

PRAIRIE LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD MAY 29, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 1:38 PM by President Merritt Linzie. Merritt introduced the officers and board members. Attendees gave self-introductions.

The minutes to the previous meeting, held September 6, 2015, were read. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed.

Sandy Fontaine gave the treasurer's report. As of May 27 the checking account had \$4217.74, member share was \$26.14 for a grand total of \$4243.88

Membership units in 2015 were 102. There are 73 as of today.

A motion was made & seconded to accept the treasurer's report. The motion passed.

Scott Moncur talked about putting a membership application on the website and a Pay-Pal option to pay dues.

There was a brief discussion about the MN DNR loon monitoring program. The association has donated \$25.00 each year to the program. A motion was made and seconded to donate \$50.00 to the program. The motion passed.

Wayne Thom updated us on beaver trapping. He just got permission to trap by the outlet a couple of weeks ago. A motion was made and seconded to extend Wayne's contract to an additional \$500.00. The motion passed.

A motion was also made, and seconded, to ask the township and county for financial help with beaver control in the area. The motion passed.

The adopt a buoy program was discussed. Scott Moncur put in all of the buoys this spring. So far 4 people have adopted 5 buoys. More volunteers are needed. Contact Scott if interested.

The Adopt A Highway program needs a coordinator for our stretch of Highway 73. No one volunteered. We may let this go for lack of interest.

Merritt gave a report on the Big Sandy Watershed district and what they are doing.

Ken Hallberg spoke on water testing. Five months of testing is done and the levels are averaged out over the five months. Prairie Lake is at the tipping point for phosphorous. The lake will be considered impaired at 35, so we need phosphorous to be less than 35.

The secchi disk reading this year was at 4 feet. Last year it was better than 5 feet, so visibility is down this year.

Merritt gave a summary of the Prairie Lake fish assessment that was done by the MN DNR last year. They had the highest northern pike catch ever for Prairie Lake, averaging 3.4 pounds. Black crappies had the highest catch rate ever and it was higher than average compared to other lakes in the area. There was some increase in bluegills. We are now an average bluegill lake.

Membership in Minnesota Lakes and Rivers was discussed. A motion was made and seconded to pay the suggested dues for our association, which is \$150.00. The motion passed.

Elections were held for the current officers and one board position. A motion was made and seconded to re-elect all of the current officers. The motion passed. Merritt Linzie was re-elected President; Scott Moncur was re-elected Vice-President; Sandy Fontaine was re-elected Treasurer and Bob Sanft was re-elected Secretary. All were elected to a one year term.

A motion was made and seconded to re-elect Richard Coleman to the board. The motion passed. Richard's term is for 3 years.

The election will be discussed at the fall meeting. Most of the officers expressed a desire give up their positions after this term.

Sandy Fontaine spoke briefly. She wanted to acknowledge the passing of 3 of our members over the winter. Roger Hill mentioned 3 more that passed away. There was a brief discussion about mentioning at the meeting when a member passes away so they can be remembered and other members informed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Sanft, Secretary