

**Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association, Inc.  
Board of Directors  
Unapproved- Meeting Minutes**

**06MAR2018**

**Pike Lake Fire Department Hall**

**Meeting called to order at:**

6:00pm by Dick Mace

**Statement of Quorum:**

Board Members Present (8 -people):

Dick Mace- President, Pam Ahles-Treasurer, Ann Sloane- Secretary, Ron Ahles, Manny Stein, Brian Kastner, Russ Schroeder, Steve Ave'Lallement

Absent:

Jim Robb, Jeff Hellenbrand, Sandy Sironi, Mike Ida

**Secretary's Report:**

The board minutes of 17OCT2017: Motion to approve by Manny Stein, Steve Ave'Lallement (2nd), it carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:**

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1CDvSNRK6HmSUWdUMWoP66k9cevR4NaA7>  
[Treasurer's Report 2018.pdf](#)

The reports were submitted by Pam Ahles; see attached document. Motion to accept by, Steve Ave'Lallement, Ron Ahles (2nd), it carried unanimously. Pam will be stepping down as Treasurer in June; she is willing to train her replacement.

**Committee Reports:**

**Aquatic Species:**

No report at this time.

**Fisheries:**

Jim Mineau and Sue Reinecke are the USFS staff involved with the fishway project. Sue is a Fishery Biologist and Jim is a hydrologist.

Per email from Jeff Scheirer (DNR):

In the early outreach to inform a decision on whether to build a nature-like fishway that would reconnect the ecosystems in the South Fork Flambeau River and the Pike Lake Chain, WDNR and U.S. Forest Service staff heard a citizen's concern about the

potential impacts of catfish on the more highly regarded sportfish populations in the Chain. A handful of survey records show that channel catfish are already present in the Pike Lake Chain at trace levels of abundance, but we found no useful information to describe catfish population status in the river. So in late July and again in late August 2017, WDNR's Fishery Team fished five hoop-nets baited with soymeal at nine deep-water sites in the South Fork Flambeau between its origin at the Round Lake Dam and the canoe landing on Sugar Bush Road about 20 river miles downstream. Our 37 net-nights of survey effort yielded 19 channel catfish that were 18 – 32 inches long. Not all river pools produced catfish—the two upstream- and downstream-most nets accounted for 95% of the catch. Our low catch rate (0.5 catfish per net-night) indicated low population abundance. By comparison, baited hoop-nets captured on average 18 channel catfish per net-night in 17 Upper Wisconsin River surveys (2005 – 2012) and 1.5 channel catfish per net-night in five St. Croix River surveys (2011 – 2015). In our small sample from the South Fork Flambeau River 63% of the catfish were 24 inches or longer, compared to 13% attaining that size in the Upper Wisconsin River surveys and 15% in the St. Croix River surveys. Fishery publications on catfish diets consistently show that channel catfish are omnivorous and that they did not select or prefer specific foods over others available to them. Based on their low abundance in both the river and the Chain, as well as their habit to eat a broad variety of food, we do not anticipate that channel catfish will adversely affect sportfish populations by direct predation or indirect competition, if a nature-like fishway were to be installed at the Round Lake Dam. Instead, we expect that if a fishway is constructed, channel catfish and other aquatic species will once again move freely in both directions between the Chain and the river to restore the dynamics of the fish, mussel, and wildlife communities that evolved in this system.

#### **Water (Testing) Quality:**

Russ reported our water quality is staying the same.

#### **Lakes Convention/Steven Point:**

April 18-20, 2018

Dick Mace would like to authorize up to two board members to attend. For more information go to Wisconsin Lake Association website to review agenda. If interested advise Dick. Motion to accept authorization made by, Russ Schroeder, Manny Stien (2nd), it carried unanimously.

Board would like to authorize a limited number of scholarships covering most of the cost to members of the Pike Lake Chain of Lake Association to attend the Lakes Convention in Stevens Point. Upon returning from the convention it's the PLCLA's expectation that scholarship recipients report convention content to the board and possibly present at the annual meeting. Motion to accept authorization made by, Russ Schroeder, Ron Ahles (2nd), it carried unanimously. If anyone is interested, please contact Dick Mace or any of our other board members.

### **Updating Lake Management Plan:**

Last management plan was in 2012; consideration is being made to create a new plan for testing. There's the potential for grant opportunities with an updated management plan. Russ Schroeder suggested bringing updates up to the membership at the annual meeting. Dick Mace recommends further research prior to the annual meeting. Dick will reach out to Blue Waters (same company that did our last update) to check pricing and consideration.

Flambeau Engineering recommendation to retest Foulds Creek inlet area - Blue Waters may be able to cover this concern, test samples of water, soil and septic fields, and any other concerns regarding our water quality.

### **Annual Meeting Plans and Program:**

- Dick will contact Ted Rulseh
- or
- Russ will contact Wild Instincts
- or
- Russ will contact Scott Crave from MPR
- or
- Dick will contact Walleyes for Tomorrow

Meeting assignments:

Set up:

Coffee:

Cookies:

Water:

### **Election of officers/replacements:**

- Treasurer
- Board needs to replace Aquatic Species; Steve Ave'Lallement is interested. Ann will reach out to Sironis' and Idas' regarding interest in potential PLCLA assignments; Aquatic Species, Clean Water/Clean Boat or Treasurer.

### **Navigation Hazards maps:**

- Dick will present map at annual meeting asking members for corrections and/or changes. Prior to meeting Nell Mace will make changes as recommended by the board.
- Russ will talk to Mike Ida to confirm placement of other rock hazards on the chain.

### **Clean Boats/Clean Waters report/update :**

- Will check with Mike Ida to see if he's interested in taking on this assignment.

**Fish Passage Status:**

Per Russ - The US Forest is continuing its work to investigate installing a fish passage on the South Fork of the Flambeau and in to Round Lake of the Pike Lake Chain.

- Water level monitors have been in place continuous since 2016, and that data will be analyzed and used to prepare a preliminary design for the fishway.
- This design will be used by the FS for a proposed action in their NEPA process. Public comments would be asked for at that point.
- The comments would then be used to develop alternatives.
- A Forestry Service team of resource specialists would determine effects of the proposed action and any alternatives for the Environmental Assessment.
- Public comments would then be asked on the Environmental Assessment before a final decision is made.

**Annual Meeting:**

09JUN2018 @10am

Pike Lake Fire Hall

**Next Board of Directors Meeting:**

Monday, May 21, 2018 @6pm

**Other Business:****Adjourned:**

At 7:44pm Manny Stein (motion to adjourn), Pam Ahles (2nd), motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Ann Sloane