

**PINE LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT
MINUTES ANNUAL MEETING
JULY 2, 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Paul Jenkins. Committee members present were Gail Gentz, Pat Coraggio and Marilyn Pfeiffer.

Approval of Minutes from last annual meeting. The minutes were read by Commissioner Gentz. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the minutes as read. Motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Coraggio report was handed out. The report covers April 22, to June 30, 2005. The beginning balance was \$16,426.98 and the ending balance was \$11,306.91. The money market balance for the tax freedom account is \$21,241.40. There was a question regarding the cost of the hydraulic oil. It is biodegradable oil because the equipment is used in the water. The cost was for the purchase of a 55 gallon drum which will be stored and used in the future as needed. Motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the treasurer's report as submitted. Motion carried.

Annual Audit Report. Commissioner Coraggio handed out copies of the annual audit report. The audit is done every year by statute. The audit is for calendar year 2004. The opening auditor's report on page one indicates the district has complied with all of the accounting standards. Page two is Exhibit "A", the balance sheet. It shows the assets from 2003 to 2004. There is an increase in the assets of \$14,102 for a total of \$276,512.

The liabilities show a reduction of \$2,474. Page three Exhibit "B" Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances from 2003 to 2004. The tax levy in 2004 was \$40,000, interest income of \$772 and other income of \$420. Page four are the notes to financial statements. Page six covers the Equipment, Real Estate and Notes Payable. If the assets continue to grow the district should be able to pay off the Notes Payable to reduce the interest. There was a question from the floor regarding paying off the notes payable rather than putting money into the tax freedom account. Commissioner Coraggio reported that a resolution was passed in 1997 to make a deposit annually of not less than \$5,000 per year to accomplish the goals set forth in the resolution. Those goals were to establish a tax freedom account that will in the future provide revenues to fully fund the expenses of the Lake District so that taxes may be reduced to a minimum amount or be eliminated entirely. Motion made and seconded from the floor to accept the audit as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Coraggio read the resolution that was established in 1997 regarding the tax freedom account. A motion was made from the floor and seconded that a special meeting be held on September 3, 2005 to discuss and consider rescinding the 1997 Resolution Establishment of Tax Freedom Account. The motion was carried.

Weedharvester Repair Report. Commissioner Coraggio reported that the weed harvester and transporter locked and the transporter tipped over on its side. The motor was destroyed and several parts of the equipment were damaged and needed repair. The top canopy was damaged to the point that it could not be repaired. The district turned in an insurance claim and the insurance company paid for most of the repairs. The equipment was taken to Aurora, Wisconsin where the heavy duty equipment and the frame was checked. The tanks on the bottom were checked to see if there were any leaks because there was water coming out. The metal framework was repaired and a new motor was purchased. This was difficult because there was only one like it in the entire Midwest. The motor was purchased and stored for about five

months before it could be put on to the transport. It was recently put on and the repair work was done in Aurora , Wisconsin . The equipment was being returned and the trailer broke loose from the truck and caused some damage to the truck and trailer. One of the hydraulic lines broke on the equipment. The equipment is now sitting in the shop on the lake. The person that did the repair work will fix the light, jack and the wiring. The mechanic is coming over to the shop on the lake this week to give an estimate on the repairs to the hydraulic lines and getting the motor up and running. The equipment should be ready by the end of next week. A question was asked from the floor why the weed transport tipped over. It was not determined what actually happened. The insurance company assessed that when the weedcutter disengaged from the transport it did not fully disengage which caused the weight to shift on the transport and tip it over on the side. The walkie talkies were damaged and a claim was submitted. New walkie talkies were ordered with lapel microphones and holsters so that they will not fall into the water. The insurance covered the purchase of new equipment. So far, including the work that has been done thus far, we have paid out \$12,701.43. The insurance company reimbursed \$14,800.00. On the estimate that the insurance company approved the bottom of the transporter was to be painted. This was not done so there is some money left from that. Commissioner Jenkins asked if there was a breakdown of the repairs. Commissioner Coraggio reported as follows: The diesel engine cost \$5,950, repair damage to Dick and Jan Rausch's property was \$36, flushing winterizing and checking the diesel engine \$362.50, walkie talkie replacement \$3,255, Tony Votis to upright the equipment \$450, and Grailer Welding repair equipment, \$2,435.25. The maintenance on the equipment for 2003 was \$3,461, and 2004 \$3,060.

