.

We have hosted the following speakers: Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company, Ben Niffenegger and Peter Hanson, talked about water level control on the lake. DNR Game Wardens, Tim Otto, and Heath Hampton, talked about State regulations involving fishing and boating on the lake. Mole Lake Fish Biologist Mike Preul who talked about the lakes fishery and plans for future fish studies on the lake.

Vice President Larry Burkhart thanked everyone for taking the time to attend the meeting. Larry stated he is the Chairperson for the Fish/Wildlife Committee and the Boating safety Committee.

Secretary Todd Van Langen stated he is the Vice Chairperson on the Water Quality Committee and a member of the Fish Committee.

Treasurer Joy Herman stated she is the Chairperson of the Finance Committee and the Bylaws Committee.

Director Jim Fedel stated he is the Chairperson of the Water Quality Committee.

Director Edwin Miller thanked everyone for attending.

**-Treasurers Report:** Treasurer Joy Herman reported the Associations current Assets. Certificate of Deposits \$89,338.95, Co Vantage Credit Union Checking Account \$15,535.94, Co Vantage Credit Union Savings Account \$1659.10, total current assets, \$106,533.99. Joy also reported on the 2021 General Finances, 2021 Total Net Income \$52,755.00, Total Net Expenses \$57, 254.00

**-Committee Reports:** Water Quality Committee – Jim Fedel Chair of the committee talked about the committee's purpose and asked for volunteers to join the committee. Todd Van Langen Vice Chair of the committee reported on the following items. The committee is working on renewing

our Lake Management Plan, the renewed plan is due in 2023. We are one year behind in the planning process. We have met with Onterra LLC, Grant monies are available for the writing of the plan. Onterra LLC can help guide us through the process. An updated plan is required to apply for Grants and DNR permitting.

Aquatic Invasive Species – Eurasian Water Milfoil(EWM) problem in the lake. We will be using Onterra's lake mapping from the Fall of 2021 to target problem areas in the lake in Outlet and Treacherous Bays. This year Aquatic Plant Management APM) will be using a combination of Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) and hand pulling. APM will be giving a presentation later in the meeting on their removal process. Onterra LLC will be coming back this Fall to conduct a survey and map the areas for the status of the EWM in Musky, Outlet, and Treacherous Bays.

Clean Boats/Clean Waters – Watercraft monitoring training was provided on June 12, currently our Association has four monitors who work Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays monitoring three boat launches on the lake. Per Grant requirements we need a minimum of 200 hours of monitoring at each boat launch. We have received \$12,000 in Grant Monies towards this program. We need more monitors for this program.

Internet Landing Installed Device Sensor (I-LIDS) – The sensor was installed at the State Boat Launch prior to the 2022 fishing season opener. The program videos watercraft entering and leaving the water and delivers an educational message on how to help stop the spread of invasive species. This program is funded by DNR Grant monies, the Town of Enterprise and Schoepke also contribute monies towards the I-LIDS program.

Water Monitoring/Sampling – training will be offered by the DNR and Oneida County on Friday June 24, 1100am, at Keeler's landing. There will be on land and on water training sessions on water clarity and Aquatic Invasive/Native Plant identification.

Water Quality Committee Summary – We need volunteers for many of these programs, we need volunteers to join the committee. There is much work to be done to keep our lake healthy.

Fish/Wildlife Committee – Chairperson Larry Burkhart gave a summary of the process of introducing two fishing resolutions that will eventually become part of the DNR's fishing regulations. The resolutions passed a vote held by the Conservation Congress this past April. The resolutions will continue to move forward in the process. The resolutions are: a five a day bass limit with five under 14 inches or four under 14 inches and one over 18 inches. A combined panfish limit of ten fish. The DNR enacts resolutions into regulations in odd numbered years, we are hoping the resolutions will become regulations in 2023.

Larry spoke about a program the committee has just started investigating, take a kid, Veteran, or disabled person fishing. Hope to start this upcoming winter with an ice fishing outing. Looking for volunteers to help with this program.

Boating Safety Committee – Larry gave a buoy placement update. Difficult year for placement of the buoys, dirty water and ice moving buoy anchors made placement difficult. Also the late ice off the lake this year made for a late start, all buoys were in prior to Memorial Day weekend. In 2021 buoys were in place by April 4<sup>th</sup>. Larry asked Paul Tomczak to give an update on memorial buoys. Paul stated the buoys last approximately seven to ten years, in 2007 federally regulated buoys were purchased, there are 43 buoys on the lake. A memorial buoy is \$350, you choose the wording you would like on the buoy. Question was asked about adding additional buoys to certain areas, Paul stated any additional buoys put on the lake would need to go through the town of Enterprise or Schoepke.

