



## **Meeting Minutes**

April 21, 2010

The first 2010 meeting of Polk County Association of Lakes and Rivers (PCALR) was held Wednesday, April 21 at Polk County Justice Center in Balsam Lake. Meeting came to order at 7pm.

Attending: Phil Foster, Bone Lake; Dan Bergeron, Big Round Lake; Peter Frohnert, Loveless Lake; Gordon Kill, Big Round Lake; Larry Bresina, Pipe Lakes District; Eric Wojchik, LWRD, Jeremy Williamson, LWRD.

### **Roundtable discussion**

*Big Round.* Second earliest ice out on Big Round Lake in 2010. The commissioners have met with the Tribal group which is monitoring the inflow and outflow of the Straight River. Inflow is clean, and consensus is that the phosphorus levels are already in the lake. Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) not as bad the past two years at about 40 acres now, down from 300 acres in 2006. The district stocked 3000 6-8" walleyes last year at a cost of \$5,000. DNR is also stocking walleyes but they are smaller in size.

*Bone Lake.* Phil Foster reports DNR has approved Bone Lake's Lake Management Plan (LMP) and the district is moving ahead with a \$200,000 grant application, working with Cheryl Clemens of Harmony Environmental. Five committees have been formed including one that will be monitoring the phosphorus levels in the lake before and after the CLP season. Volunteers will take daily water samples from multiple locations over a six-week period.

*Pipe Lake.* The Pipe Lakes District received a lake protection grant last year. They are working with Cheryl Clemens to implement shoreland restoration projects in upland areas. A workshop will be held on May 21 for lakeshore residents and other interested persons. Five intermittent streams flow into the lakes, one of which is high in phosphorus. Their one Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) monitor logged 200 hours last year at the boat landing.

*Loveless Lake.* An association, not a lake district for this lake of just 140 acres, 100 properties. Peter put his pontoon in the water on March 30!

*Eric Wojchik, Polk County Land and Water Resources Dept.* (LWRD) reports that with the department's DNR rapid response grant they've been working to destroy a Japanese Knotweed invasive population along the Apple River by stem injection of herbicides. The plants are cut and a herbicide is injected into the stem using a needle. The injection must be made in the stem below the third node of the stem. Students from Amery Schools assisted as part of their school's public service day. Beetles will be released near Big Lake to control a large population of Purple Loosestrife.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The PCALR bank account balance is \$841.74. Memberships for 2010-11 have been received for Amery Lakes, Polk County Sportsmans Club and Big Round Lake. Membership dues are due now.

## **2010 Conservation Congress**

The Conservation Congress convention will be held on May 7. A note from Jim Brakken, Northwest Water Resources Consortium reports that a vote for the phase out of lead tackle, Question 61, will be held at the convention. It was agreed that PCALR would send a letter of support for Question 61 to the delegates including David Hraychuck, Al Breesy, Wally Trudeau and Raymond Smith. The letter will state that PCALR supports the phase out of lead tackle in sizes that can be ingested by waterfowl. Karen will draft the letter, circulate for approval by PCALR members present at the April 21 meeting, and then mail to the delegates.

## **Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), Polk County Land Use Ordinances**

Karen Engelbretson, PCALR president, has been invited to participate in the CAC by Tim Anderson, Polk County Planner, Land Information Dept. The first meeting is April 28. The goal of the project is to develop an entirely new set of land use regulations for Polk County in one codified document according to the recently completed state-mandated Comprehensive Plan. Polk County ordinances to be included are:

- Comprehensive Land Use Ordinance
- Shoreland Zoning Ordinance
- Small Wind Energy Ordinance
- Floodplain Ordinance
- Subdivision Ordinance
- Telecommunications Tower Ordinance
- Lower St Croix Riverway Ordinance
- Sanitary Ordinance

The committee will be made up of one representative for each Polk County town, one for county rivers, one for county lakes, and one representing county developers. Karen has accepted the invitation and as president of PCALR, will represent Polk County lakes. Communications from Karen surrounding the committee will be communicated to PCALR members in email correspondence and at regular PCALR meetings.

## **PCALR Website**

Larry Bresina has offered to set up and maintain for one year a PCALR website. Proposed content and costs were outlined in a handout. Phil Foster posed the question, how can we work collectively as lake users and property owners to benefit Polk County lakes? Karen outlined how a PCALR website could provide information and contacts that county government cannot, and county policies surrounding lake protection. The website question needs more support prior to moving forward. Karen will draft a letter to the membership. LWRD counts on PCALR to provide information & education to lake districts.

## **Invasive species**

Discussion about PCALR's AIS prevention messages for 2010. Last year we produced the bait container stickers, funded by PCALR, LWRD and area lakes and distributed to all county bait sellers. New suggestion for 2010 was a small, accordion fold brochure including ID photos and info about invasive threats to Polk County lakes. The lake maps were discussed as a great example of AIS messaging as part of a useful communication. Eric directed us to the newly published Polk County Visitors' Guide that

includes a two-page spread on invasives prepared by LWRD.

How can PCALR attract more members? What does PCALR offer members? Why aren't more lake district commissioners in attendance? LWRD is working with 5 or 6 lake districts none of whom are PCALR members. How do we get those memberships?

Discussion of having a booth at Polk County Fair. While that may be interesting for lakeshore owners it may not inform lake district commissioners who would benefit most from PCALR membership.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm

Minutes submitted by

Karen Engelbretson, President

Polk County Ass'n of Lakes and Rivers

April 28, 2010