

Pelican Lakes Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Meeting of September 9, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Pelican Township Hall by President Craig Norman

Directors present were Craig Norman, Bob Vaughn, Art Weaver, David Slipy, Jim Nickel, Matt Stephens, Tracy Donovan (until 10:30), Jodi Billy, Bob Hamilton, and Bob Komischke. Not present were Laurie Greeno, Dave Spizzo and Tom McGrann. Also present was JoAnn Weaver, newsletter editor.

Minutes: Minutes of the June 24, 2016 Board Meeting and the June 25, 2016 Annual Membership Meeting (as set out in the fall newsletter) were accepted. It was noted by Craig Norman that we should be assembling each meeting's minutes in one "Official Minute Book" complete with the Articles and current By-Laws. Tracy Donovan and Craig will work on that this fall.

Membership Matters: Jim Nickel reported that he has merged 46 members into the general membership list instead of being shown as one time share association member. He has also merged our advertisers into the general membership list.

We have 416 paid members and will be mailing out 1061 printed newsletters.

Finances: At this point in the year our receipts exceed payments by approximately \$14,000 plus approximately \$2,400 credit from Lakes Printing (which we will use up on the next newsletter). We still expect the advertising income to fully offset the cost of the newsletter.

Remaining expenses for the year include balances on the AW Labs annual budget of \$7,100 for all of the testing including the additional testing we asked for this year. We will also probably pay ramp inspectors \$3,000 to \$5,000 for our additional inspections, for which we budgeted \$5,000. The budget for the database update set last year will be applied to a new accounting and member-tracking package.

With these remaining expenses, Craig and Bob Vaughn reported we will be about close to spending at the level of all 2016 contributions this year.

Beach Captains: Max Martz has already left the board and Tom McGrann has indicated that he intends to leave, as well. The Board discussed several items with respect to the continuation of the Beach Captain program: 1) What do we expect of the beach captains? 2) How should they go about their tasks? 3) Who can "run" this program?

There was no one that expressed interest in heading up this program. Craig believes we should be setting direction for the beach captains on what we hope to accomplish and how to do it. There was discussion of seeking the thoughts of those several beach captains (perhaps 8 out of 20) who have been active and successful. There was no conclusion, Craig agreed to confer with Tom and then lead further thought and discussion at our next meeting.

Landing Monitor Report: Dave Slipy reported we have run through the 1200 hours from the County. We are down to four inspectors who will focus on Jones Bay and the Resort landing. We expect to wrap the whole program up the end of September.

All five of our inspectors have indicated an interest in working again next year.

The County has tried to control scheduling, though it is difficult for David to input the schedule since his inspectors work flexible hours. Additionally, David wants to maintain personal relations with his inspectors. We agreed that David should keep this relationship and try to work as best as he can with the county.

Water Quality Report: TSI levels are getting deeper, that's good news, but unfortunately we believe it is caused by the zebra mussel

Matt Stephens and Jodi Billy have taken the steps needed to work with the County selected contractor for water testing, R&B. It is unclear yet how long this program will continue. Mike Knapp with the DNR should be someone we can ask about the future of this program.

In any event, the Board values the results produced by A.W. Research and expects to continue this program to keep continuity in the data we have over time.

AIS Control: Found Curly Leaf Pondweed in Jones Bay, We were told it was too late to use chemicals. We had the diver hand pick where the DNR found it but also picked some they had missed near the boat landing. We should plan on spraying this area next year.

We were told that there is now Starry Stonewort in nearby lakes.

We concluded that we need to set up a proactive plan to investigate the conditions around the landing and at the sites we have seen or suspect we may see Curly Leaf. Jodi will get some advice on such a plan and report back. This will likely be a new continuing program and will need to be budgeted in for 2017.

Jodi also reported that there is a sense that Zebra Mussels become pervasive and reached a certain peak level.

Bob Vaughn reported Purple Loosestrife in the channel between Big Pelican and Little Pelican. He had had bugs that eat this invasive species applied in the spring and was going to have them applied now but the people that supply the bugs had a bad year and there are none for the second application. We should try again next spring.

Bob also reported that the Zebra Mussel veliger testing in Little Pelican was negative.

