

Pike Lake Chain Association, Inc.

Unapproved annual meeting minutes

Date: June 6th, 2026, Annual Lake Association Meeting

Location: Pike Lake Fire Hall

Call to Order & Opening: President Mike Ida called the meeting to order at 9 am, welcomed all community members and introduced all board members and nominated candidates in attendance and led the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum of Board Members was confirmed in accordance with Association bylaws requiring a minimum of 15 paid lake association members.

Board Members Present: Mike Ida, Lisa Brandt, Russ Schroeder, David Ebert, Everett Sammis, Duane Baer, Jeff Witon, Mark Luoma, Steve Ave'Lallement, and Thor Gunderson. Absent Board Member: Mike Duhr.

Secretary's Report: Approval of secretary minutes from annual meeting held on 6/7/25. Motion to Approve Minutes: 1st – Bonnie Ida. 2nd – Sandy Sironi. Motion approved

Treasurer Duane Baer presented the Treasurer's Report and annual budget. Membership was reported at close to 140. A snapshot of checking account activity was reviewed along with the budget.

Motion to Approve 2026 PLCA Budget: 1st – Jeff Witon, 2nd – Sandy Sironi. Budget approved.

DNR Fisheries Biologist Kendal Patrie gave an educational presentation.

- The experimental panfish regulations for 2016–2026 have expired, and results have been compiled.
- The current regulation allowed a total of 25 panfish, with no more than 10 of any one species.
- Survey results indicated that many respondents preferred somewhat more restrictive regulations.
- The DNR has submitted a proposal for a straight 10 panfish daily bag limit for the 2027 spring hearings. If approved, it would go into effect on April 1, 2028.
- A question was raised regarding the possession limit, and it was clarified that the state possession limit would still apply.
- Discussion was held about whether the Lake Association could post signage encouraging adherence to the limit, with clarification that such signage would not be enforceable.
- Walleye survey data from spring 2025 was reviewed:
 - Round Lake: 7.1, moderate to high population, 1,043 handled
 - Pike Lake: 1.6, low to moderate population, 284 handled
 - Turner Lake: 1.3, low to moderate population, 31 handled
 - Amik Lake: 4, moderate population, 140 handled
- Electrofishing surveys were reviewed, primarily for Round and Pike Lakes.

- Musky stocking now uses a new 100-point rating system beginning in 2026, with stocking occurring every other year.
- The DNR noted a 7% cut in musky stocking funding.
- Future surveys will continue on Round and Pike Lakes with yearly fall recruitment surveys. The next full rotation is planned for 2031.
- Kendal Patrie shared contact information: Kendal.Patrie@wisconsin.gov

After Kendall's presentation, Mike I. thanked Laura Witton for baking snacks and then invited people to take a short break.

Election of 2 Officers and 4 Members at Large: Mike asked how everyone would like to vote. He stated that they could either vote individually with ballots or they could vote as a group and cast a unanimous ballot as there are no incumbents. Motion made 1st by Thor Gunderson and 2nd by Ann Sloan to cast a unanimous ballot by voice vote. Motion approved. Those elected were: Russ Schroeder VP, Laura Witon- Treasurer/membership, and board members at large: Everett Sammis, Jim Brandt. Mark Luoma and Mike Duhr.

Standing Committee Reports:

Fisheries – Dave reported on electroshocking efforts. He and Mike followed the U.S. Forestry team around Round Lake and highlighted the size of some fish observed. Tribal harvest numbers this year were reported as 112 pike and 702 from Round Lake.

Water Quality – Russ reported that water quality testing is conducted four times per year, checking water clarity and oxygen content at different depths. Results are sent to the DNR for entry into their database. Rick Sironi noted that the second clarity test was the best they had ever seen. No significant trends or concerns were reported.

Aquatic Invasive Species – Steve reported monitoring for purple loosestrife, which is usually found along shorelines in wet soil and blooms in mid-July with purple flowers. There was less found last year than the year before. Property owners were advised to dig it out by the roots. In response to a question, Steve confirmed it does reseed itself. Rusty crayfish have not been observed in the lakes.

Public Relations – Derek: Mike noted that Derek was not present but acknowledged his excellent work maintaining the website and Facebook page. Community members were encouraged to follow both.

Ongoing projects:

Life jacket stations and fishing line re-cycling tubes: The 2 stations are ready for the season and are being used. Mike Duhr monitors the tubes and empties them every two to three weeks.

Trail maintenance: David provided an update on the hiking trails on the north side of Round Lake. New signage and posts are being installed. Board members and volunteers have been brushing trails and clearing fallen trees. Two community member expressed interest in volunteering, and David collected their contact information.

Educational listening sessions: A listening session is scheduled for Saturday, June 20 at 9:00 a.m. at the Fire Hall. Topics will include wake boats, enhanced waves, what other lakes are doing, enforcement, and a potential partnership with Walleyes for Tomorrow.

Possible future association projects -The Board is considering partnering with Walleyes for Tomorrow and provided a handout outlining the project, volunteer needs, equipment, and estimated costs.

- The project is still in the fact-finding stage and would require DNR approval.
- Focus would likely be on Pike Lake due to its low density per acre.
- Headwaters, Inc. surveyed plankton levels and found Round Lake to be the best location for fry release.
- Musky Jacks was identified as a possible location for a walleye wagon/hatchery, though no discussion has yet taken place with the owner.
- The estimated effectiveness is 50–100 walleyes from 350,000 fertilized eggs, which is slightly better than current natural reproduction.
- Traditional stocking is not permitted by the DNR because the lakes already have natural reproduction.
- The Association appears to have sufficient funds if it chooses to move forward.
- Mike Ida asked attendees if the Board should continue pursuing the project, and a slight majority responded yes.
- Positive results from similar efforts in the Minocqua chain and Manitowish Waters area were noted.

A community member asked about the fish passage. Mike Ida noted that the project is currently on hold due to lack of funding. The DNR would notify the Lake Association if it moved forward.

Riley Creek: Mike Ida explained that Riley Creek is part of a broader watershed plan, but it is also on hold due to lack of funding.

I-LID Monitoring: The board is considering installing I-LIDs. A fact sheet was provided outlining the costs and project details. The purpose is to help keep invasive species out of the lakes. David commented that this system has been installed on other lakes and that grants may be available.

Board Members monitored boat landings over Memorial Day weekend and examined approximately 81 boat trailers at the landings. One trailer had dried weeds on it, but they did not appear to be invasive. Overall, boats/trailers, were clean.

Community member asked to use caution around the corner where Amber Creek flows into Pike lake as there is a loon nest which is close to where boaters travel.

Ann Sloan provided the fire department update in the chief's absence. The community currently has 13 dedicated fire department volunteers, though additional EMS and fire department volunteers are still needed. This year's calls have included a few grass and woodland fires, a small number of trauma incidents, and some medical emergencies.

Next Meeting: Date: June 22nd 6PM

Motion to Adjourn: 1st – Rick Sironi and 2nd –Ann Sloane. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Brandt, Secretary