Weed Harvesting Report. Commissioner Coraggio gave the history he report. When the Lake District decided to look at weed harvesting, a grant was written to the State of Wisconsin . The grant was approved and there was matching funding for the trailer and the harvester. Another grant was written for the harvester. At the beginning of harvesting weeds Larry Hanlin took over the operations for harvesting weeds on the lake. After Larry decided to quit, Tom Wirth took over the operations and Jerry Wolf functioned as his assistant. When Tom Wirth resigned, Jerry Wolf indicated that he did not want the operations position but would help out until the district found someone. Karl Tauer, the Chairman of the District asked Commissioner Coraggio if he would oversee the operations. During this time the transporter was tipped over into the lake. Commissioner Coraggio felt it was his obligation to continue to oversee the operations. As Treasurer of the Lake District , Commissioner Coraggio puts in many hours, time, paperwork, and payroll. Commissioners are paid \$25 per meeting and Commissioner Coraggio has no problem continuing to do this. The problem is that he cannot do the work as Treasurer and continue to run the operations for the weedharvesting. It was suggested by Jerry Wolf we get people around the lake involved. Commissioner Coraggio would like to see someone step forward who is willing to take over the operations, run the harvester and work with the Lake District to keep the weedharvesting program going forward. There is a lot of money and equipment invested and the lake needs to have the weedharvesting program back on the lake and functional.

Fish Stocking Report. Chairman Jenkins reported he communicated with Bob Young from the DNR office on June 7th. He indicated they were going to stock walleye fingerling on Pine Lake on odd numbered years at a rate of 83,500 fingerlings per year. Two weeks ago the DNR put in 71,000 walleyes. Chairman Jenkins talked to Mr. Young about different ideas he had for Pine Lake . We can stock two fish walleye and musky. It has to be a true musky not a highbred. He made suggestions of putting a limit on large mouth and small mouth bass. One fish over 18

inches. Northerns three fish limit 26 inches. Walleye two fish limit 15 inches. Panfish 25 mixed bag limit. This decision can be made by the Lake District with input from the people on the lake. There was a concensus of the Commissioners that the Lake District needs something in writing from the DNR as to limits of fish for Pine Lake . Once we receive the letter, the commission will put this topic on a quarterly meeting agenda.

Commissioner Coraggio stated at the 2004 Annual meeting we put in \$2,500 for stocking fish and voted on stocking on walleyes. He checked with the DNR and places that furnish walleyes. The DNR said walleyes which are 5 inches or larger the survival rate is between 60 and 70 percent. We were looking for fish that exceeded 5 inches or more. The Forest County Walleye Association has two ponds outside of Laona that raise walleyes. This Association is not sure if they can provide the Lake District with \$2,500 worth of walleyes that are 5 inches or larger. Commissioner Coraggio is suggesting that we give this Association a donation of \$500. The walleyes run from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per fish. If we give the donation he will double the number of walleyes that we get for our money. Commissioner Coraggio talked to Hilger which is another source for walleyes. If we want to guarantee 1,000 walleyes 5 inches or larger, we could purchase them for \$2.00 per walleye. The balance of the \$2,000 could be used to purchase these walleyes.

Commissioner Coraggio's recommendation is to make the \$500 donation to the Forest County Walleye Association to keep a relationship going with this Association and get use the \$2,000 to purchase walleye from Hilger in Antigo. The question was raised from the floor about musky. Chairman Jenkins reported that the DNR would allow musky in the lake. Bob Young from the DNR does not want to allow Pine Lake to become overrun with musky. There would be a limit on the number that could be planted into the lake.

Commissioner Coraggio clarified that this is a two part process. Last year we appropriated \$2,500 for walleyes. Commissioner Coraggio's recommendation is to disburse the \$2,500 that was voted upon last year. The second part would be to determine what would be done for next year. Commissioner Pfeiffer asked what the benefit would be to put musky in the lake. Chairman Jenkins stated it would start thinning out the smaller fish in the lake. A motion from the floor was made to spend the \$2,500 as outlined by Commissioner Coraggio for this year. Motion was seconded from the floor. Motion carried.

