



P.O Box 56  
Clintonville, WI 54929  
PigeonLake.org

## AGENDA of REGULAR MEETING Minutes in Red

Clintonville Community Center  
Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 6PM

OPEN MEETING STATEMENT: This meeting and all meetings of this Board are open to the public. Proper notice has been posted in accordance with Wisconsin statutes so that citizens may be aware of the time and place of this meeting. This Board may conduct a roll call vote, a voice vote, or otherwise decide to approve, reject, or modify any item on this agenda.

1. **Call to Order** Called to order at 6:01
2. **Roll Call: Dawson, Lundt, Pahl, Radtke, [City Appointee], Strey-Hirt, Walker All present but City Appointee**
3. **Review and Approve Agenda 1<sup>st</sup> Strey-Hirt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dawson Unanimous Approval**
4. **Review and Approve Minutes from March 29 1<sup>st</sup> Dawson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Radtke Unanimous Approval**
5. **Chair's Report Pahl presented, in writing and verbally, the first "Letter's to Pigeon Lake" to be submitted in the paper. FYI: The printed version has been copied and pasted at the end of this document. Lundt requested that we discuss and decide how the Letter's to Pigeon Lake process will be approved, etc. at the next regular meeting.**
6. **Treasurer's Report 1<sup>st</sup> Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lundt Unanimous Approval**
7. **Committee Reports**
  - a. **County—Strey-Hirt Tammy discussed some of the importance of a new potential bill for farmers to help prevent/reduce water contamination. Here is the link to the article:**  
<https://legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/02/cowles/press-releases/2023/better-farming-cleaner-water/>
  - b. **City— absent**
  - c. **Operations/Fishery—Radtke Feels like the water is stirred up because of the carp and there really aren't any weeds in the lake. Suggested waiting to launch weed cutter, etc., until there is a need. Last year there really wasn't many weeds cut or hauled...and this year looks similar.**
  - d. **Social Media/Web— Lundt Need more action from the web coordinators. Reminded board members that we can always use more content and that if they email, I have the ability to post on our FB site.**

- e. Lake Management Planning/Onterra—Pahl Nothing much currently, but will be reaching out to them to see what they say.
8. Old Business
- a. Spring Planting Party @7Maples—Dawson—Pick up plants 5/26; Plant 5/27  
Confirmed this plan. Lundt is going to meet at 7 Maples next week to set what is needed for trailers, mulch, etc.
  - b. Water Quality Testing Team—Dawson Has worked with others to organize a small group of volunteers that are willing/able to commit to being a monitor/tester. Preliminary training will start for a small group on Weds, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Additional trainings will be available as needed.
  - c. Cops ‘n Bobbers—June 9 (Joe LeBreck/Drew Lundt) Lundt has been communicating with LeBreck. Not much PLPRD has to do at this time. LeBreck did say that he needs each volunteers full name and DOB so he can do a background check...Lundt asked anyone interested in being a volunteer to email him their information.
  - d. Ruff Fish Tournament—July 15, 2023—Permit has been applied for already. Also discussed potential changes from last time, etc. Will continue to discuss/finalize at next meeting.
  - e. Kayak Race: Fall Frenzy Friday—September 15 All in favor. Dawson will contact local places like Mountain Bay Outfitters to see if they’d like to rent Kayaks.
  - f. Duck Race: Fall Frenzy Saturday—September 16 Definitely want to do this again, but explore a shorter distance for the ducks to travel.
  - g. Lights at Mathew’s Bay? TOTAL: \$5520.35 plus electrician to hook up and install breaker/meter (\$500?)
    - i. We need to make a proposal to City Council
      - 1. 1 light or 2?
      - 2. 50/50 Cost-Share (Caz prefers) or ongoing electrical (waiting on estimated cost/month)

Motion made by Lundt: PLPRD will agree to a 50/50 cost sharing for installing one light on each of 2 different poles, with our portion not to exceed \$3000.00. All additional, on going, expenses etc., would be the city’s responsibility. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Walker Unanimous Approval.

3.

9. New Business

a. Weed Harvester Safety and Maintenance Seminary, Wis Dells: send Tammy and 1 more?

i. Friday, May 12, 2023—8:30AM – 3PM

ii. Registration: \$75/person--\$150 (includes bkfst/lunch)

iii. Other Expenses--Mileage, Lodging, Thursday night meal.

