

Pike Lake Chain Association, Inc.

April 8th, 2025 Unapproved meeting minutes

Location: Pike Lake Fire Hall

The meeting was called to order at 6pm by President Mike Ida, after welcoming all on the Board and those attending from the community. Mike led everyone into reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Lynn then shared that the internet was down and so the owl would not be in use and the meeting is unable to be recorded.

There were 10 board members present for the meeting. Those members present were Mike, Russ, Lisa, Lynne, Jeff, Steve, Dave, Everett, Tom, and Duane. Members who were absent were Jim and Thor.

There were 2 Lake Association members present at the meeting and one of them commented on the last February meeting minutes. The comment was about the proposed fish passage and how the public doesn't know where the board stands on this issue and wanted it clarified.

Board member Tom also wanted this clarified and feels the general consensus is that the board is not in favor of the fish passage.

Board member Dave also commented they should clearly state if they are for or against the fish passage.

Mike stated that when he talked to the Forest Service, he shared that the Pike Lake chain survey showed that the majority of respondents were not in favor of the fish passage. Mike shared that although the Forest service understood why the results were negative, they still feel that the project is important. More research and facts will be done with the hope that the Lake Association will reconsider the fish passage project. As 2 board members wanted to continue to discuss the fish passage, it was decided to continue discussion under new business.

Moving on, the secretary meeting minutes were approved. Motion made by Dave and 2nd by Lynne. Motion was approved.

Treasurer Lynne reviewed the treasurers report. Motion made by Tom and 2nd by Jeff to approve the report. Motion was approved.

Committee reports

No fishery update from Dave. Dave will maintain the date for Walleye's For Tomorrow and will watch for any updates so the data remains as up to date as possible.

President Mike shared that the DNR is setting nets on the lakes as soon as the ice is gone. 4 on Turner and Amik. 6 on Round and Pike. Will have more information to follow on the results.

No aquatic/invasive species update from Steve.

Russ reports that the team is required to get out on the lakes to check water quality about 2 weeks after the ice is out.

Derek was absent, so Lynne shared for Derek that he will be sending out the renewal membership cards in the mail.

Old Business

Tom talked with Greg Walker from Walleyes for Tomorrow to get some updates. They are pulling permits with the state which is all part of the process. As Mike reiterated this is a long, slow process and each step must be followed before moving onto the next step.

Lynne continues to work on the Pike Lake Chain association brochure and received feedback on some minor changes to make. Board just needs to review and approve. Lynne will be looking at pricing to print the brochures. Motion was made to approve 500.00 to print the brochures. Motion made by Dave and 2nd by Jeff. Motion was approved.

Discussed proposed annual budget for 2025. Dave asked about trail reimbursement for the gas for chainsaws and UTV's in the budget. Dave also asked about the trail sign reimbursement which the Forest Service will likely cover. Approval of proposed annual 2025 budget. Motion made by Tom and 2nd by Jeff. Motion was approved.

Mike shared that there are no new candidates for the upcoming election. All board members running will be unopposed. Candidates still need to send in bios to the secretary by May 7th. Bios will be available for those who want to vote with an absentee ballot. Bios will also be available for election day.

Our financial review was completed. Per finance bylaws, this is reviewed by someone outside of the board. No issues found. Dave was present at the Fifield town board meeting and nothing that would impact the Pike Lake Chain association but did report that he is now a board member in Fifield and will put out an announcement on Social media.

New Business

Board discussed the idea of creating a second edition of the Pike Lake history book. The 1st edition takes us through to the early/mid 90's. Mike suggested some possible categories that could be covered in the new history book such as the last spillway construction, transition from resorts to rental homes, forest trail existence and how maintained, maple syrup production, rise of the lake association, rise of the snowmobile trails and grooming, highway clean up, volunteer fire dept-past to present, historic places and historic places to eat. Need to see if there is an interest in the community for a 2nd edition. The board will continue to reflect on this possible project and suggested it could be added to the annual meeting agenda.

Everett will have the life jacket stations ready for the season.

Mike had planned on doing a listening session to go over the lake shore study. This was scheduled for April 12th and was advertised in the January newsletter. Some board members felt this should be put on the agenda for a future meeting. As the internet service was down that night, it was decided to postpone that listening session and do it in the future.

Absentee ballots along with bios will be available May 7th and will be available by contacting the board secretary email at secretary@pikelakechain.net. Absentee ballots will be due on or before June 4th which is 3 days prior to the annual meeting on June 7th at 9am.

Discussed memorial gift ideas for Manny Stein as he was a key person in the community. The board signed a card and Mike will send it to his family. Tom discussed seeing if the thoroughfare bridge could be renamed to the Manny Stein bridge, as this was the place that Manny loved to fish off. Tom will check with the family to see if they are okay with this and to get approval. Tom will look into the sign and costs.

Duane announced that the spring highway cleanup is April 26th at 9am. Duane will put the information out on social media.

Jeff will be reaching out to 4 community members as our welcome representative, 2 of which are recent new members. He is in contact with the county agent who will give him the names of new people in our community.

The board discussed having Lake Association sweatshirts made which can be ordered online. This will be an agenda item for the annual meeting to see if there is interest in the community.

Having completed all of our agenda items, Everett reminded the board that we needed to return to the proposed fish passage discussion that took place earlier in our meeting. After some discussion which centered on the results of the survey and also the fact that information was sparse from the Forest Service, Steve made the motion that the board goes on record as opposing the fish passage project. It was 2nd by Tom. The motion was passed unanimously by the board. With no other business before the board, Mike thanked everyone for attending and then asked for a motion to adjourn. Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting and 2nd by Lynne. The motion was approved. Next meeting date is set for Tuesday May 13th at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Brandt, Board Secretary.