

Pelican Lake Association Board of Directors

Meeting July 8, 2025 6PM Schoepke Town Hall

Draft Minutes

15 attendees

1. The meeting was called to order by Bob Mott at 6 pm
2. Quorum confirmed – all 5 BOD members present. No one on Zoom BOD members here  
- Steve Tripp, Pat Schenk, Bob Mott, Ted Nelson, Wayne Morgan
3. Pledge of Allegiance recited
4. Proof of Notice June 30, 2025
5. Agenda approved without amendment 5-0 Motion Nelson 2<sup>nd</sup> Schenk
6. Request for members to fill four open BOD positions
  - a. Kerry Romsa has a list he will provide
  - b. Wayne Morgan said his wife may be interested and wondered if husband /wife could both serve. Confirmed it was OK
  - c. Bob Kraetsch, noted by-laws have method for filling open positions
  - d. 6.03 – Vacancy and Replacements
    - i. Filled by vote of remaining BOD at a Special Meeting held for that purpose
    - ii. Prior to that meeting the BOD shall notify the Membership of the vacancy/ies and request nominations willing to fill the open positions/s until the next Annual Meeting
    - iii. The Special Meeting must be held at least 30 days and no more than 45 days after the Membership has been notified of the vacancy/ies
    - iv. The selection of the new board member/s shall require an affirmative vote by a majority of the Directors at the meeting
7. Set Executive Board
  - a. President- Steve Tripp says he does not live in the area but would accept the position Motion Mott 2<sup>nd</sup> Nelson Unanimous affirmative vote of BOD. Steve Tripp new President
  - b. Vice President – Ted Nelson said he would accept the position Motion Mott 2<sup>nd</sup> Tripp Unanimous affirmative vote of BOD. Ted Nelson new V.P.
  - c. Treasurer- pointed out this is a very important position and that the former treasurer, Kelly, would help. Wayne Morgan said he would accept the position Motion Tripp 2<sup>nd</sup> Mott Unanimous affirmative vote of BOD. Wayne Morgan New Treasurer.
  - d. Secretary Bob Mott said he would accept Motion Schenk 2<sup>nd</sup> Nelson Unanimous affirmative vote of the BOD. Bob Mott new Secretary.
8. Designate Chairs and Vice Chairs of Standing Committees

- a. Finance – Chair Steve Tripp Vice Chair Pat Schenk note- Kerry wants to be on.
  - b. Fish and Wildlife- Chair Scott Sankey Vice Chair- Kerry Romsa
  - c. Water Quality – Chair Bob Mott Vice Chair Kerry Romsa
  - d. Boat Safety – Chair Jim Frymark Vice Chair Kerry Romsa Note- Tripp would like to be on Note- Paul OK with being replaced due to appearance of conflict of interest
  - e. Land Use- Chair Mary Schmitzer Vice Chair Ted Nelson
  - f. Public Relations – Chair Pat Schenk Vice Chair Kelly Kraetsch
  - g. Audit Review- Chair Ed Rueckl Vice Chair Sherry Aulik Note: Independent Committee
  - h. Adopt-a-Highway (Sub-committee of Land Use) Jim Frymark will continue to lead and organize
  - i. Membership- Chair Suz Romsa Vice Chair Pat Schenk
  - j. Clean Boats Clean Waters ( Subcommittee of Water Quality)) Chairman Kerry Romsa Vice Chair Mary Schmitzer
  - k. I-Lids Scott Sankey will continue to work with the operation of the two I-LIDS systems
  - l. Note: The listed Chairs and Vice chairs will reach out to current committee to see if they have an interest in continuing on the committee
9. Discuss/Approve bulk buoy purchase with donated funds
- a. Discussion about the donation of \$ 4,000 from Ron Merenda in memory of Dennis Fink. Mr. Merenda requested the funds be used for lighted buoys. Note: Scot and Roxie Sankey donated \$ 2,000 to complete the purchase of the lights for the new buoys. The PLA is grateful for the most generous donations.
  - b. Discussion ensued regarding Enterprise not funding buoy placement in the Enterprise part of the lake. Paul Tomczak helped Mike Fowler in placing and will help in removal at the end of the season.
  - c. Steve and Kerry both said that a new plan must be developed to fund the placement/removal of the buoys as well as the maintenance. Kerry distributed a plan which needs to be discussed in the future.
  - d. It was pointed out that there is no requirement to place buoys nor is there any liability related to placement or not placing.
  - e. Mott will investigate the rules for placing buoys in the channel cut from Keelers Landing
  - f. PLA members living in Enterprise were encouraged to let their feeling be known to the Enterprise Town Board.
  - g. There was also a suggestion that someone new run for the Enterprise board.
  - h. People using the channel should keep buoys on their left both going and returning. Buoys were set in the middle of the channel.

