

**Pokegama Lake Association  
General Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2023**

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by President Scott Waste at 9:00 am.

**Board of Directors present:** Stacey Bolton zoom, Bobbi Eich, Todd Griecar, Jill Jakusz, Susan Kubitschek, Luranne McLean, Kathy Nielsen, Scott Waste

**Board of Directors absent:** Jim Grisim

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes.** Scott Waste requested clarifying changes to the “Word from the President” section of the minutes. Luranne McLean noted minor corrections. Todd Griecar made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2023 membership meeting with requested changes. Alan Moss seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report.** Treasurer Eich presented the Treasurer’s report, attached. Susan Kubitschek made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report. Mike Fraiser seconded. The motion was approved.

**Gambling Manager’s Report.** Kim Erickson presented the Gambling Report, attached. The PLA processed 97 pull tab boxes in November. Bear Creek Tavern has been sold. There is no word yet on who the new owner is. Marge’s Tavern hosted a new game, Duck Racing, in November. The new on-line game was very well received. Two volunteers are needed for the year-end cash count on Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please contact Kim if you are able to help. The State performed an audit at the Brass Rail in November. During the audit the inspector found that the time stamp on the driver’s license scanner was not updated for daylight savings time. This required a software upgrade. As a result, the driver’s license scanners needed to be replaced at all locations, at a total cost of \$1,600 for seven scanners. Today the shredding contactor is coming to shred the boxes of old pull tabs.. The PLA’s Star rating for November was 3.4%, which is very good. L. McLean made a motion to approve the Gambling Report. A. Moss seconded. The motion passed.

L. McLean made a motion to approve \$40,000 for January 2024 gambling expenses. T. Griecar seconded. The motion passed.

Waste noted that three recent State inspection reports were exceptional. He stated Erickson is doing a great job.

Tom Rice reported there have been cash shortages at Sidetracked. The tavern is required to cover these shortages.

**Water Quality Committee Report.** The application for the DNR Aquatic Invasive Species Management grant program was submitted.

The scope of service for the Pokegama Lake Sub Watershed Assessment has been received and will be submitted to the Snake Watershed Plan Partnership for funding consideration at their January meeting.

Tom Rice provided a detailed update on his research into the DNR’s mollusks program. Clams, mussels and other bivalve species are native to the lake and can help to clean the water. Lindsay Olen who runs

the DNR's clams/mussels hatchery will be implementing a bivalve re-introduction program in the St. Croix River in 2025. Pokegama Lake may be eligible to participate in this program.

**Gambling Audit Committee.** Kim, Andrea and Tom attended the Gambling Conference. Due to changes in State law, beginning in 2025, electronic gaming will no longer be able to resemble slot machines. Vendors are in the process of revamping their gaming software. Three Diamond, a gambling vendor, has already developed a new game that has been approved by the State. Also, a new State law will require fulltime employees to accrue paid sick time.

**Donations Committee.** Pauline Royce made a motion to approve a donation of \$4,600 to the PLA for labor and materials related to installation of the shed's heating system and to pay insurance on the weed cutter. Tom Rice seconded. The motion passed.

Pauline presented a donation request from Ogilvie School District in the amount of \$1,000 for the Ogilvie high school baseball team to attend a tournament in Florida. Pauline made a motion to approve the donation of \$1,000 to Ogilvie School District. Tom Rice seconded. The motion failed.

Pauline presented a donation request from Braham Girls Scouts in the amount of \$500 for in-need families for Christmas. Pauline made a motion to approve the donation of \$500 to Braham Girl Scouts. Susan Kubitschek seconded. The motion passed.

**Communications Committee.** No updates

**Social Committee.** 59 people attended the holiday party. The party's costs were under budget by \$500. S. Kubitschek presented and updated social calendar.

**Old Business.** No old business

**New Business.** Membership dues coming due in January. Harold Peterson passed away last Sunday. Pauline will send a sympathy card.

**A word from the President.** Waste had nothing to report

**Adjournment.** There being no further business, Steve Simonsen made a motion to adjourn. Todd Griecar seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Nielsen, Secretary