Newsletter: It was urged that we have more articles from us rather than outside vendors. We set the same prices for advertising this year as last year. JoAnn and Craig will discuss articles for the Spring issue.

MAISRC Update: Art and Craig met with Dr. Phelps, Co-Director of the U of M AIS Research Center and shared our support of their programs and areas of interest for further research. Craig will attend the MASIRC day-long seminar and research report in early September. Dr. Phelps will be invited to speak at our 2017 Annual Meeting.

The AIS Detector program initiated by our organization and being implemented by MAISRC is set to begin in pilot mode, and we will have board members, inspectors and others participating. WAPOA and other associations will also have participants.

Tree Distribution: We concluded that we want to continue the free distribution of trees, next year increasing to 1500 trees. It was agreed that distributing without charge to members made good sense as we are promoting our goal of increased forestry to aid water quality over time. Art will follow up with the County and Jodi will work on a potential grant to cover a portion of the costs.

Landing Conditions: Jodi will follow-up to complete a season-end inspection of the landings and report back with results. (Since completed and all in good order).

Spring Event: The Board discussed holding an event in the spring about the time we get the trees, generally mid-May (such as the week between fishing opener and Memorial Day), to allow for early distribution of seedlings and other outreach. Perhaps do a hot dog roast on the east side of Big Pelican? Craig will give this additional thought and lead discussion of the plans at the next Board meeting.

DNR Fisheries: We have been in contact with the DNR to express interest in the ongoing creel test results, and explore ways to support the fisheries, including applying funds received in a memorial. Pending results of season-end testing, we will be advocating to have fingerling stocking done, applying memorials and matching those funds with PLA balances.

Craig will reach out the family that has established the memorial and report out on the status of these plans. (Since completed with strong support and a pledge of additional matching if a stocking program is approved.)

In addition, we will invite a DNR representative to speak at our 2017 annual meeting. (Subsequently confirmed by Jim Nickel that Marc Bacigalupi, Area Fisheries Supervisor, has agreed to do this.)

Decontamination Station: Art reported that the City of Breezy Point has confirmed it has no objection to establishing a decontamination site at the new car wash facility being constructed. Dr. Weaver will continue to work with the property owner on plans, and will investigate the possibility of the having staff of the commercial facilities trained to perform the cleaning as needed. The Board expressed continued support for this capital project, pending the next set of detail regarding costs, timing and operating plans.

Administrative Systems: Craig reported that he has worked with Chris Clasen's accounting firm in Pequot Lakes on plans for implementing a QuickBooks system to hold financial records and to serve as the membership database going forward. In addition, members of the staff of that firm can be trained to assist with posting entries, paying bills and updating records as a back-up to Board member volunteer

efforts. It is expected this first step can be completed within the @\$2,000 budget set in 2015 for the new system which did not come to pass because of vendor short-comings. Craig will report back on progress in December.

Web-Site Upgrade. As a new communications project, Craig will engage a web-site designer to update the current site to a technology that will work well on tablets and phones, as well as to include on-line contributions capability to give members another way to make contributions. Craig will coordinate with Glen Young on this project and continued support for the site once completed. An initial budget of @\$1500 will be managed to, and further discussion will be had over time about adding more “real-time” proactive communications to interested members. This work will be coordinated with the accounting system, current banking and new services such as PayPal. Craig will enlist Jodi to offer early review and will present progress to the Board in December, with an objective to have the new site and on-line contributions in place before the membership solicitations are sent in January, 2017.

Land Use: Directors confirmed they have followed-up with Crow Wing County regarding the remedial measures required of a land owner in Cree Bay and the County was satisfied with those steps.

The Board discussed temporary rental concerns expressed by a member and agreed to complete a review of applicable regulations and to prepare a newsletter article on those rules and best practices for members to follow if renting their properties in this way, or if concerned about rentals in their neighborhoods.

Seminars: In addition to the MASIRC Update, Art Weaver and Dave Slipy have made plans to attend the Aquatic Invaders Summit in St. Cloud, and their registrations will be reimbursed expenses.

Meetings: The Board set the next meeting to occur Friday December 9, 2016, starting at 9:00 a.m., to be held at the Northwoods Inn.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Donovan and Craig Norman