

Approved by the Commissioners, October 29, 2010
Approved by the Membership, May 28, 2011

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP
PIPE LAKES PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 4, 2010
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ATTENDING (Commissioners):

Herschel Brown; Joseph Errigo; Tom Mears; Dan Paulson; Tom O'Hern; Carol Vantine

ABSENT (Commissioners):

Doug Rouzer

GUEST:

Cheryl Clemens

Approximately 20 members, not including Commissioners, were present at the meeting and signed the attendance sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Carol Vantine at 9:02 AM. Ms. Vantine noted the display of photographs taken at the Annual Picnic by Peggy Weber. The membership acknowledged Peggy's excellent work with a hearty round of applause. Approximately 110 people attended the Annual Picnic.

Joe Errigo, Secretary, reviewed the **Minutes of the May 29, 2010 Special Meeting of the Membership** and moved their adoption by the full membership. The **membership unanimously approved the minutes as distributed.**

Tom O'Hern, Treasurer, reviewed the current **Financial Report** for the period ending September 3, 2010. The report shows income of \$24,984 and expense of \$15,802, with cash on hand of \$9,182. The **membership unanimously accepted the financial report as distributed.**

Ellen Breyer reported on behalf of the **Nominating Committee**. Other members of the committee were Sue Caughey and Ron Nelson. Tom O'Hern has agreed to serve for another term if elected. The committee was unable to recruit additional candidates for a three year term. Ballots were distributed and collected. Mr. O'Hern received 24 votes and will serve a three year term expiring in 2013.

Herschel Brown reported on **new initiatives by Polk County regarding private sewer systems**. A resolution will be considered by the county board on September 21 to add a \$4.00 fee for all private sewer systems. Mr. Brown stated that he intends to vote against that resolution. After a lengthy discussion, the **Membership voted unanimously to encourage a state requirement for assessment of private sewer systems upon the transfer of title of any property**. Mr. Brown was asked to communicate this position to the Polk County board. The District has taken no position on the proposed \$4.00 fee.

Cheryl Clemens reported on the status of **Shoreland Protection initiatives** by lake owners. She did assessments on five properties in 2009 and four designs have been moving through the implementation process. In 2010, the District adopted a two-step process which included a no-cost "quick assessment" by Cheryl and the homeowner. Seventeen quick assessments were completed in 2010. Six owners have moved to the second step, which includes payment of a \$25 fee and refinement of the design concept. Cheryl distributed new lists of native plantings, including photographs of selected species.

Ms. Clemens said the Pipe Lakes area had special challenges because of heavy, non-absorbent clay soils. One owner concluded that a rain garden would not be effective because of deep deposits of clay soil. The quick assessments will start again in May of 2011. Interested lake owners should contact Joan Mears (822 3097) to schedule a quick assessment for 2011. Cheryl noted that the best marketing for the program was showing what works.

Carol Vantine reported on **other aspects of the Grant Project**. From May 28 to August 29, 2010, our inspector at the Boat Landing, Art Ringsven, has accumulated 196.25 hours **educating boat owners and inspecting watercraft**. During this period, Art inspected 344 watercraft and talked to 731 people. He found that 95% of the boats and trailers were clean of any invasive aquatic plants. The remaining 5% were cleaned and the owners received assistance from Art on how to keep equipment clean and prevent the spread of invasive aquatic plants. Art found only one boat/trailer that was in violation of law. The equipment was cleaned and the owner was reported to the DNR. Matt Berg has completed **underwater inspections** of both the north and south shores in May, June, July and August. Berg found no evidence of invasive aquatic plants. Mr. Berg will do an underwater search of the entire lake at the end of September. Carol reported on the **retention basin project** on the Christensen land at North Pipe Lake. A preliminary design has been completed by Scott Geddes, Polk County Engineer. We expect to secure bids this fall and complete the project in the fall of 2011, depending on costs. This project was originally scheduled for year five of the grant, however, it was moved up because of the cooperation and support demonstrated by the Christensens. The **Danniger property project on the East side of Pipe Lake** has been reviewed by the county engineer and District representatives. Grading work done previously by Merwyn Moen is working well. A community volunteer project may be organized to remove

tree branches and trunks from the stream bed.

Carol Vantine presented the proposed budget for 2011. Highlights are as follows:

The District **tax levy** will be \$17,000 in 2011 as it was in 2010.

Expenses for **traditional District activities** (eg. monitoring) will be consistent with prior years.

2010 expenses and reimbursements for shoreland restoration projects are less than anticipated. Owners are currently evaluating the implementation of recommended projects. We expect continued interest in **shoreland restoration projects** and tree falls in 2011.

We are ahead of plan timing on the development and installation of a **retention basin** in 2011 instead of 2014. Depending on cost of the design and timing, the District may need a **bank loan to bridge the gap** between invoiced expense and state of Wisconsin reimbursement.

We committed to \$12,000 in **volunteer hours** over the five year planning period to qualify for the \$200,000 state grant. We need significantly more volunteer hours in 2011 and subsequent years to assure access to the full grant amount.

The Membership unanimously approved the 2010 Budget as presented.

New Business

An **education workshop on shoreland restoration** will be held following the Spring Special Meeting of the Membership on **May 28, 2011**. Cheryl Clemens and others will make presentations. The District will get credit for volunteer hours for attendees of the workshop. The District will provide lunch for workshop participants! A **boating education class** will be scheduled in 2011 if there is interest on the part of lake owners. A **report on the fishing survey** will be included in the next issue of The Loon Call.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 AM.

Respectfully, Submitted,

Joseph Errigo, Secretary

