

8/30/03

John Schulte, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10am. Board members present - Dick Rudolph, Treasurer, Brian Rivard, Merle Paulson, and Diane Martin, Secretary. Representing the Alden Township Board was Brad Johnson, Chairman.

Announcements- Jennifer Waidelich representing the Amery Wrestling Club-This organization will be fund raising by taking out docks this fall and putting them in before fishing opener in the spring. Interested parties may contact Jennifer at 715-269-5167 or mail to Amery Wrestling Club

C/O Jim Rubenzer
506 Minneapolis Avenue
Amery, WI 54001

John Schulte states he used this and he endorses their service.

Brad Johnson states Bud Lee, former county commissioner, is in the Amery Hospital after a heart attack. Concerns expressed by members.

A motion to dispense with reading the minutes of the May 2003 meeting was made by Ed Bruno and seconded by Dave Larson. Approved.

Treasurer's Report-Dick Rudolph-see attached-present balance is \$35,990.12.

Motion made, seconded and approved to accept as presented.

Dick- 1. Weed Control update-as stated at the spring meeting the state of WI had decided that lime slurry was considered an herbicide so we could not treat at that time. The state has been rethinking this. A study has been going on at the Eau Galle areas by the Corps of Engineering. Dick recently observed this site with water quality people. In talking with Dr. William James, Corps of Engineering, we will get approval to continue with lime slurry for use next year.

We would pay for the lime applied to the three lakes for the first year at a cost of \$18,000.00 to 20,000.00. 75% of this cost will be returned to us from the DNR.

Suggests we might entertain getting bids regarding the cost of lime.

2. Lakes clarity- last week the showings were:

Church Pine-15.5 feet

Round-10.5 feet

Big Lake-10 feet

3. Purple Loosestrife-Russ Starbuck brought in this plant to display on the Board's table. Dick states it has only been seen on Big Lake, not on Round or Church Pine. A member states that the DNR recommends not pulling plants but suggests bagging the top of plant since millions of seeds scatter, cutting at water line and applying Roundup for it to be eliminated. May dispose of cuttings by burning all of plant.

John-Water Patrol-The boat was inspected by Merle Paulson and John last week. States looks better than thought it would. It is repairable. It has a radio. The hull and floor are good. Earl Mork said he would repair but needs the go-ahead from our organization. Estimated cost of \$600-800.00. It is suggested that to help preserve the boat it should be kept on a boatlift with a cover. It is suggested to obtain a used one if possible. Estimated cost is \$2500.00-3000.00.

Merle states that there are 28-29 people in the county who can do the patrol. States talked with John Erring from the Bass Lake Association who pays \$22.50/hour for their patrol. States we had approved up to \$30.00/hour at the spring 2003 meeting. States in the spring we might need volunteers for training to help do patrol and give safety warnings. The thought is to have a patrol on the lakes from the middle of June until the middle of August. Discussion followed regarding the presence of the patrol during weekends and weekdays.

Review of some of the rules for use of motorboats and personal watercraft on the lakes regarding distance from others and wake. Members stated that it was helpful that they were printed and given as a handout at the May 2003 meeting. Also concerns regarding

any possible rules known for use of motor craft on the lake. Merle states Bass Lake has a set ordinance for 8am to 8pm for boat use.

Brad Johnson-Polk County cannot enforce these ordinances. Suggests that first create an ordinance that is reasonable and enforceable, check it out with authorities.

Secondly it needs to be approved by the township.

Dave Larson wonders if both affected townships where lakes are located need to approve it. John Schulte agrees since ordinances would affect both.

Motion made by Dave Larson and seconded by Marv Freckrickson to explore this possibility for such lake regulations.

HENDERSON Linda ~~Hendrickson~~ will chair committee to review the state regulations and enforcement regarding lake use by boaters and water skiers. Interested members should contact her.

Motion made by Dick Larson to cover the water patrol boat repairs and to purchase a boatlift, preferably used. Seconded and approved.

Election of Commissioners-term of service ending for Bryan Rivard and John Schulte has completed the term for Ed Bruno. No nominations have been received by the Board.

Dave Larson made a motion for Bryan to stay on the Board. Seconded. Ed Bruno made a motion to have a white ballot. Approved.

Hubert Wiggley made a motion to have John Schulte continue as Chairman of the Board. Ed Bruno made a motion for a white ballot. Approved. (Congrats and Thank You, Bryan and John!)

