

Iron River Pike Chain of Lakes Association, Inc. (PCLA)
2013 Annual General Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)
Iron River Community Center
August 3, 2013 9 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Vice President Eddie Wangenstein.

WELCOME: (Eddie Wangenstein) Eddie welcomed all attending (66 members and 4 visitors signed in) and reviewed the history and mission of the association. Board members and officers were introduced.

ACCEPTANCE/REVISIONS OF AGENDA: **MOTION** by Jim Swenson and seconded to approve agenda. Agenda **ACCEPTED**.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: (Kristen Sandager) **MOTION** by Bill Swenson and seconded to approve the August 6, 2012 General Meeting minutes as written. **PASSED** unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Bob Ruef) The organization's finances were explained in detail (handouts). As of 8-1-2013 the projected checkbook balance after anticipated grant draws is \$69,156.85. Grant activity was reviewed with a balance available of \$69,301.34. Income \$34,788.89 and expenses \$26,149.98 for 2012 were explained and as of 12-31-2012 total liabilities and net worth were \$49,780.87. For 2012, there were 158 dues paying members, 128 contributions to lake management for a total of \$19,681.00 and \$500.00 contributed to the Defense Fund.

MOTION by Tony Mullozzi and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. **PASSED** unanimously.

Last fall, Rick Tuttle of Tuttle Accounting, Inc. in Ashland, volunteered to prepare PCLA taxes for free. Thank you Rick.

AUDIT REPORT: (Greg Ogren) The audit done by Greg and Tony Mullozzi for 1-1-2012 through 12-31-2012 showed that all transactions were appropriate and accounted for. **NO OBJECTIONS** to the audit report-**ACCEPTED**.

GUEST SPEAKER Scot Eisenhauer, Chief of Police, Town of Iron River-Community Watch Program. There were 3 break-ins this winter on Hart Lake. All were by the same 3 suspects who were after prescription medications. Keeping driveways clear in the winter and posting a "security" type sign can "scare" burglars. He also encouraged signing up for the vacation check program through the department-forms available today at the meeting or online. Lake safety is good.

GUEST SPEAKER Jeremy Bates, Aquatic Invasive Species Project Coordinator of Bayfield Count Land & Water Conservation Dept. Jeremy gave a power point presentation reviewing common native and invasive species in the area lakes. Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) continues to be our biggest concern and zebra mussels still confined to Lake Superior our biggest urgency. Rusty crayfish are a potential threat. The CBCW boater inspection and education program has been very successful. EWM weevil may be helpful in controlling EWM. Lake Namekagon is using "eyelids" as a means to monitor boat landing activity. In future, he hopes to hold some workshops and increase correspondence.

Questions from audience on: 1) White Stem Pond Weed, a native species, on Lake Millicent 2)increase in snails (Chinese Mystery Snails)-these can be removed and buried.

OLD BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS): (Al Bochler) As required by our grant, Onterra will be out next week to look at the effects of chemical treatments. 22.5 acres were treated in 2013 and treatment has been successful this year. Handout of treated areas was available.

There is a small residual of money left for next year from our 5 year grant. We will need to reapply for the grant next year and hopefully we can receive a partial grant. Therefore, to help cover future costs of treatment, we need to expand the core group of those who contribute to lake management and also work with Northland Community College for other available grants. 20 individuals helped with monitoring last year.

Website: (John Joseph) We now have free hosting through Dreamhost saving us \$150.00 per year. A link to the DNR fisheries report and NR115 which is up for revision again is on the website.

Education Committee: (Bill Swenson) The projects the committee has implemented were reviewed: laminated map, education posters; and increased weekday boat inspections at Twin Bear Park. Individuals were encouraged to think about becoming certified licensed treatment applicators, an on line program. These individuals can then treat the smaller areas of EWM. Because of increasing costs for EWM treatment and the uncertainty of future state funding and grants, the "Pike Chain Defense Fund" was developed last year. Only 2-3 individuals contributed for a total of \$500. The Northland Community College contract for boat monitoring this summer at Hyde's and the Town landing was reviewed.

Bill voiced his concern about selling the laminated maps and explained that the lake map was created through the cooperation of Sportsman's Connections with the understanding it would be used for the CBCW program and would not be sold.

Fishery: (Bill Swenson) The DNR report is now done showing a decrease in walleyes and increase in the largemouth bass population, which is not a surprise. The committee will respond to the request from the DNR with ideas as to how to maintain a healthy fishery.

Fundraising: (Ed Brunner) The committee needs more members. PCLA had a booth at the Blueberry Festival again this summer. Matt Steve donated some photographs of loons and landscapes from Hart Lake to sell with the monies going to PCLA. 4 Pike Chain apparel items were raffled. Apparel items have been popular and are still available to order.

Clean Boats Clear Water (CBCW): (Karen Austin) The CBCW program was reviewed. Britt Marx, college student and long term staff person with CBCW, was introduced and briefly spoke about her background and history with the program.

The CBCW program run by Karen is highly respected throughout the state. The 1:1 contact they have with boaters is felt to be extremely important.

A member suggested giving a bag to fishermen to keep their weeds in so they don't throw them back into the lake.

Water Quality: (Al Bocher for Jane Swenson) Al read Jane Swenson's email report. A secchi monitor is needed on Hart Lake and a loon monitor on Buskey Bay. Water chemistry monitoring is being done on Buskey Bay by Jack Bocher. Secchi readings are available on the Pike Chain website.

Adopt-a-Highway: (Julie Peck) The spring clean up was delayed until July because of the late spring. 14 people participated and 7 small bags were collected. The next pickup will be this fall sometime.

NEW BUSINESS

Membership dues: The BOD recommended keeping dues at \$15 a year. **NO OBJECTIONS** to keeping dues at \$15 a year-**ACCEPTED**.

Nominating Committee: Last year, Jim Swenson whose term was done had agreed to serve another term. This had been accidentally overlooked at the 2012 annual meeting so was then approved by the BOD. **NO OBJECTIONS** to re-electing Jim Swenson to serve a second term-**ACCEPTED**.

The terms of Eddie Wangenstein-Vice President, Bob Ruef-Treasurer, Kristen Sandager-Secretary and Tony Mullozi are done. Eddie Wangenstein and Kristen Sandager have agreed to serve another term in their current positions. **NO OBJECTIONS** to Eddie serving as Vice President and Kris serving as Secretary-**ACCEPTED**.

The committee recommends the appointment of Martha Oie. **NO OBJECTIONS-ACCEPTED**.

The committee recommends the appointment of E.J. Kernan as treasurer. **MOTION** by Tom Sandager and seconded to appoint E.J. Kernan as treasurer. **PASSED** unanimously.

Bill Swenson has resigned from his position as assistant treasurer. Al Bochler recommends the appointment of Bob Ruef as assistant treasurer until 12/31/2013. **MOTION** by Tom Sandager and seconded to have Bob Ruef serve as assistant treasurer temporarily. **PASSED** unanimously.

Other:

Eddie Wangenstein had been approached by Nan Olson, President of the Iron River Lyon's Club, wondering if PCLA would consider donating \$250.00 for the Blueberry Festival. No objections or concerns voiced.

The "culvert" between Buskey Bay and Mudd Lake needs to be cleaned out which has been done in the past. Al Bochler is aware of this.

MOTION by Jim Swenson and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Sandager, Secretary