

**Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association, Inc.**

**March 4, 2024 Board Meeting**

**Unapproved Board Meeting Minutes**

**Location: Pike Lake Fire Hall**

**Meeting called to order:**

6:00 pm by President, Mike Ida

**Statement of Quorum:**

Board Members Present (9)

President – Mike Ida, VP – Russ Schroeder, Secretary – Peggy Kuss, Treasurer – Lynne Clemens  
Steve Ave’Lallement, Everett Sammis, Jim Clemmons, Dave Ebert, Jeff Witon

**Absent**

Derek Dieringer, Thor Gunderson and Jack Wierzba

**Lake Association Members in Attendance: 1**

**Community Member Comments:**

This member provided comments on potential changes to the February 3, 2024 By-Laws that were made available to members and sought clarification on the statement “all other votes”. This member also suggested that the word “mail” be struck allowing all types of channels to be used to deliver PLCLA surveys to its membership.

**Secretary’s Report**

The minutes of the February 3, 2024 Board meeting were reviewed. Motion by Dave Ebert/2<sup>nd</sup> by Lynne Clemens to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Lynne Clemens presented the year-to-date financials and membership report. There are currently 63 members. We fully expect that number to increase as additional families begin to renew their membership for this year. Many members have not renewed their memberships for 2024 at this time. Motion by Jim Clemmons/2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Ebert to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion carried unanimously.

**Committee Reports**

**Fisheries:** Dave Ebert – No report.

**Aquatic/Invasive Species:** Steve Ave’Lallement - No Report

**Water Quality:** Russ Schroeder on behalf of Jack Wierzba – Water quality testing will commence two weeks after ice out.

**Shoreline Stabilization:** Lynne Clemens – Lynne will confirm Jason Tegen, Price County Conservation Technician, for attendance at our June 1, 2024 annual meeting. Lynne had in her possession the Healthy Lakes & Rivers Brochure which contains the grant process to obtain funding for addressing shore erosion and other materials to be distributed at the annual meeting.

Lynne inquired about the Association contributing to some of the cost of shore erosion correction. After discussion, it was agreed that a subcommittee would be created. Lynne Clemens, Steve Ave'Lallement and Jim Clemmons will work as a subcommittee with Lynne organizing the group. Steve commented that a demonstration project on the lake would be interesting to showcase various approaches to address erosion. This subcommittee will speak to Jason Tegen regarding additional projects addressing erosion and the criteria used in determining the projects acceptability.

**Newsletter/Public Relations:** Mike Ida, on behalf of Derek Dieringer – Derek Dieringer has inquired if new members could be required to provide an email address where they can be reached. Sending Association business correspondence by USPS does not seem to be a good option.

### **Old Business**

**By-Law Changes** – It was brought to Mike Ida's attention by a member that our February 3, 2024 By-Law revision excluded the members on Amik Lake with the deletion of the verbiage "within one mile of the chain of lakes". This can be found in Article III, Section 1 of the By-Laws. Although Amik residents are not part of Fifield Fire District #2, Fire District #2 is their primary responder with Lac Du Flambeau being their secondary responder. A motion was made by Jeff Witon/2<sup>nd</sup> by Everett Sammis to retain the "one mile" language in this section. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Ida will resend the By-Laws to all members with this change.

### **Lakes & Rivers Convention**

President Ida reported that based on subject matter and the additional cost of breakout sessions, he and Everett Sammis will not attend the Convention this year as originally approved by the Board.

### **Internet Upgrade**

Mike Ida will be attending the Town of Fifield Board meeting on March 5, 2024 to seek their permission for him to pursue the upgrade to the Pike Lake Fire Hall internet. Lynne Clemens added that perhaps increasing internet speeds could be accomplished by relocating the modem to the Fire Hall or purchasing a booster. Mike indicated that potentially the PLCLA would have to pay the difference in cost related to the upgraded service. The Board agreed to pay the additional cost but only once the cost is determined for the upgraded service.

### **New Sign or Second Life Jacket Station**

The Board is considering placing a second life jacket station at the DNR landing located off Thorofare Rd. or a sign directing them to the Federal landing to utilize the station there. Everett Sammis, who currently is responsible for the Federal landing station, would like us to add a station at the DNR landing. A motion was made by Steve Ave'Lallement/2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Clemmons to build a second life jacket station to be placed at the DNR landing pending their approval. Everitt has agreed to be the point person on this project.

### **Fish Passage Project**

President Ida informed the Board that Nick Berndt plans on attending the listening session on May 11, 2024.

Mike read an email from Nick Berndt dated February 13, 2024 which indicated that the fish passage has been removed from the District's Schedule of Proposed Actions for the time being. The project will remain in the planning phase for 2024. Steve Ave'Lallement would like to put together a few pictures for the Board's use at the annual meeting. Peggy

Kuss is to assist with this. Steve is to reach out to the Minnesota contact for the fish passage on Barrett Lake for additional information.

### **Musky Jack's Signage**

Russ Schroeder reported that he spoke with Chris Kahr at Musky Jack's regarding installing a 2' x 3' sign at their boat landing related to the revised waterskiing hours. Chris approved the installation of the sign stating that a post may already be available for this purpose

Mike Ida has ordered two large "7s" and two small "7s" for existing signs to correct the waterskiing hours plus a 2' x 3' sign for Musky Jack's. Signs should be ready by the end of the week or next week.

### **Loon Boxes**

Dave Ebert reported that he had discussed this topic with the DNR. They indicated that a loon watch must happen first. Dave will attend a workshop at Northland College this spring on the topic. There is no cost for his attendance.

### **Fish Line Project**

Jim Clemmons will be attempting to obtain DNR permission to place a fish line receptacle at the State boat landing. Jim will start by contacting the DNR office in Woodruff and forward the correct contact information to Everett Sammis for his use on the life jacket station approval.

### **New Business**

#### **Town of Fifield Feedback Regarding Ordinances 28 and 99**

Mike Ida reported that he has advocated with the Town of Fifield Board on both ordinances. Without this advocacy, the outcome on the two ordinances would have been much different.

On Ordinance 99, it was decided based on comments by the DNR, that the buoys would remain in their original locations. Mike read emails that he exchanged with the current DNR officer in charge of reviewing buoy placement for our area. Since the officer has not visually seen the area of the thorofare, Mike invited her to visit the area and personally experience the layout of the channel, etc. with the hopes that she might change her opinion. She has not accepted the invitation currently.

### **Candidates for Open Board Positions**

At the present time, the Board is aware of two positions to fill on the Board. One is currently open while the other Board member will not seek reelection. There are a few potential candidates that have showed interest. If you become aware of other potential candidates to be nominated, please forward them to an Officer of the Association. All nominations are to be approved at the May Board meeting.

### **Possible Summer Educational Workshops**

Along with the programs listed on the Agenda, the Board discussed potentially adding a workshop covering shore erosion. This will be determined based on how this topic is received at the annual meeting on June 1, 2024.

### **Welcome Wagon**

President Ida inquired if there was interest in forming an Association "Welcome Wagon". This would be a Board member or member calling on new residents to explain the Association's mission, etc. This will be discussed at a future meeting. We could possibly use our website or fire department sign to inform new residents.

### **Other New Business**

Following Board discussion, our next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024. Mike Ida has asked that we consider moving our Association meetings to Tuesdays due to conflicts on Monday and Wednesday for reserving the Fire Hall. The Board agreed this was acceptable.

Motion to Adjourn by Lynne Clemens/2nd by Jim Clemmons. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Kuss, Secretary