1. 234 miles x .655 = \$234 (1 car)

2. Lodging: approx. \$200/each=\$400 (2 rooms)

3. Thursday meal --\$59/per person = \$120 TOTAL: \$904 for 2

**Motion by Dawson to approve Strey-Hirt to attend seminar. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lundt (commented that education is always a good investment and that Tammy should ask people at the seminar about any additional opportunities) Unanimous Approval**

10. Public Comment **None**

11. Adjournment **Called at 8:02pm**

Upcoming Meetings: May 24, June 28, July 26, **Aug 23 (Annual Meeting)**; Sep 27; Oct 25; Nov 29; Jan 3

## Letters from Pigeon Lake: Letter 1

Jon Pahl

Dear Friend:

When my wife, Lisa, and I moved to Clintonville six years ago from Philadelphia, one of the primary reasons that drew us here was Pigeon Lake. Since then, I've come to love this body of water. We boat it in, swim in it, fish in it, and enjoy the beauty it provides year-round. And now that I'm Chair of the Pigeon Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District, I've decided to write a bi-weekly column for the paper: "Letters from Pigeon Lake." I hope you enjoy them.

Sometimes I'll write about what's happening in lake management. We meet monthly, and it takes real work (and resources) to care for this ecosystem. We're fortunate to have a strong Board right now that's committed and works well together. We're all learning as we go—and we want your input.

The Pigeon Lake watershed covers 68,210 acres; that's 106 square miles. The watershed extends in a large oval with Marion Pond roughly in the middle, from Wittenberg in the West to Clintonville in the East, reaching South to Bear Creek and North to Caroline. Anyone who lives in the watershed—within those 106 square miles, should care about the health of Pigeon Lake.

Human bodies are roughly three-quarters water. And for those of us in this watershed—that means roughly three-quarters of our body contains the waters that come from our private and public wells that draw from the Pigeon Lake watershed. It's in our interest to do all we can to keep these waters as clean as possible.

We're fortunate that in 1974, some foresighted watershed residents decided to propose a Lake District—and saw to it that a majority of voters agreed with them in a referendum. A Lake District is a recognized governmental unit—like a Sanitary District or School District. There are currently seven members on the Pigeon Lake District Board. We get elected in rotating slots at an Annual Meeting usually held in August (our next one is scheduled for August 23, at 6PM at the Clintonville Community Center). Two members are appointed—one from the City of Clintonville and one from Waupaca County.

But I'm less interested in the politics of caring for the lake than I am in what the lake might mean to the people who live near it. Over the next couple of years (God-willing!), I'll share with you from some of my favorite writers about lakes and nature. I'll also keep you updated on upcoming events on or near the lake that we'll be sponsoring or participating in.

I hope you'll get involved and help us to take care of and to improve Pigeon Lake. It's fun work, and it's gratifying to know that you are a part of something older and larger than you are, and literally teeming with life. If you know the lake, you know that in winter it "talks:" the lake groans and cracks as the ice expands and contracts, sounding a little like the low rumbles that African elephants make. This living body of water—itsself 174 acres, has its own language (and there are different sounds in Spring, Summer, and Fall!)

The writer Denise Levertov once published a poem entitled "What One Receives from Living Close to a Lake," and I'll close this week's column with her beautiful words:

That it is wide, and still--yet subtly stirring; wide and  
level, reflecting the intangible sky's vaster breadth in its own

fresh, cold, serene surface we can touch, enter, taste.  
That it is wide and uninterrupted save by here a sail, there  
a constellation of waterfowl--a meadow of water you could say,  
a clearing amid the entangled forest of forms and voices,  
anxious intentions, urgent memories:  
a deep, clear breath to fill the soul,  
an internal gesture, arms flung wide  
to echo that mute generous outstretching we call lake.

--From *The Life Around Us: Selected Poems on Nature* (1997)

Other topics for future columns:

- a. Viewing Nature on Pigeon Lake—where to?
- b. Boating on Pigeon Lake: Kayaking, Canoes, Pontoons
- c. Blasto Myths and Facts
- d. Draw-down plusses and minuses
- e. Birding on Pigeon Lake
- f. Access to Pigeon Lake: boat launches and trails
- g. Water quality monitoring and updates
- h. Volunteering to Support PLD
- i. Fishing—Stocked and Loaded
  - i. Get stories from local fishermen
- j. 7 Maples: Planting Project
- k. 7 Maples or Pickerel Point: Viewing Tower?
- l. Herbicides and AIS
  - i. Weed-cutting: 8.25 cutter loads, 2022 vs. 429 in 2009
- m. What is DASH—Diver-Assisted Suction Harvesting
- n. Muck Smell: How to Get Rid of It?
- o. Beach? 50/50 in survey
- p. Carp: An Invasive Species (Ruff Fish Tournament)
- q. Partnership with Wild Ones
- r. Lawncare to Care for the Lake
- s. Agriculture and Pigeon Lake
- t. Shoreline Restoration: What and Why?
- u. Why a Lake District? What are benefits that flow from tax dollars?
  - Civic, Environmental, Tourism, attractive to potential residents/workforce