



Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: Wednesday, September 18th, 2013

The fourth 2013 meeting of the Polk County Association of Lakes and Rivers (PCALR) was held Wednesday, September 18th, 2013 at the Polk County Justice Center in Balsam Lake.

Programming and accomplishments were reviewed for 2013 and goals and objectives were set for 2014.

Attending

Jim Maxwell, Big Blake Lake; Cass Carty, Paulsen Lake; Diane Gluth, Paulsen Lake; Carl Holmgren, Balsam Lake; Julie Selle, Wapogasset/Bear Trap; Ray Schmidt, Wild Goose Lake; Wayne Wolsey, Bone Lake; Karen Engelbretson, Bone Lake; Phil Foster, Bone Lake; Ken Peterson, Big Butternut; Katelin Holm, Polk County LWRD; Warren Nelson, County Board Supervisor; Cheryl Miller, Lotus Lake; Dick Hollar, Pipe and North Pipe Lakes

Welcome and Introductions

Treasurer's Report

Current balance is \$1,580.06. The 2013 year began with a balance of \$1037.27. Workshop revenues totaled \$618 and expenses totaled \$519. Additional revenues included \$300 in lake memberships and \$180 in individual memberships. Expenses included a \$35 fee for filing for non-stock corporation status.

Membership

The new membership year began on May 1st. Annual dues are \$25 for organizations and businesses and \$10 for individuals. Thank you to everyone who has already renewed their membership or joined PCALR for the first time! PCALR currently has 28 members, which surpasses the membership goal of 25. Twenty-five members must be maintained to earn the status of a qualified lake association and the ability to apply for Wisconsin DNR grants.

PCALR Lake and River Management Workshop Feedback

The PCALR Lake and River Management Workshop was spearheaded by Lake Leader graduates Karen Engelbretson (Bone Lake), Larry Bresina (Pipe and North Pipe Lakes), Katelin Holm (Polk County LWRD), along with Jeremy Williamson (Polk County LWRD), with support from UW-Extension and Wisconsin DNR.

Meeting attendee's feedback included:

- workshop was very helpful; would like to see more people from their lake attend next year
- speakers were very knowledgeable
- feedback from attendees was all positive

Website Building Class for Lake Organizations

There are still three spaces left in the two-session PCALR website building class to be held Saturdays January 11th and 18th, 2014 from 9am to 12 pm in Balsam Lake. Larry Bresina is offering this free opportunity to ten interested individuals. Registration can be completed online at: <http://pcalr.org/website-class-registration/>

Who's Who Brochure Pick Up

The popular Who's Who brochure lists contacts for waterfront property questions and is perfect for new property owners, non-resident property owners, or anyone who owns lakeshore property in Polk County. Brochures were available for pick up at the meeting. If you weren't able to attend the meeting you can pick up your brochures at the Polk County Land and Water Resources Department in Balsam Lake. If you did not pre-order brochures, they are still available in quantities of 50 for \$19.

2014 Governor's Fishing Opener

The 2014 Governor's Fishing Opener will be held on Balsam Lake next spring. County Board Chair William Johnson and director of the Polk County Information Center Sue Mathews attended the August PCALR meeting and provided opportunities for PCALR to participate by donating items for participant goody bags. Membership decided to budget up to \$400 towards the goody bags. Ideas for items included floating case for cell phones, coasters, Who's Who brochures, lake water in a bottle, and water bottles. Additional ideas can be submitted to Karen Engelbretson. Please provide a cost-estimate with any new ideas.

Conversation also included the need for local papers to have a space for lakes.

Mike Lynch Star Party

In 2012, Bone Lake held a Star Party with Mike Lynch along with a presentation on light pollution/sensible shoreline lighting by Greg Lecker. One hundred people attended the event, some of them not having attended lake fairs, lake events, etc in the past. Star parties typically cost \$500 and the price of a hotel. May be something a group of lakes would like to consider doing together in the future.

2013 Accomplishments

- 4 meetings including a discussion with County Board Supervisors and a presentation by John Haack with UW-Extension
- 3 workshops
- Reprint of Who's Who brochure

2014 Strategies and Events

- Presentation on loons by LoonWatch—Katelin Holm could provide a presentation
- Presentation by Stan Tekiela: loons, woodpeckers, raptors, other wildlife
- Presentation on frogs
- Presentation on birds by Brian Collins
- Reaching new property owners with message of water quality protection, invasive species prevention, and habitat restoration as new properties are developed
- Strengthening an email based communication network regarding County-wide changes (ordinances, resolutions, County Board meeting agendas, etc)
 - Action: Subscribe to PCALR news online at <http://pcalr.org/pcalr-news/> which provides up to date information from Polk County, Wisconsin Lakes, and the River Alliance

County Board Update

At the September County Board Meeting, the Resolution Regarding Interpretation and Application of Shoreland Zoning Ordinance was approved by a vote of 14 to 5. Discussion included that the resolution gives preference/priority to the homeowner rather than the environment. Action: write a letter on behalf of PCALR to the Board of Supervisors.

A new 15 member County Board will be elected in April 2013.

Zoning Ordinance

The first draft of the Polk County Zoning Ordinance, including the former Comprehensive Ordinance and Shoreland Zoning Ordinance is available for review. Dick Hollar represented PCALR at the Citizen Advisory Meetings. The Ordinance will be on the October and November County Board agenda for discussion and public hearings will be held prior to approval by County Board.

Lake Service Providers

Minnesota DNR requires lake service providers to attend AIS trainings and acquire a permit before being hired to place or remove water-related equipment from any state waters. WDNR has talked about a similar program but it may require legislation to have an actual certification. Currently UW-Extension is working on a training for shoreland landscapers and contractors.

Todd Fulton is a Lake Service Provider that lives on Lake Wapogasset. He has a publication that is mailed out to area lakes that includes news and information. Todd has offered PCALR space in this publication.

Adjourn

Minutes respectively submitted by
Katelin Holm, Secretary
Polk County Association of Lakes and Rivers
September 2013