Larry asked all watercraft users to be respectful of other watercraft users while on the lake.

Membership Committee – In January of this year we had 262 members, currently we have 351 members. This is a year round Association and we need support for our Association.

Public Relations/Marketing Committee – Kelly Kraetsch reported the committee is using social media to get information out to the membership through Facebook, Web Page, and Constant Contact. Beth Reinemann helped with the Facebook page and Brian Schell has been working on the Website.

Summerfest will be our primary fundraiser this year, success relies on involvement of the whole community.

Jeff Griffey reported on the upcoming Water Ski Show on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1pm, at Gerrit's Lakeview Inn. Conover and Three Lakes Water Ski Teams will be performing. Jeff has tickets for sale for the show.

Land Use Committee – Jim Frymark set up a successful roadway cleanup this Spring, there is a Fall cleanup set for October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The committee sponsored a very informative presentation from the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company on water level management on the lake.

Kerry Romsa stated the Land Use Committee will stay abreast of the possibility of mining activity in the Town of Schoepke.

Bylaws Committee – The committee used the UW Stevens Point Wisconsin lakes template for writing the Bylaws and cross referenced them with State Statutes. Amended and restated

Bylaws were written by the committee, approved by the Board, and underwent a legal review. Lot of work and hours invested into these Bylaws by the committee.

Vetting removed, Term Limits reinstated, and Members will vote on Board of Directors and any restated or amendments to the Bylaws.

Bylaws were available for review by the Membership 30 days prior to this meeting.

Audit Committee was changed to financial Review Committee.

Talked about the difference between a Lake Association and a Lake District.

Bylaws will be voted on by the Membership later today.

Finance Committee – The Finance Committee developed a Project Template that each committee uses to project costs for the year, this has been working well.

The Finance Committee now includes a Grant Writing subcommittee, members include Bob Mott, Jim Frymark, and Robert Kraetsch.

Committee members Rick and Beth Steiner have helped with setting up and updating QuickBooks program for better recording/reporting capabilities.

Joy Herman stated she will not be running for the Treasurer's position in June of 2023, looking for someone interested in the Treasurer's position, Joy would mentor that person.

Joy spoke about Anticipated Income for 2022 which is \$47,300.00. Anticipated Expenses for 2022 are \$60,834.00.

Kerry spoke about the costs for AIS removal from the lake, especially the milfoil situation we have right now in Musky bay.

Kerry spoke about the Watercraft Monitor hours and how they are distributed between the three boat launches. Kerry keeps in close contact with the Monitors, they have the flexibility that if it is a very slow day with little or no watercraft traffic they can leave for that day and use the hours when there is more watercraft using the launch.

Joy spoke about 2023 Anticipated Budget. 2023 Anticipated Income \$65,800.00. 2023 Anticipated Expenses \$73,104.00.

Discussion on the Budget, will inflation impact our expenses. Kerry said that most of our expenses are contracted or fixed costs and inflation should not be a major factor. Kerry felt that

after our fundraising events and the different Grants we will be applying for our 2023 Budget should be close to break even.

There were several different ideas on fundraising events that the Association could get involved with throughout the whole year. There will be a need for volunteers from the Membership to help put these fundraisers together.

Beth Steiner spoke to the fact that the IRS does not like to see a Lake Association like ours to have large cash reserves. But also we may not always get the Grant monies we apply for which we will then need cash reserves to deal with the issue like the spreading of Eurasian Water Milfoil in our lake.

**-Adoption of 2023 Annual Budget:** Motion to accept the 2023 Projected Annual Budget made by Robert Kraetsch, seconded by Jim Fedel, voice vote, Motion carried unanimously.

**-Approval of Amended and Restated Bylaws:** Motion to accept the Amended and Restated Bylaws as written made by Rick Steiner, seconded by Sue Romsa, voice vote, Motion carried unanimously.

