

IRON RIVER PIKE CHAIN OF LAKES ASSOCIATION
Draft BOD Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2015

PRESENT: Al Boehler, Eddie Wangensteen, Jay Kernan, Kris Sandager, Howard Lehman, Kari Wangensteen, Martha Oie, Debb Sharbonno, Greg Ogren. **WELCOME KARI!**

The PCLA board of director's meeting was called to order at 9 am by President Al Boehler at Kris Sandager's home on Hart Lake.

John Podlesny spoke on a proposed natural gas line around the Pike Chain. Excel Energy has been approached on this, upfront money is needed and mailings have gone out to property owners to determine interest. He will make a brief presentation at the annual meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Kris Sandager) **MOTION** by Eddie and seconded by Jay approving the minutes from the May 2014 BOD meeting. Kari abstained. **PASSED.**

TREASURER'S REPORT (Jay Kernan): Jay reviewed PCLA's finances-see handouts. 2014 expenses were \$51,906.03 with approximately \$47,000 being spent on EWM consulting, permits and chemical treatment. 2014 revenue was \$78,842.49 with approximately \$22,000 coming from contributions, \$2700 from dues, and \$51,650 from the DNR grant. The proposed 2015 budget was reviewed with \$43,700 in income and expenses of \$22,900, including a contingency allowance for potential additional EWM treatments. In 2014, approximately 145 individuals made contributions and 162 paid membership dues. At this time we have approximately 2 years worth of operating cash. Because future DNR grant funding is unpredictable and EWM treatment costs can vary it is important to have a contingency fund. **MOTION** by Greg and seconded by Debb approving the treasurer's report and budget. **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Thank you to Rick Tuttle, Tuttle's Accounting in Ashland, who volunteered his time and expertise to complete and file our taxes.

FISHERY (Al Boehler and Howard Lehman): Eddie met with Scott Toshner, fisheries biologist with the WI DNR-Bayfield and Douglas Counties. He's not available to speak at our general meeting but is interested in talking about the fisheries on the Chain at a different time. Howard will try to coordinate an educational seminar with Scott as the speaker to be held some weekend after the annual meeting perhaps at The Spot or other local venue. This would be a nice collaborative effort between the membership, fishery, and education committees and a positive avenue to possibly attract more members. To allow more time for audience questions following our guest speakers it was recommended and supported to hold the business meeting first.

AIS (Al Boehler): We were awarded \$15,500 for one year from one of the 2 grants we applied for in December 2014. \$4800 has been designated to pay someone for hand pulling of EWM. We will apply for grant monies again in Dec. 2015. Approximately 3.4 acres of EWM will be chemically treated this summer. The permit for final treatment has been issued but the contract not complete so this will need to be voted on when available through email vote.

WATER QUALITY (Martha Oie): Secchi reading the other day was good at 26 feet. Chemical samples are sent to the state lab 4 times a year with phosphorous levels stable.

AUDIT COMMITTEE (Greg Ogren): Howard will work with Greg on the 2014 audit.

FUNDRAISING/MEMBERSHIP: It was decided not to have a booth at the Blueberry Festival this summer as most felt it wasn't worth the man hours spent to staff the booth.

There is ongoing interest in having Pike Chain clothing apparel available to purchase. Because Ed doesn't want to handle this anymore, it was suggested that we see if this whole process i.e. ordering, mailing, etc. can all be done through a supplier.

Kari will be working with Martha and Debb trying to update the list of current property owners which will be helpful with future membership initiatives.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: In August Al, Greg, and Jim will be completing their second 3 year term and Debb her first. Al, Greg, and Debb have agreed to serve another term. Jim will need to be contacted. Ed Brunner has talked about resigning and Eddie will talk with him.

ANNUAL MEETING: The annual meeting is on Sat. August 1. The guest speaker is yet to be determined.

CBCW: Al reviewed this year's requirement of the Pike Chain for \$4000 of volunteer man hours for lake monitoring as was done last year by the board of directors. Members on the board will take this on again and forms were distributed to track hours.

NEWLETTER Ideas for upcoming newsletters include: thank you to Rick Tuttle; John Podlesny on proposed gas line; AIS update-Al; EWM chemical treatment notice; refinishing wood boats-Howard; upcoming fisheries seminar; acknowledging the importance of the IRPD and fire department ; Memories on the Pike Chain.

DUES: Raising membership dues to \$20/year was approved at the August. 2014 general meeting. **MOTION** by Greg and second by Jay to keep dues at \$20. **PASSED** unanimously.

OTHER -information only

Brief discussion held on the important work of the IR police and fire department and their ongoing need of financial support to cover costs of needed updated equipment.

There is concern by some living on Buskey Bay about the significant number of people ice fishing on Buskey Bay creating a festival type atmosphere at times this past winter. Could this negatively impact the fishery, too?

There continues to be misperception by some property owners and Iron River community members of what our mission is. We need to continue to educate the public on our mission and be careful not to stray from it.

ADJOURN: MOTION by Greg and seconded by Howard to end the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Sandager, Secretary