Guest Speakers. Chairman Jenkins reported he contacted two gentlemen, Scott Vanegren from the DNR, who is the new Pine Lake representation from the DNR, and James Goheen with Aquatic Biologists, who are the chemical company. They both agreed to meet with the commissioners and go out on Pine Lake the week of July 11, 2005. At that time an assessment of the weeds will be done. This will give us an idea of what is the best treatments for Pine Lake along with cost figures. I would then like both gentlemen to come to a meeting. They both agreed so the Commissioners will set up a special meeting to be posted in the newspaper, so that members of the District can come and ask questions. There was a question from the floor about weedcutting for this year. Chairman Jenkins reported that he doesn't know if any weedcutting will be done this year because there is no one to run the equipment. At this time he has one person. Commissioner Jenkins reported that he is not antiweedcutter, he is sort of in between. You cannot poison the entire lake. His problem with the weedcutter is he feels cutting the weeds is spreading the weeds rather than controlling the weeds in the lake. Commissioner Pfeiffer asked about information on a Lake Management Plan that had been submitted and denied. Her opinion is this is the one thing that the Lake District needs. The unknown of cutting weeds or chemical treatment needs to be determined before we can go forward with any changes to the

management of weeds in Pine Lake . This professional input is essential in the management of weeds on Pine Lake . Commissioner Pfeiffer would like to see the Lake District pay for the Lake Management Plan, get it done and take it from there. Commissioner Coraggio and Commissioner Gentz reiterated this. Commissioner Coraggio reported last year he wrote to the DNR and asked for an application for a Lake Management Plan. At the January Quarterly meeting he presented this to the Board. He was told that if we get it into the DNR before the April meeting, we would not only get funds for a survey, but also some matching funds and the DNR would be willing to pay retroactive the \$2,100 for the study that was done by R. T. Kreuger. Commissioner Coraggio was not around in Feb. and March so he asked someone else to work on this. When he returned for the meeting in April, he found out that the study had been denied by the DNR. The commission never received a copy of the application nor any explanation why the study was denied. The Lake District needs to reapply and move forward on this because this is the document that will give the Lake District the ability to move forward on how to manage the weeds on Pine Lake . So far we have a macrophyte study that tells us to keep strip harvesting the weeds, be wary of chemicals because you can only poison certain weeds in certain areas, and the expense of chemically treating this lake. This is something that the Lake District needs to be willing to pay for. Karl Tauer reporter that the grant writer submitted the wrong information and was suppose to submit a new page for the grant and this was never done.

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to have a special meeting on August 6, 2005, on discussion and action to proceed with the Lake Management Plan. Motion carried.

Discussion on Communication from Jerry Wolf. Commissioner Coraggio reported that Jerry Wolf, who does all of the chemical testing for the lake, is as frustrated as some of you are as to what goes on at the Lake District meetings. He wrote a letter to the Lake District asking that we consider a few things. His first suggestion was to have donuts and coffee before the annual meeting so that was done today. An advisory weed control committee made up of three or four volunteers should be formed to work with the Lake District and help oversee the equipment and work with the people who are hired to operate the equipment. The Lake District does have a pay scale. A CDL license is required if you apply to operate the dump truck. The weedcutting crew should have a fulltime person to run the operation. If anyone is interested they should contact one of the commissioners. Other suggestions were boat landing inspections and shoreline issues that we could look at in the future. A suggestion from the floor was to put sign up sheets out for people to sign up today if they are willing to volunteer for any of these committees.

Proposed Budget for 2006. Commissioner Jenkins presented the proposed budget for 2006. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the 2006 budget as presented. Motion carried.

Election of Officers. Commissioner Coraggio reported that one seat is open for a three year term as commissioner currently held by Paul Jenkins. As acting Chairman, nominations were taken from the floor. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to nominate Jim Krems. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to nominate Paul Jenkins. There were no other nominations from the floor so the nominations were closed. Paul Jenkins was elected to a three year term as a commissioner.

Motion was made and seconded from the floor to adjourn. Motion carried.