

**Pike Lake Chain Lakes Association, Inc.
Annual Meeting Minutes
Unapproved- Meeting Minutes**

10JUN2023

Pike Lake Fire Department Hall

Meeting called to order at:

10:00am by Vice-President Russ Schroeder

Statement of Quorum:

Board Members Present (9 people):

VP - Russ Schroeder, Secretary - Ann Sloane, Treasurer – Lynne Clemens, Steve Ave'Lallemant, Mike Ida,, Ed Hunter, Jim Clemmons, Everett Sammis, Thor Gunderson

Absent:

President - Dick Mace, Jack Wierzba

Member's in attendance: 49

Introductions:

Thomas E. Heisler Jr. - WI-DNR Conservation Warden

Introduction and DNR responsibility to our chain and association

- Left contact information

Spoke to what DNR is seeing on the lakes and trails

- Various law enforcement agencies overlook lakes and trails
 - Federal, County, and State
- PFDs (Life Jacket) - one wearable, correct size and serviceable for each person on any water vessel. Life jackets must be readily accessible!
- Boat registration - must be renewed every 3 years (March)
- Boat lights - required to be on from sunset to sunrise
- Water skiing - Law changed about 5 years ago, so long as there's a wide angle mirror an observer is not needed.
- Fire extinguisher - For any gas motor a fire extinguisher is mandatory.
- Buoys - Slow/No Wake is between the buoys, must go as slow as you can while still maintaining steerage of your vessel.
- Accidents - All should be reported to law enforcement.
- ATV and UTV - While operating the driver should always have headlights on.
 - UTV - Every passenger is required to wear a seatbelt, violation is \$150 fine.
 - Driver is not required to wear a seatbelt.
- Bear problem - USDA Aphis: 1-800-228-1368
- Wildlife issues - DNR Wildlife: 1-608-267-0866

Questions and Answers

- Infant flotation device - not required by law unless in Federal Waters
- Response time for nuisance bears - May take awhile, call Rhinelander DNR
- If the bear is getting into feeders - Remove feeder for 2 weeks or use an electric fence for about a month.
 - Human safety issue - call 911

Warren Johnson - Pike Lake Fire Chief

Department Health - 15 Fire, EMS or both members

- 7 Firefighters (2 career)
- 4 Firefighters/EMS (1 retired)
- 1 EMS (Critical Care Nurse)
- 1 EMS/Fire Ground Support
- 2 Fire Ground Support
- We're always looking for new recruits

EMS Flex Grant

- Waiting on the final numbers for our EMS Rescue Vehicle to replace our old EMS van. We have \$130,000 budgeted for that purchase. We also budgeted money for an automated CPR machine and medical training aid mannequins.
- Wisconsin FFP Grant - 50/50 grant that covers certain qualified fire items. We applied for radios and wildfire safety gear.

Rumors - If you hear something, please check your source.

- We are not broke! I did not retire! I wasn't arrested!

Clarification - We're working towards getting back into compliance.

- When I first took over as Chief, I requested the state of WI to come in and audit our department. Bill Felch, Rick Sironi and I met with Rick Sommerfeld; our District 1 DSFS Fire Safety Coordinator.
 - We discussed what was needed to get back into State Compliance.
 - Our biggest financial challenges were Turnout Gear (\$2,700 a set) and SCBA air bottles (\$625 each).
 - I ordered 7 sets of turnout gear, 8 air bottles, and will be ordering 8 more.
 - We went through the EMS supply cabinet to discard any/all expired meds.
 - Due to lack of building maintenance we experienced heating, plumbing, and emergency generator repairs.

We're getting healthier and stronger! The community is ALWAYS welcome to watch us train.

- Fire and EMS now crosstrain.
- EMS is part of a monthly training consortium with Fifield and Sherman's EMS.

Medivac - There's been comments made that the helicopter is called too often.

- #1 It's our (EMS) call.
- #2 Every call we've made resulted in an air transport to the appropriate medical center for care.
- I firmly believe we saved 4 lives this year by requesting Medivac.

EMS

- Our numbers are good, but we're always hoping to gain more.
- We have 4 First Responders in the south end of our district and 2 in the north end.
 - Our response time has improved, but will improve with more members.
 - We each carry our own jump bag, O2, and AED.

Check your smoke alarm batteries and CO.

- If you don't have a CO detector, please consider getting one.