John-Tax Levy-review of this years cost shows weir repair with some landscape construction.

Next year's big project will be known next week-the raising of the Highway K bridge between Round and Big Lakes. The DNR has given a permit for 16 foot wide opening and 7 feet high from the high water mark.

This project will start this fall or before Memorial Day next spring. The bridge/road could be closed for two weeks.

States a 3.7 cents levy limit was passed by the County Board.

States attended that meeting with Dick Rudolph. This issue of discussion lasted 1 hour and 15 minutes due to the large number of comments made by residents. It is felt that this public pressure brought to bear on the voting by the Board to keep taxes down.

Question asked by a member - why are there different taxes on properties when the foot of lakeshore owned is the same?

Brad Johnson states that the mill rate is based on the value of your property. The state of Wisconsin statutes regulate that.

It was suggested that this concern be brought to the County Assessor.

Regarding the Tax Levy-John states that \$17,000.00 is what we've had levied on 240 properties. The bridge costs are unknown-around \$40,000.00. Costs decrease levy to \$15,000.00. Levy will be lower after that.

After review John and Dick propose a budget of \$15,000.00 for next year.

Ed Bruno makes a motion that we have a budget of \$17,000.00 for 2004 to spread the costs for the bridge over years and not having to affect our taxes. States the present bridge was built in the 1960's.

Nathan Wendt suggests application will be made to the state to cover costs so we won't be assessed.

Motion seconded and passed.

Old Business-

Merle- a committee meeting with Merle, Bryon Torgerson and Brent and Diane Martin was held recently regarding the safety and health concerns at the Church Pine Lake boat landing. Some of the issues are no bathroom or garbage facilities, no specific designated swimming area and the number of cars parked in a limited area. We would like the possibility of parking on one side of the road only. We have been told that we cannot put up swimming buoys due to the liability to this organization. States information was found

that the official boat landing is on the west side of the lake. The steep incline of the property makes this impossible.

Brad Johnson stated that by default the current property belongs to the township. He invites representatives to attend a Township board meeting held on the 3rd Thursday of the month to present these concerns. He states that he believes Cedar Lake received a grant from the DNR to build a permanent structure to house a bathroom facility. He states that what has happened previously is that trash containers placed at such places soon become the neighborhood trashcan.

Suggests that application can be made to the DNR regarding buoys.

Merle will check with the Town Clerk for a meeting date and contact interested members.

Merle suggests that Mary Kowalski be a member of this committee.

Member asked who determines the speed limit on the township roads?

Brad Johnson-Wisconsin statutes. The Town is responsible for within 33 feet from the middle of the road. States the town is liable for a large amount of money each year on liability insurance.

New Business-Nathan Wendt- in agreement of fish stocking as discussed at May meeting of 4 to 6 inch walleye fingerlings at 60 to 80 cents per fish. States would like fish stocked this fall.

Merle-Fingerlings grow rapidly. Stated that larger fish are used to stock due to smaller fish getting eaten by Northerns.

Motion made by Dave Larson to stock fish in the 3 lakes as per DNR recommendation.

Seconded and passed.

Merle suggests a lock box placed by the boat landings for donations to the stocking project from fishermen who use the lakes.

Steve Kramer-questions if our minutes will be available on the Internet that has a website available and is used by other lake associations. I stated that a member had offered at the spring meeting to help with this but my information to him was not responded to.

Tim ~~Tim~~ Firmo volunteers to be the link to make this available to our members. I will send him the minutes.

It is suggested that a speaker system be used at our next meeting due to the difficulties with acoustics at this time.

A member extends a Thank You to the church for its use of this room and for the refreshments provided by the church members.

Brent Martin extends a Thank You to the Board and makes a motion that the salary of the Board be doubled. (BIG laugh!)

Motion for adjournment made, seconded and approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50am.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Martin, Secretary

Spring Info Mtg. 5/24/03

Church Pine, Round and Big Lake Association Spring Meeting
May 24, 2003 West Immanuel Lutheran Church

Members present-John Schulte, Chair; Brian Rivard and Diane Martin.

Meeting called to order at 10:10am by John.

In the absence of Dick Rudolph, Treasurer, Dick Larson gave his report. Accepted as presented. See attached Financial Report.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the September 2002 meeting not be read.

John Schulte-future costs will be related to the bridge changes between Round and Big Lake.

