

**Pokegama Lake Association
General Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2023**

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

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

Board of Directors present: Jim Grism

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes. Jill Jakusz made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2023 membership meeting as amended to show that she moved and Leo Johnson seconded on all matters voted on at that meeting. Leo Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Eich presented the Treasurer's report, attached. Marietta Jacobsen made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Luranne McLean seconded. The motion was approved.

Gambling Manager's Report. Kim Erickson presented the Gambling Report, attached. The PLA processed 117 pull tab boxes in October. The Worker's Compensation audit was completed this month. There are now 110 attendees at Braham's bingo. Erickson needs someone to work at Maverick's Saloon selling bingo cards on Wednesday nights. Next month Erickson will report on what was learned at the gambling conference. Bobbi Eich made a motion to approve the Gambling Report. Scott Waste seconded. The motion passed.

McLean made a motion to approve \$40,000 for December, 2023 gambling expenses. Pauline Royce seconded. The motion passed.

Water Quality Committee Report. Due to staff changes at Pine County, the PLA needs to find a new partner to sponsor the Sub Watershed Analysis (SWA) for Pokegama Creek. The Pine SWCD is willing to serve as the new project partner. A new scope of service will be prepared by the engineer, Dendy Lofton, and sent to the Pine SWCD for approval. This project will then be forwarded to the 1W1P group for funding. The project costs, estimated to be \$50,000, should be fully paid by the new 1W1P organization. Engineering work will be done over the winter, with site visits conducted in spring/summer 2024.

As part of the SWA, the consulting engineer will review and revise our draft water monitoring plan and make new equipment recommendations.

The DNR grant program for management of Aquatic Invasive Species has opened for new applications. The PLA will submit their grant application before the December 11th deadline.

The Water Quality Committee has received feedback on the 2023 curlyleaf pondweed treatment and individual vegetative management programs. The feedback was largely positive with suggestions for better notice in the days before treatment is being performed. This feedback will be sent to Lakeshore Restoration to ensure a successful program in 2024.

Gambling Audit Committee. Tom Rice reported that a recent omnibus tax bill included language which restricts certain gaming programs on electronic pull tab machines. The industry is trying to respond with programming to comply with the new restrictions. Rice encouraged members to contact their state

legislators to address this. A QR code was provided to easily lobby legislative members. Gambling sites in Brook Park have decreasing revenue. Rice will provide an update from the Gambling next month. Susan Kubitschek requested a written one-page summary of what was learned at the Gambling Conference.

Donations Committee. Royce presented a donation request from the Pine City Salvation Army in the amount of \$500. Chuck Royce made a motion to approve the donation of \$500 to the Pine City Salvation Army. McLean seconded. The motion passed.

P. Royce presented a donation request from the Knife Lake Sportsmen's Club in the amount of \$3,000 for fish stocking of Knife Lake. C. Royce made a motion to approve the donation of \$3,000 to Knife Lake Sportsmen's Club. Jacobsen seconded. The motion failed on a tie vote.

Connie Stone made a motion to table all Kanabec donations requests to the December meeting. Erickson seconded. Motion passed.

C. Royce presented a donation request from the Pine Dragon's Wrestling Booster Club. Rice noted that this organization is not a 501(c) and therefore, under State statute, is ineligible to receive donations from the gambling fund. This request was denied.

After much discussion, the membership called for further consideration of donation requests from Kanabec County. Jim Nielsen made a motion to approve a total of \$8,000, with \$3,000 going to the Knife Lake Sportsmen's Club, and \$5,000 going to Kanabec County for the Mora Food Shelf (\$3,000) and the Ogilvie Food Shelf (\$2,000). McLean seconded. After further discussion, J. Nielsen amended his motion to approve a total of \$8,000, with \$2,000 going to the Knife Lake Sportsmen's Club, and \$6,000 going to Kanabec County for the Mora Food Shelf (\$4,000) and the Ogilvie Food Shelf (\$2,000). McLean seconded. The motion passed.

Communications Committee. The website will be updated with Board member data and the Holiday Party information.

Social Committee. Volunteers are needed to help set-up for the Holiday Party on December 9th. Also, anyone willing to work on centerpieces would be much appreciated.

Old Business. Heating installation for the shed area will be completed soon.

A word from the President. Dwight Evers has resigned from the Board, effectively immediately, citing family and work commitments.

Waste announced that he is leaving the PLA. He has purchased a new home in Stacey and is now living there fulltime. Waste stated that he will step down as President once a replacement is appointed, with the expectation that a new president will be appointed in the next couple of months. Waste recommended the PLA maintenance the weed cutting equipment by hiring someone to do this work. Waste stated he will help to get the weed cutters into the lake at the beginning of the 2024 season.

Jacobsen expressed her appreciation for all that Waste has done for the Association and the Board.

Adjournment. There being no further business, Todd Griecar made a motion to adjourn. Eich seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Nielsen, Secretary