- i. Motion Mott 2<sup>nd</sup> Schenk to approve the use of the donated funds for new buoys and lights Passed Unanimously 5-0

#### 10. Summer Funraiser

- a. Contributions are running slow this year. Many Gift certificates
- b. Rox Sankey will take baskets and similar donations
- c. Need more volunteers
- d. Food stops at 7 and band at 6
- e. Steve praised the excellent organization

#### 11. Old Business

- a. Kerry reports on Aquatic Plant Management
- b. 8 hours spent on Keelers channel cutting for navigation. Weed growth is way behind normal probably due to tannic water/rain runoff.
- c. Cutting will be delayed for three weeks and will reevaluate
- d. DASH 4 days on Guth. Poor visibility. Diver Joe grew up on lake and is passionate regarding maintaining the quality of the lake. Grandparents here for many years.
- e. Lots of native weeds and cabbage 3 feet below surface,
- f. Worked other days south of Antigo Island and Treacherous Bay
- g. Dash will return the 14<sup>th</sup> of July
- h. North Bay has only one small patch and will not be addressed this year.
- i. Treacherous weed density is where Outlet was 3 years ago.
- j. Scott said he can't find EWM in usually infested west shore of Outlet.  
Many grassy type plants
- k. DNR has said that EWM densities will vary year to year. Reasons unknown
- l. Kelly read a letter with a donation and description of the history and great times in Pelican Lake in honor of Art and Dorothy Umhoefer who have passed away.  
She supports the continuing efforts to protect the waters of Pelican Lake.
- m. Lud explained that at one time the association handled all of the buoys but that Jean Roach said that the association should get out of the buoy business and the towns took over in a shared responsibility
- n. Some concerns raised of PLA liability if it took over buoy placement
- o. Recent past- towns pay for placement and removal in their townships and the PLA pays for buoys and maintenance.
- p. Paul T says arrangement worked well until it didn't.
- q. Rick Schroeder raised his concern about spending \$ 20,000 to map the lake. He stated that he had contacted Lake Master, Navionics, and Fishing Hotspots about the last time the maps for Pelican Lake had been updated. Lake Master said 9 years; Hot Spots 2008; Navionics not sure. What is the purpose of the PLA spending \$

20,000 if recent maps have been created? Feels not a safety issue as there have been no major accidents. Feels not a safety issue since major hazards are marked.

- r. Suggests putting \$ 20,000 in escrow until details are explained.
- s. Mott will contact Brian Schell to ask him to explain the specifics including response from companies to purchase maps produced with the PLA funds
- t. It was pointed out that the membership has approved use of the funds for 2 consecutive years. BOD would have to go back to the membership for a change at a special meeting. Also pointed out that the BOD has fiscal responsibility to membership. Owe it to Brian to have the opportunity to explain his work to this point. Also is in the Lake Management Plan. Are there grants available to help pay for the mapping?
- u. Comment- Most people want money used for weed treatment
- v. Comment- \$ 20,000 a lot for project other than weed treatment
- w. Comment- If BOD does not follow vote, membership will lose faith in BOD
- x. Comment- Deficit in budget needs to be considered. BOD needs to prioritize spending. Heard a lot about weeds but nothing about mapping.
- y. Comment- when new information regarding the mapping project becomes available, BOD needs to consider.
- z. Comment- positive about fundraising \$ 90,000 more than just a few years ago

## 12. New Business

- a. Mary reported on a request that the PLA help maintain the State Landing – cutting grass; trimming; bathroom cleanup due to DNR staff that covers Vilas, Oneida, and part of Forest counties being cut from 4 to 2. Bob Mott and Dennis VandenHeuvel will cut every 2 weeks and the monitors will check/clean the bathroom. Before that is done a written agreement with the state absolving the PLA of any responsibility is needed. Mary will follow through on this.
- b. Scott gave an I-LIDS update. A weed was reported on video and Scott shared with landing monitor. He suggested to monitor that he be more careful. After consulting with Bob and Mary, Scott asked the sheriff to contact the offender, discuss the seriousness of the offense but give a warning. The young man was very apologetic and thankful for the second chance. He was made aware of the possible fine. Thanks to the sheriff and deputy who handled the situation.
- c. May 31 Kerry encountered a belligerent boater at the landing. He calmed him down. Doesn't like the Native spearing, monitors, and PLA. Mott suggested calling the sheriff for disorderly conduct and not argue with that type of person.

13. Comments- Mary said how much she likes working the landings and has had no problems.

## 14. Date of next BOD meetings

- a. Monday, August 18 6 pm Schoepke Town Hall

b. Monday, October 13 6pm Schoepke Town Hall