Dave Larson- weed study update via Dick-Dr. Madsen from Mankato State University is unable to continue with this due to continuing back problems. The State of Wisconsin has now said that lime slurry has been labeled an herbicide so it can't be used to treat at this time. The DNR wants to try a full treatment here next year. Bill James, Army Corps of Engineering in Menominee, is the contact person. It has been suggested that the cost of the first year treatment will be \$18-20,000.00. Grant money can be applied for by August 1. It is hoped more information from the DNR will be available at the fall meeting.

Guest Speaker-Carol Flagelin with Polk County Land and Water Resource (tel. #715-485-8642) spoke about the exotic species project. Information was shared regarding zebra mussels, rusty crayfish, milfoil, purple loosestrife-items that are not native to this area.

Curly leaf pondweed has become naturalized. She states that there is a \$50.00 fine if weeds are not knocked off watercraft. It is suggested that PWC users pump weeds out for 30 seconds after removal from water.

She suggests to stencil boat-landing areas with information and to have volunteers at these places to gently remind boaters to remove their weeds. A kit with a variety of education supplies may be obtained by calling Laura Felda at 715-346-3366.

John- The Ordinance regulating the number of boat slips and piers and the conveyance of certain riparian rights on Church Pine, Round and Big Lake was discussed. The question was raised why this was needed. It was stated that the concern was for the future of large tracts of undeveloped land on Church Pine. If this area is developed with condominiums the number of boat slips could greatly impact lake safety. Jim and Mary Anne Kowalski stated that they were the owners of undeveloped property on south end of Church Pine and that they were not planning on developing this. They stated they were concerned about this same issue and did not want more boat traffic on the lakes.

Some discussion continued. If such an Ordinance is needed in the future a special meeting can be called in 10 days and voted on by the members. The motion to table the Ordinance was carried.

-Church Pine boat landing health and safety concerns were discussed. Merle Paulson, absent board member, volunteers to head a committee to discuss with the Alden Township Board our concerns of no garbage disposal or bathroom facilities available to the public, and no designated swimming area.

Members who volunteered to be on this committee are: Byron Torgerson, Joe Keating and Brent Martin.

-Water Patrol-there is much difficulty in finding qualified personnel to hire. Discussions have been held with the county sheriff and other law enforcement personnel.

Discussed. A motion was made and carried to offer up to \$30.00/hour to hire.

Boat repairs and boat insurance will be checked into.

-Dam repair-this is almost finished. Water is not building up in pond. When it dries the dirt will be removed. Rockwork is needed to prevent washout.

-Talked with George Pallo of the Highway Board. The plan is to start after Labor Day. If there are budget constraints the work will start before Memorial Day. The area will be closed for one week. It sounds as if it will get the 2' height and width.

-County Road K re-route- the environmental impact study continues for 3 different routes. Study should be available one year from now. Grants have been applied for. This is part of a 10 year highway plan. Repair on the road will continue.

New Business- John-

-Taxes-increased valuation in Alden Township. Discussion. It was motioned and carried to invite members of the Garfield and Alden Board, esp. the Assessor, and the county representative, Rep. Pettis to the September meeting. Mention was made of OSLO-Out of State Landowners Organization.

-A thank you to Ron Skone for the Lake Association newsletter content and to Sally Barnes for the typing. This is presented as a way to communicate our various concerns. Handouts content was reviewed. Members encouraged to take home and to take to others not here today. See attached.

Motion was made and carried to join the Polk County Association of Lakes and Rivers (PCALR).

-Kowalskis asked about two dilapidated, unsafe docks on the southwest corner of Church Pine. Apparently these are on township property. Permission given for their removal.

-Discussion regarding our meeting minutes available on the Polk County website as other associations are. Joe Keating volunteered to obtain computer information and contact our secretary to make this available to members.

-A discussion regarding stocking fish in the lakes was held. This information was received from Merle Paulson-there is nothing in the DNR budget this year, there is a 10% survival rate for the smallest stock but a better rate if larger stock of 5"-7" is used. The cost is \$1.50 apiece-10/acre is suggested by the DNR. Motion made and carried to get further information from DNR and to discuss stocking fish at the September meeting.

-Jill Paulson, Church Pine, was the winner of the year's subscription to Cabin Life magazine published in Duluth. The members took free copies obtained from a staff member at the magazine. A thank you was sent to the magazine.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Martin, Secretary