

Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association, Inc.
Annual Meeting
VFW-Iron River
August 7, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Vice President Eddie Wangenstein at 9:10 a.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: There were no changes to the proposed agenda.

MOTION by Jim Swenson and seconded to approve the agenda. **PASSED** unanimously.

HISTORY OF CREATION AND GOALS OF OUR NEW ASSOCIATION: Bill Swenson reviewed the history of Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association, Inc. which was approved on April 12, 2010 as a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt, nonprofit organization. Therefore, financial donations, bequests etc. are tax deductible. Membership is open to those who wish to promote the association's goals as explained in our by-laws. (Handout)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT AND ELECTION OF BOARD AND OFFICERS: Jerry Peck reviewed the nominating committee's recommendation for appointments to the Board of Directors and Officers- see handout.

MOTION by John Joseph and seconded to suspend the rules to present the nominating committee's report. **PASSED** unanimously.

MOTION by Jim Gessner and seconded to accept the nominating committee's recommendation for the board of directors, officers, and length of terms as noted in the handout. **PASSED** unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Kris Sandager reported that a draft of today's minutes will be available eventually on the website. She has a copy of the new articles and bylaws. There are no prior minutes as this is the first meeting of the organization.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Ruef reviewed the organization's finances. This included the transfer of \$8229.21 on March 2010 from the Iron River Lakes Association (IRLA) to PCLA; recent income/expenses with a projected checkbook balance of \$22,638.68; grant money balance of \$142,228.06; income from 57 membership dues to date; contributions that have been received that are actually down from last year. It is hoped to increase membership and contributions. (Handout).

OLD BUSINESS:

Committee Reports:

Web Page: www.pikechain.org is our new website that John Joseph has been developing. Contact him at iron.river@hotmail.com with photos, ideas for content etc. The IRALA website had about 1500-3000 hits per month. Discussion held about having member's email addresses available through the website that members could access. Due to possible security issues it was decided not to pursue this at this time but possibly a hard copy could be developed. No action taken.

Aquatic Invasive Species: Al Boehler reported on the status of purple loosestrife and Eurasian water milfoil (EWM). Purple loosestrife was found in the chain in 2005 and has been treated with use of beetles and chemicals. It's currently found in Buskey Bay and Lake Millecent and has not increased or decreased.

We are making progress in controlling EWM that was found on the Pike Chain in 2004. 15 acres were treated in 2005, 27 acres in 2007, and 15 acres in 2010. The 5 year DNR grant for EWM was explained. The grant requires \$7000 in volunteer labor contributions. This obligation was met in 2009 with 645 hours of in kind volunteer hours. Currently, more volunteers are needed. There is a form on the website for volunteers

to keep track of their hours. A handout showing locations of 2010 Final EWM treatment areas was distributed.

Fishery Committee: Bill Swenson reported on the status of the Wisconsin DNR fisheries assessment of the Pike Chain from April 1, 2010 to May 18, 2010. The final report should be completed in 2011 which will be used to determine future fishery management for the Pike Chain. A handout on the preliminary results was distributed that showed the walleye population down compared to other lakes with similar characteristics. The committee would like more members as there only 2 at this time.

Education and Communications Committee: Bill Swenson reviewed the committee’s major projects so far. An educational, informative map of the Pike Lake Chain was made with the help of Sportsman’s Connection. It was mailed with the July newsletter to each property owner and is also being distributed with boat inspections. They also worked with the Bayfield County Board of Tourism and Recreation Committee to establish weekday boat inspections at Twin Bear Park. The possibility of a Welcome to the Pike Chain poster was discussed. Future lake management issues include: the Town of Iron River boat landing; Twin Bear Park; increasing the number of boats getting cleaned and inspected at the source of most exotics, the Great Lakes Harbors; working with law enforcement on enforcing and educating boaters on the new Wisconsin law prohibiting the transport of any plant or animal.

Upcoming meetings:

- The Tourism and Recreation Committee of the Bayfield County Board will meet on Wed. Aug. 11 at 1 pm in the County Board Room. There are 3 pertinent agenda items pertaining to the Twin Bear Park Campground.
- The Tourism and Recreation Committee will be meeting on Monday, August 9th at 1:30 pm at the Iron River Community Center to discuss restoring the beach and the fish sticks project at Twin Bear Park.

Water Quality Report: Jane Swanson discussed the secchi readings done this summer. Water clarity continues to be good. The report will be on our website. (handout)

Boat Landing Inspection: Karen Austin gave boat inspection statistics for May 2, 2010-July 31, 2010 for Twin Bear and Hydes landing (see below). This is the 7th season for boat landing inspection. Weekday monitoring is going well. There has been positive feedback on the informational map that the Education Committee developed that is being given to boaters.

	Boats Inspected	Threats Treated	Weeds Removed	People Contacted
Twin Bear Landing:	1,141	37	277	2,627
Hydes Landing:	285	2	174	593

NEW BUSINESS

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Eddie Wangenstein reported on the Board of Directors recommendation to keep membership dues at \$15.

MOTION by Bill Swenson and seconded that 2010 annual dues be kept at \$15.00. **PASSED** unanimously.

IRLA TRESSPASSING/VANDALISM REWARD PROGRAM: Tony Mullozi reported on a program started about 25 years ago in the IRLA that offered a monetary reward for information leading to the conviction of anyone for trespassing or vandalism. Three years ago the reward was up to \$2000. To his knowledge no payments have

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been made. There is Interest in continuing this program with PCLA, but there are several logistical issues needing clarification.

MOTION by Jerry Peck and seconded to refer this issue to the board of directors for more information/clarification/detail. **PASSED** unanimously.

BAYFIELD COUNTY ADOPT A HIGH PROGRAM for Highway H from the Spot to Twin Bear Bridge: Al Bochler reviewed the history of this project which initially began many years ago with the IRLA but has been inactive for several years. There is interest in resuming this project.

MOTION by Bill Swenson and seconded to adopt this program again. **PASSED** unanimously. Many members signed up to participate in the clean- up program that Jerry and Julie Peck agreed to chair.

OTHER BUSINESS

FISH STICKS: Many are unhappy with the fish sticks at Twin Bear Park. Moving some of the fish sticks to lake property with drop offs may be a win win solution for all. Contact Bill Swenson if you are interested.

LOONS: Jane Swanson reported on the Loon Project through Northland College and the need to monitor for any changes with the loon population or activity because of the Gulf Oil Spill. There are a few volunteers on the Pike Chain monitoring this. She asked people to report any noticeable changes to her.

NO WAKE ZONE LAW: Jerry Peck reviewed the new No Wake Zone law. Warnings are being issued this summer for violations but people will be ticketed next year. Of concern is the channel between Hart and Millicent and whether there should be some sort of signage there to increase awareness-no action taken.

MOTION by Kari Wangensteen and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Sandager
Secretary