**Election of Directors:** We currently have three vacant Board positions. The meeting was opened for nominations. Robert Kraetsch nominated Bob Mott, in a written statement he had provided Bob accepted the nomination. Larry Burkhart nominated Jim Frymark, Jim accepted the nomination. Kerry Romsa nominated Kelly Kraetsch, Kelly accepted the nomination. Edwin Miller nominated Brian Schell, Brian respectfully declined the nomination. Larry Burkhart nominated Jeff Griffey, Jeff respectively declined the nomination. Call for a close to nominations, no more nominations were brought forward. Motion to close nominations made by Robert Kraetsch, seconded by Jim Fedel, voice vote, Motion carried unanimously. There was a call to approve the three nominees for the Pelican Lake Association Board, Bob Mott, Jim Frymark, and Kelly Kraetsch. Motion to approve the three nominees made by Larold Lodholz, seconded by Eric Burkhart, voice vote Motion carried unanimously.

**-Election of Financial Review Committee:** The Financial Review Committee could consist of one to three individuals. The meeting was opened for nominations. Joy Herman nominated Peg Broker, Kerry Romsa seconded that nomination, Peg Broker accepted the nomination. Rhonda Bell nominated herself for the committee, Larry Burkhart seconded the nomination, nomination accepted. Robert Kraetsch nominated Ed Rueckl, Chet Ulickey seconded the nomination, Ed accepted the nomination. Joy Herman nominated Sherry Aulik, Jim Frymark seconded the nomination, Sherry accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominations made. Motion to approve the four nominees, Peg Broker, Rhonda Bell, Ed Rueckl, and Sherry Aulik, for the Financial Review Committee made by Rick Steiner, seconded by Eric Burkhart, voice vote, Motion carried unanimously.

**-Old Business:** Summary of former Boards attorney's fees. Joy Herman reported that a letter had been sent to both attorney's that the former Board had retained. The letter stated that the former Board Members who retained their services had no authority to do so. The current Pelican Lake Association Board will not pay the fee's for service that the attorney's provided the former Board. Nothing has been heard from either attorney.

Summary of investigation of actions of former Board Members. Kerry Romsa reported that some of the former Board members have returned items belonging to the Association and some have not. There is an ongoing investigation being conducted by the Oneida County Sheriff's Department of this matter.

**-New Business:** Guest Speakers Educational Program. Andrew McFerrin, Christian Wahman, and Nick Johnson from Aquatic Plant Management (APM) gave a presentation about their company and what they will be doing on our lake. APM started their company in 2013, they specialize in abatement and eradication of aquatic invasive species. They are working closely with Onterra LLC, reviewing the maps and locations that Onterra has documented of Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in our lake. They will be concentrating on Outlet and Treacherous Bays with a combination of Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) and hand pulling. DASH requires a DNR permit which they have obtained. They will be using DASH in Outlet and Treacherous Bays for two days early in July and then will follow up with hand pulling in the same areas for two days later in July. Onterra LLC will then be doing a mapping survey of EWM in Musky, Outlet, and Treacherous Bays this Fall. Discussion on the situation of EWM in Musky Bay. At this time APM feels that DASH and hand pulling may not be enough to control the EWM in Musky Bay, how to control the EWM in Musky Bay is a topic for another day. APM did touch on chemical application as a way to control EWM. APM stated that the new chemical that has been developed works quite well on EWM and does not seem to harm any other plants or living things in the water. APM did say this chemical has not been used long enough to conduct any long term effects on a lake environment. It was brought up that there is a large deposit of sawdust in Musky Bay that could be causing problems or could cause problems in the future. Unsure how this situation could be addressed other than dredging it which could cost an enormous amount of money.

**Members Comments:** Several comments were made by Members thanking the Board for the work that has been done in the past several months. Kerry Romsa stated it is the intention of the Board to keep good lines of communication with the Membership and be totally transparent with all that we do. Kerry spoke about the presentation that the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company had given to the Membership and how we plan to continue developing a relationship with them. Kerry reminded the Membership of the Fireman's Picnic on June 18<sup>th</sup> at Boiling

Springs, the Water Ski Show on July 9<sup>th</sup> at Gerrit's Lakeview Inn, and Summerfest on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Fire District Grounds, Kerry asked Members to support these functions and the local businesses who are involved. Will need volunteers from the Membership to make these events a success.

**Adjournment:** Motion to Adjourn the meeting made by Larry Burkhart, seconded by Jim Fedel, voice vote, Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:11pm.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Todd Van Langen, Pelican Lake Association Secretary.