

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Associated Bank, Crandon
Friday, November 15, 2024

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:40 am by President Pam Schroeder who established a quorum.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Present: Jim Zach, Lisa Vida, Mike Henderson, Derek Thorn, Bob Ebben, Pam Schroeder, Clair Carty, and Kathy Babcock.

Board of Directors present via ZOOM: Greg Schmitz.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Excused: Vi Lamers, Lee Lamers, Pat Schultz, Kayla Littleton, Mark Smith, and Diane Smith.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Absent: Mark Orlovsky and Larry Sommer.

Guest: Quinn Rowe, Federal Clean Energy Campaign Manager with Wisconsin Conservation Voters

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion to accept the minutes from September 20, 2024 was made by Bob Ebben, seconded by Mike Henderson. Motion to amend the minutes to change the name "Stacey" to "Laura" was made by Clair Carty, seconded by Mike Henderson. Amended minutes. Amended motion passed unanimously.

Kathy read the letter we received from Pickerel/Crane Lakes Protection & Rehabilitation District thanking us for the three donated fishing line receptacles.

TREASURER'S REPORT -- Bob Ebben presented the treasurer's report.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Greg Schmitz, seconded by Mike Henderson and passed unanimously.

Bob indicated that at our last meeting he said he would transfer money from our Laona State Bank account to our checking account, but because of the successful mailing done by Greg to area businesses, he did not have to do so. Thank you, Greg.

GRANT UPDATES – Bob is working on a grant from Visit Forest County with the help of Curt Haga. Curt recommended that FCAL become a member of Visit Forest County before sending in the application. We gave Bob permission for FCAL to join the Visit Forest County group. Greg will send Bob a photo of our lead-free sinker packaging to include in the application. Bob already has a photo of the fishing line receptacles for this purpose.

LIAISON REPORTS

Forest County Land and Water Conservation: No report at this time.

FLOW/AIS: Derek Thorn reported that he recently attended the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference in Duluth. He especially found the presentation on treatments of zebra mussels using either CO₂ or copper sulfate helpful. Another presentation he attended was on the use of ProcellaCor to treat Eurasian Milfoil.

Derek will be presenting on FLOW's Resort Owners Outreach Project at the spring Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Convention (March 26-28 in Stevens Point). We suggested that he consider adapting this project for fishing guides and other lake user groups (e.g., fishing tournaments and Foot Stock Races).

Jim Zach brought in weed samples from Peshtigo Lakes for Derek to identify. Derek suggested that it is likely Eurasian Milfoil but it could be a hybrid – he will send the sample out for identification. When a hybrid is suspected, samples are sent to a lab in Montana for determination via DNA testing. Jim's concern is that Peshtigo Lake is loaded with non-native Milfoil, and participants for Foot Stock Races move from Peshtigo Lake to Lake Lucerne.

Lumberjack: No report at this time.

WRISC: No report at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Annual Meeting/Dinner – This year's event was a success, although we over spent by \$118 and did not invite the essay contest winners. Discussion on ways to include essay contest winners and their families at next year's dinner ensued.

Business Donations & New Membership Forms – Greg Schmitz wrote and mailed letters to area businesses in our county encouraging them to become members.

Bob reported that we have received a few new business members from this mailing. Thank you, Greg.

Environmental Days – No report at this time.

Essay Contest – No report at this time.

Fall Forum – No report at this time.

Fishing Line Receptacles – All member lake associations have received receptacles. Those not members can purchase them for \$150. Mark Smith might have 1 or 2 extras on hand. Pam will personally deliver a fishing line receptacle to the Mole Lake Sokoagon Chippewa as thanks for their continued grant support of FCAL.

Kentuck Days – No report at this time.

Newsletter – No report at this time.

Website -- Most people attending the Annual Meeting/Dinner reserved and paid for their dinner via the website. No other report at this time.

NEW & MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Election of Officers – The board unanimously elected Greg Schmitz as vice president (second term), and Kathy Babcock as secretary (second term).

Monofilament Receptacles – We will consider selling these via our website.

Kiosks – No report at this time.

Special Presentation

Quinn Rowe, the Federal Clean Energy Campaign Manager with Wisconsin Conservation Voters, presented on rebates and tax credits available to property owners via the Affordable Clean Energy Plan. He provided a pamphlet with three QR codes for more information. At FCAL's January meeting, we will discuss whether this is a good fit for the Fall Forum. This coming year, we will include materials from Quinn in our FCAL bags at Kentuck Days and information in our spring newsletter.

If any lake association is interested in getting more information or having Quinn present to their members, here is his contact information: 715-204-9024 or quinn@conservationvoters.org.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Clair Carty, seconded by Lisa Vida. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Note: In lieu of our December meeting, we will have a holiday gathering at 5pm at The Last Resort on Lily River, 7793 Jones Lane, Pickerel, WI

Our next meeting is Friday, January 17 at 9:30 am at Associated Bank in Crandon, live and via ZOOM. Please let Pam and Kathy know if you are not able to attend either the January meeting or the December Holiday Gathering.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Babcock
Secretary