

Approved by the Commissioners, July 15, 2011
Approved by the Membership, September 3, 2011

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP
PIPE LAKES PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT
MAY 28, 2011
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ATTENDING (Commissioners):

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

ABSENT (Commissioners):

Joseph Zaspel

GUESTS:

Cheryl Clemens; Karen Englebretson; John Haack; Jeremy Williamson

Approximately 50 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 8:48 AM.

Joe Errigo, Secretary, reviewed the **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Membership** held on **September 4, 2010**. The **members present approved the minutes by unanimous vote**.

Tom O'Hern, Treasurer, reviewed the current **Financial Report** for the period ending May 28, 2011. Mr. O'Hern noted that expenses of \$1,361 for the first five months of the year do not reflect the significant investments that will be made in the remaining months of 2011. The **members accepted the May, 2011 Financial Report by unanimous vote**. Mr. O'Hern reported on the **Audit Committee Report for 2010**, which was reviewed and **accepted by the Commissioners on April 15, 2011**.

Announcements:

The **Watercraft Safety Certification** program is underway and will be completed over this Memorial Day weekend. The event is co-sponsored by the Pipe Lakes District, the Polk County Sheriff's Office and the Wisconsin DNR. **Thirty five** young people are registered for the program, with over one half of those from Pipe Lake!

The **Annual Boat Parade will be held on Saturday, July 2, 2011**, with a rain date for Sunday, July 3. Joan Billig is serving as chair for this year's event.

Announcements (continued):

The **Annual Pipe Lakes Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 20, 2011 at the County Line Restaurant.** Rita Bourne is serving as chair for this year's event.

Ellen Breyer has agreed to serve as chair of the **2011 Nominating Committee.** The terms of two current commissioners will expire at the Annual Meeting on September 3, 2011.

Carol Vantine distributed a **Water Protection Grant Activity Report** dated May 27, 2011 for the year ending in August of 2010. Ms. Vantine summarized the **Year One Results and Project expenses of \$23,317.** Our priority goals for Year Two are:

- Complete Retention Basin Installation
- Complete 20th Street Culvert Replacement
- Complete 10 to 15 Individual Property Technical Assessments
- Install 3 to 8 Shoreland and Upland Projects
- Complete 4 Tree Falls
- Offer Workshops for All Owners
- Identify and Implement 1 or 2 Streambank Stabilizations
- Refine Enhanced Monitoring as Appropriate to Projects.

The Key Issues for the Pipe Lakes District are:

Goal:

15% phosphorus reduction for North Pipe Lake

Issue:

Getting the best cost/value from retention basin project if 15% goal is not attainable.

Goal:

75 technical assessments to identify runoff abatement opportunities

Issue:

Increasing homeowner participation (low participation in 2010)

Goal:

Significantly increase volunteer participation to sustain newsletter, monitoring, social events and water quality projects.

Issue:

With a small core of volunteers, we need others to step up. Increased number of volunteers help keep taxes low and reduce the District's out of pocket expenses.

The **Lake Friendly Shoreland Management Workshop** was led by **Cheryl Clemens**, assisted by **Karen Engelbretson**, Polk County Association of Lakes and Rivers, **John Haack**, University of Wisconsin Extension; and **Jeremy Williamson**, Polk County Land and Water Resources Department.

Ms. Clemens provided an overview of the Pipe Lakes Cost Share program, highlighting things you can do on your own property, with an emphasis of native plants. Ms. Clemens is available for quick evaluations on May 31, June 17 and July 8. She can be reached at 715 268 9992.

Ms. Englebretson discussed ways of improving habitat on your property through native plantings. Her organization can provide a comprehensive listing of resource publications and organizations. Karen can be reached at 515 602 9440.

John Haack gave an excellent presentation on natural buffer zones, including ways you can leave the maximum amount of shoreland in its natural state. Also, Mr. Haack distributed and discussed a publication entitled: **Rain Gardens, A How-to Manual for Homeowners**, from the University of Wisconsin Extension.

Jeremy Williamson provided examples of projects and practices that qualify for cost sharing under the Grant. He said the “best bang for the buck” is shoreland restoration projects.

All presentations were very well received by the Pipe Lakes Membership.

New Business:

Pinky Johnson provided information on a company that does silt removal from lakefronts and sells it to farmers. A DNR permit is required to remove silt from lakes.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Errigo,
Secretary