Fire Numbers

- Please make sure your fire numbers are clear so if you need to call Fire/EMS, they can find your home.

Emergency Dispatch

- When calling 911 using your cell phone be sure to tell them you're in Price County, that way you'll be directed to Price County Dispatch.
- Price County direct line: 1(715) 339-3445

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please consider joining our team. If you have any further questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Program: Update on Fish Passage - Nick Berndt USDA Forest Service, Jeff Scheirer WDNR

Please go to the Pike Lake Chain of Lakes website to view the presentation:

<https://pikelakechain.net/>

Forest Service and DNR are looking for a partnership for a Fish Passage

- More opportunities for funding if working jointly with DNR, Forest Service, and PLCLA
- Main concerns: Water levels and Fish
 - Water levels will stay the same in providing fish passage
 - Fishery effects - harder to predict, need long term data, but there's many examples from other fish passages. That data is very encouraging with a positive increase in fish population.
- Project is currently on hold
- NEFA is where questions should be directed
 - Sturgeons are in need of being protected, but shouldn't change the lake.
 - Stocking the lakes - DNR prefers natural reproduction and to not stock the lakes. There has been a natural decline over the last 20 years throughout all of Northern Wisconsin. There is continuing research to find the cause of the decline and how to correct it.
 - Natural reproduction is still continuing in our entire chain, last year's study proved that our chain is successfully reproducing.
 - Stocking our chain could cause a competitive situation giving the genetically fit fish an advantage over the stocked fish
 - Fish raised naturally from the chain are more likely to succeed in feeding than a 'hand fed' stocked fish, argo the stocked fish are less likely to survive under the same conditions as naturally produced from our waters.
 - Stocking could exhaust food sources and cause cannibalism.
 - DNR would most likely deny a permit for a request to stock our chain.

How can the PLCLA and DNR begin?

- Slow process to start the fish passage at the Logging Dam
 - Lots of community interaction
- There will be a listening session to discuss process
 - Saturday, August 12th at 10am

Secretary's Report: (see handout)

The minutes of 04JUN2022 were reviewed; on a motion by Pete Anderson, Jim Peglow (2nd), the motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

2023 Report

- Online membership was extremely successful! Thank you Derek

The report was submitted by Lynne Clemens; on a motion by Pete Anderson, Jim Peglow (2nd), it was carried unanimously. Lynne also announced membership status at 154.

2024 Proposed budget (see handout)

- Potential rebate to help with owner expenses

The report was submitted by Lynne Clemens; on a motion by Ed Clemens, Bonnie Ida(2nd), it was carried unanimously.

Election of Officers (President & V. President) and (4) Members at Large

Nominations and ballots were cast; elections results are as follows:

Due to no opponents, a call to hand vote to elect Mike Ida as President was made on a motion by Jim Peglow, Peggy Kuss (2nd), it was carried unanimously.

Due to no opponents, a call to hand vote to elect Russ Schroeder as Vice President was made on a motion by Jim Peglow, Pete Anderson (2nd), it was carried unanimously.

Due to no opponents, a call to hand vote to elect the 4 Members as Large was made on a motion by Jim Peglow, Ed Clemens (2nd), it was carried unanimously.

Officers: 2023 - 2025

Mike Ida - President

Russ Schroeder - V. President

Member at Large: 2023 - 2025

Steve Ave'Lallemant

Jeff Witon

Dave Ebert

Thor Gunderson

Committee Reports:

Fishery:

Russ Schroeder – DNR gave report above

Aquatic Invasives:

Steve Ave'Lallemant -Stated purple loosestrife has increased and is our only invasive on the shorelines. If anyone finds any, please dig it up with a shovel and place it in a plastic bag for disposal.

Water Quality:

Russ Schroeder stated our lakes are tested four times a year. The DNR tests all our results and have found no changes in our water quality; the Pike Lake Chain is clean, consistent and has very few invasives.

New Business:

Kids Don't Float - Station based at the Federal Boat Landing with various sized life jackets that boaters may borrow and return after use.

- We need more jackets and signage
- Jake Peglow Legacy Limited made a very generous donation of \$300 to go towards life jackets. Thank you to the Peglow family for their generosity.

Member Questions and Answers:

Russ Schroeder stated that if the DNR could correct the fishery issues, they most certainly would!

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn @ 11:48am by Pete Anderson, Tammy Peglow(2nd), motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Sloane - Secretary