



P.O. Box 822
Crosslake, MN 56442
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Monthly Board Meeting Minutes, May 16, 2023

Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81796139565>

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Board Member Attendees: Ron Meyer, Jim Brandt, Kirk Soldner, Tom Kuschel, Barb Courneya, Clay Schulte.

Board Member Attendees via Zoom: Lloyd Thyen, Jim Chamberlin, Darril Wegscheid, Bob Karls

Other Attendees: Tasha Lauer-Crow Wing SWCD, Jan Mosman

1) Approval of Previous Minutes

There was a motion by Tom Kuschel seconded by Barbara Courneya, to approve the 4/18/2023 PRWA Monthly Board Meeting minutes. All Aye, Motion carried.

2) Agenda Approval

There was a motion by Barbara Courneya and seconded by Clay Schulte to approve the 5/16/2023 PRWA Board Meeting agenda with addition of Harvest Dinner. All Aye, Motion carried.

3) Committee Reports

- a. Finance: Balance of \$90,214.02
- b. Land and Waters: Report on grants done last month. Ron met 2 of the grant recipients.
- c. Website/Facebook:
 - o Updated website: comments from the chair, projects/current activities.
 - o Please share events, project updates with tasha@cswcd.org for the website and Sheila at: boldtpinehaven@gmail.com for Facebook.
- d. Conservation/Enbridge: Barb went to most recent meeting. There are a number of workshops planned for the summer: “your cabin your legacy” in June; Fisheries research presentation in August in Backus. Possibly a field day as well. Loon workshop in Cass lake with the national loon center in August. Shoreline restoration workshop is being planned, is looking for grants/funding, done with Blue Thumb and Metro Blooms NWLT. Canoeing and kayaking events are being planned as well, no dates yet.
- e. Membership: Ron and Sheila had Booth at Senior Expo. Looking into having kids help create ads for PRWA membership. Need to schedule events and have people assigned to show up at local events with booth materials.



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- 4) Grassland 2.0: Kick-off meeting set for June 3rd at American Legion in Pine River. Clay plans to be at meeting. Targeted to 35 to 50 attendees. Farmers, lake people, and govt people will attend. Planning to have food and conversation.
Meeting about ground beef project, submitting a grant for feasibility and business planning. Dept of Ag approved farm to school funding, protein-processed meat/turkey, but not able to do that anymore. June 22 is first field day for Forage Council, at 4pm.
- 5) Loon Center and Crosslakers: no report yet.
- 6) We are Water at HDT: We are Water goes through June 17th at Happy Dancing Turtle. Recent event also provided water testing for residents. Water testing lines were long people had time to review the exhibits. The exhibit were popular.
- 7) Review of Little Emily Lake Effort: site meeting took place, was well attended, about 50 people, 1 from Emily council. Good discussion, but terminology was confusing. County says there is no formal plan, only a concept plan. Comments were about the boat landing and beach, not much other discussion. No one wanted the boat landing; some people would like a beach in the area. Many people were against the beach. No one wanted to tour the site that much but could see the mine tailings that are there and should be fixed. Although it wasn't on the published agenda the County added it last minute to the agenda. Emily council discussed this at their meeting, there is a split on the council. There needs to be a new comprehensive plan. There was a lack of understanding on how often a Comprehensive plan is created for Local Government units. County will have a revised proposal plan with no boat landing or fishing pier. Technical data doesn't seem to impact decision process. Commissioners Barrows and Houge set up the meeting at the Little Emily Lake site. They have received 1 grant of 3 so far so money to do it may be an issue.. Possibility to start the project in the next year or 2. Need to understand the timing and process for Comprehensive Plans.
- 8) Review of meetings and effort of the Emily Mining Group lead by Jan Mosman. Proposal by Anna will be sent to Board for comments. People tend to be more focused on their own local area rather than state wide issues. State water plan for the whole state? Do we push or pull information from people/organizations regarding projects/issues. Quailbend is a new investor for mining of manganese. More expensive to mine manganese here than to import it.
- 9) 319 Whitefish Testing Opportunity: have not found any volunteers. The plan needs some work, to know amount of rain and water is necessary, with rain gauge or automatic rain collector. Crow Wing SWCD have started sampling/testing sites.
- 10) MN Lakes and Rivers Membership and reports: packets available from MLR organization. It is a Statewide organization. Does PRWA want to be a member?
- 11) How do we better communicate with Commissioners and others? Ron will discuss with Commissioner Jon Lubke. How do we and them communicate with each other. Jon is in the PRWA area, this is his district. We should set up a new survey to see what is important to our residents.
- 12) Harvest Dinner: We need to establish a for this year's dinner. We need a theme, displays and a speaker..



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13) Board comments:

Jim Brandt – share of swans, pelicans, and loons. And bears of course. Crow Wing River Watershed 1W1P-meeting in Nisswa in June 27th, 4-6:30 Nisswa Community Center.

Jim Chamberlin – 1W1P meeting attended. Slowed the decline, but not keeping up. Non-point source pollution is a different problem to tackle.

Ron Meyer – saw a bear on old whiskey rd.

Tom Kuschel – Chris Pence would be an asset to discuss opportunities.

Kirk Soldner – bear trouble with trees, damage. Bear kept scratching tree even with pipe on it. Marking territory. Trying to get spring work done, roads open. This year deer tick population is 5%, much less than usual, why? Biting insects are exploding, gnats, mosquitos and flies. Worried about beach near the woods, may need to spray or clear cut. Can you stay away from politics, probably not.

Clay Schulte – intrigued by making things simpler, would like to make comp plans and 1W1P more joined together, statewide level.

Barb Courneya- more birds this year, and unusual. Annual bear attack happened. Glad it's not snowing.

John Forney- N/A

Sheila Boldt- N/A

Lloyd Thyen- hard to hear meeting, plan to attend in person. Warm weather, June 23-24-Cass Lake event. Offered lake associations to pay for additional inspector hours, they have taken this opportunity, but may have over committed themselves.

Darril Wegsheid-N/A

Bob K-N/A

Adjourn: 5:51 PM.

PRWA 2023 Meeting Schedule

3rd Tuesday of each month from 4:00 to 6:00 PM Central (established 12/29/2020)

January 17th Zoom Meeting

February 21st Zoom Meeting

March 21st Zoom Meeting

April 18th 4:00 to 6:00 PM Ideal Corners



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May 16th 4:00 to 6:00 PM Ideal Corners

June 20th

Annual Meeting 3:00 to 4:00 PM Ideal Corners

Regular Board meeting 4:00 to 6:00 PM Ideal Corners

July 18th 4:00 to 6:00 PM Ideal Corners

August 15th 4:00 to 6:00 PM Ideal Corners

September 19th 4:00 to 6:00 PM Ideal Corners

October 17th 4:00 to 6:00 PM Ideal Corners

November 21st 4:00 to 6:00 PM Ideal Corners

December 19th Zoom Meeting