



MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, July 10, 2024
 Clintonville Community Center
 30 South Main Street
 Clintonville, WI 54929

1. Call to Order

Chair Pahl called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. Pahl read the 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.

2. Roll Call: County Rep - none, Dawson - Present, Lundt - Present, Pahl - Present, Radtke - Excused, Schirpke - Present, Walker - Present

3. Review and Approve Agenda

MSP: Shirpke/Walker. Passed.

4. Review and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings – May 22, 2024

MSP Walker/Shirpke. Passed

5. Chair’s Report: Pahl

Report attached. Also submitted for Pigeon Lake Editorial to Clintonville Chronicle.

MSP to approve Chair’s report: Shirpke/Walker. Passed

6. Treasurer’s Report: Dawson

Dawson presented check register, bills and financial report for May. M/S Shirpke/Lundt.

Roll Call vote: unanimous

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Account Balance: | \$ 375,957.97 |
| May Income: | \$ 3956.69 |
| May Expenses | \$ 5892.43 |
| June income to date | Int |
| June bills to date | \$ 2931.17 |

Steady increase in account balances since 12/2019. Discussion regarding management of funds.

Review of levy shows no increase in last 3 years and spending will below budget since 2018.

- a. RFQ Audit: No responses to posting. Phone calls to local accounting firms – most do not do audits. Ballpark quote of \$6000. Dawson to continue to pursue options.

7. Committee Reports

- a. County—Dawson; Still no county rep appointed.
- b. City—Schirpke: Fly-in festivities at airport Tuesday July 16.
- c. Social Media/Web—Lundt; Delay in posters for Ruff fish Tournament and Ducky Race. Discussion re management of content and who posts on web and FB. Chair assigned committee to oversee: Lundt/Mullen-Hornung/Pahl/Dawson. Possible additional resource – Heather Ripp.

- d. Operations/Fishery—Pahl for Radtke:
 - a. Connection made with DNR fisheries contact Elliot Hoffman. Planned Spring survey using shock method to be followed by stocking if appropriate. Blue Gill under consideration.
 - b. Ruff Fish – Don Olmstead (aka Red) will take care of Myron’s function.
 - c. Camera for Trailer
 - i. Motion – MS Lundt/Dawson to buy 2 cellular cameras set up to face road and equipment at a cost up to \$300. Roll call vote – approved unanimously.
 - ii. Dawson to research options.
 - d. Weedcutter repair and maintenance:
 - i. Motion – MS Dawson/Shirpke to recognize the extensive time and expertise that Abel put into making weedcutter operational by giving him an honorarium of \$370. Roll call vote. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Old Business

- a. Office Space Update: Focused on compliance with Open Records Law
- b. Spring 2024 Planting Party Update – event successful with plants growing well.
- c. Cops and Bobbers: Participation successful but not a lot of fish caught.
- d. Chamber Golf Outing: Support to Chamber successful.
- e. Riparian Zone Education: Next event to identify candidates for CWH. To be held Aug 3 or 4 at Pahl’s place
 - i. Motion – MS Dawson/Walker to spend up to \$300 on food and drink. Roll call vote: Dawson: yes, other commissioners: No, Motion fails. Lundt to provide meat/Pahl to provide drinks.
- f. Ruff Fish Tournament: ready to go.
 - i. Motion – MS Pahl/Dawson to present prizes of \$100 for largest fish, \$50 for next largest, \$25 for 3rd largest fish in each of 4 categories of fish: Carp, Koi, Bullhead, Sheepshead. Roll call vote. Motion passed unanimously.
- g. Weed Harvesting/Muck Removal Teams Project – discussion of options. No decisions except not to include muck removal.
- h. FDPA: Representation at Waupaca and Shawano County Fairs: Cost of \$140 for single booth. Need to have material and representative at booth. Look into for 2025.
- i. Meeting management: Rough code provided to board. To be reviewed and then discussed at a later meeting.

9. New Business

- a. 2025 Budget reviewed. To be discussed and finalized at next meeting for presentation as proposed budget at Annual Meeting.
- b. Lake Management Plan: Dawson to start process of RFP from grant writers.
- c. Fall Frenzy: Rubber Duckie Race plan to use funds to purchase fish after Spring Survey.

10. Public Comment

- a. Prickett – recommends 2 cameras for Wayside Park with instant transmission to recipient. Noted that funds in accounts are savings. Potential use for dredging project. Mathew’s Bay good place for emergent plant planting.
- b. Paisar - New riparians looking for guidance on right things to do with dock and boat access.
- c. Krueger – Objection to use of his taxes to fund golf tournament fund raiser participation.

11. Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn M/S/P Dawson/Shirpke 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted | Trish Dawson | PLPRD Treasurer

**Upcoming Meetings: July 24, Aug 28 [Annual Meeting], Aug 28 [Board], Sept 25, Oct 23, Nov 27
May need special meeting prior to Annual Meeting (for mailing – prior to Aug 14).**

These minutes will be posted to the website prior to approval from the committee and are considered to be in draft form until approved at the next scheduled meeting.

FROM PIGEON LAKE

July 9, 2024

The Spiritual Side of Caring for Pigeon Lake

By Jon Pahl

Do you think there's a spiritual side to caring for Pigeon Lake? I do. That spirituality—call it a vocation, motivates everything I do as Chair of the Pigeon Lake District Board.

Some people know that my “day job” is as an Author and Professor at United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia and Gettysburg, PA. We moved to Wisconsin from Philadelphia seven years ago, and I teach online, mostly, and then go back to Philly or Gettysburg for intensive, week-long courses in-person. It's complicated, but it works. Being here allowed me to be near my parents in their last years—something I cherish.

Among the topics I teach at the Seminary—mostly to individuals preparing to be pastors, is what I call “sacred places.” My interest isn't just academic. I think we've done a poor job, over the past century, of caring for the waters, air, trees, and soil that is a gift to us from God. I hope through my teaching and writing that I can motivate and equip future pastors to help lead their congregations into better stewardship of our natural resources.

Because Christian Scripture is very clear: how we care for the Earth is one of the signs of how we are living out our faith. And water is particularly important in the Bible. In fact, as I put it in one of my books, entitled *Shopping Malls and Other Sacred Spaces: Putting God in Place*, the Bible practically drips! Water is present at the beginning of creation, in Genesis 1, and it's present at the end, in the very last chapters of the Book of Revelation. Poisoned water is something the prophets warn the people of Israel about (it's a consequence of idolatry, greed, and sin). And Jesus calls himself “Living Water” that he offers to all people as grace to quench whatever thirsts they might have.

Now, we don't generally talk about these dimensions of what we do on the Board. We work as a secular agency—as we should. But deep down my motivation to serve on the Board is driven by my faith: to fulfill our mutual calling to care for our planet. Everything I do is driven by that aim—from how I relate to others on the Board, to how I try to communicate honestly with the public, to how we manage our finances and Budget.

Another word for how I try to practice, along with vocation, is that I try to bring integrity to our work. Integrity means to do the right thing even if you run into opposition. Integrity means to be willing to fight for what's right—to challenge people to be better.

Practicing integrity doesn't always win you friends—but it lets you sleep at night knowing you've been true to yourself and to your vocation.

A third word that guides the spiritual side of how I try to care for Pigeon Lake is vision. That is, we try to develop together in the Board a vision for what's best for this beautiful ecosystem. Toward that end, we just completed a comprehensive five-year Plan. It's on our website: pigeonlake.org

I'll be honest: it's an ambitious vision. To do it right, the Plan we agreed to is going to cost us. To protect and to rehabilitate Pigeon Lake will not come without expense. We are going to be bold in our attempt to do what's right for Pigeon Lake and for our community. The Budget we are going to propose is nearly *double* what we've spent in previous years. But because we've practiced fiscal integrity, and the Boards before us did so as well—we will NOT have to raise taxes this year (we haven't in four years) to realize it. We have more than sufficient funds in savings that will allow us to propose a bold budget, while also maintaining a very strong reserve.

Among the expenses we are proposing will be restocking the fishery (after a survey in Spring), a dredging study, an aquatic-invasive (weed) survey (for possible herbicide application or other removal methods), and a kayak rental kiosk. Each of these is consistent with our purpose as a Board—and directly related to caring for and to enjoying Pigeon Lake.

Pigeon Lake has many challenges—some of them have solutions. Improving the water quality, keeping the weeds down, maintaining navigation lanes, strengthening riparian zones, cultivating native plants, deepening the channel, nurturing the fishery, improving recreational access to and opportunities on our lake--these are all aspects of our reason-for-being as a Board. And these are not only policies or actions by a governmental body—although they are that, too! These activities are also the working out of a spiritual vocation, with integrity, with confidence in a bold vision of stewardship for the well-being of Pigeon Lake and our community.

I'll see you on Pigeon Lake!