

GENERAL INFORMATION			
Monthly Meeting Presque Isle Town Lakes Committee Aquatic Invasive Species	Date:	April 12, 2022	
	Time:	7:03 pm	
	Location	Zoom Meeting	
	Next Meeting Date/Time:	May 10, 2022 at 7 PM - Zoom or PI Community Center	
Conducted by:	Nick Williams		
Recorded by:	Jorja Burke, Alternate Secretary		
ATTENDEE INFORMATION			
Attended	Name	Lake	Delegate
	Behr, Fritz	Lynx Lake	
x	Benn, Eric	Armour	
x	Burke, Jeff	Van Vliet	
x	Burke, Jorja	Van Vliet	
	Casey, Susan	Armour	
	Cerny, William	Lynx	
	Czarny, Mike	Van Vliet	
	Drum, Sue	Horsehead	
x	Gawriluk, Susie	Katinka	
	Gorrilla, Larry	Crab	
	Gorrilla, Colleen	Crab	
	Gruca, Gary	Lynx	
	Higley, Catherine*	Vilas C. Invas.Spec.Co	
	Horswill, Bob	Armour	
	Jacobsen, Ronie	Van Vliet	
x	Lewandoski, June	Rosalind/Papoose	
x	Lewandoski, Paul	Rosalind/Papoose	
x	Mawicke, Ann	Natural Lakes	
x	MacLean, John	Town Board Liaison	
x	Novak, Otto	Oxbow	
	Phillips, Carol	Wildcat	
x	Phillips, Richard	Wildcat	

x	Plouff, Gary	Frontier Lakes	
x	Preston, Tom	Katinka	
x	Ruch, Bob	Carlin	
x	Ruch, Judy	Carlin	
x	Sisbach, Sarah	Presque Isle	
	Speer, Gail	Katinka	
	Strauss, Lynn	Horsehead	
	Suffron, John	Annabelle	
	Suffron, Kay	Annabelle	
x	Vogt, Dave	Annabelle	
	Walters, Lorine	Horsehead/Town Clerk	
	Watkins, Mary	Carlin	
x	Weber, Cathy Logan*	Little Horsehead, Town Board Supervisor	
	Wiegand, Tom	Horsehead	
	Wierzba, Tom	Big	
x	Williams, Nick	Crab	
	Zarembka, Fred *Indicates non-voting member	<u>Big</u>	

MEETING MINUTES	
Topic/Subject	Discussion Items
Call to Order	Nick Williams @ 7:003pm
Pledge of Allegiance	Deferred.
Secretaries' Minutes	Approved as is.
Changes/additions to agenda	None
Intro of new members/guests	Dave Bogan, Natural Lakes; Philip Preston, Katinka Lake
Treasurer's Report/Budget	Current balance is \$3,883.63 which includes a \$.95 interest payment. No other activity this month per Treasurer, Otto Novak.
Correspondence	None

<p>Old Business</p>	<p>a. Lake Study Grants for 2017: Final accounting (see attachment): Includes Oxbow Lake, Stateline Lake, Frontier Lakes and in Natural Lakes: Morton, McCollough, Beaver and Dunn Lakes. Also acknowledged, by Nick, were the Whitewater donations for each lake study.</p> <p>b. Lake Study Grant for 2018/2019: Where are we:</p> <p>1. Part of the discussion included details regarding DNR lake study grant reporting requirements especially pertaining to the new shoreline analysis section and whether the committee can or cannot modify DNR requirements after a grant has been awarded. Nick will send an educational email to the town board covering these issues. This is an offshoot of public comments at the April 7 town board meeting.</p> <p>After Nick read the letter intended for the PI Town Board, discussion centering around lake study grants and Dean Premo/Whitewater Company (WW) and a PI resident's criticism of PITLC re a perceived violation of her 4th Amendment rights and open fields doctrines by WW during a shoreline review for the purposes of a lake study grant application ensued. It was alleged by the resident that WW personnel were photographing their dock. John Maclean, town chair (and liaison), doesn't like the idea of a letter to the town board from Nick Williams, PITLC Chair, addressing a resident's concern of a perceived violation of their rights. Nick read the letter which states the requirement of shoreline inspection for grant awards comes from the DNR; PITLC does not set up the criteria, the DNR does. If the resident has concerns about shoreline review, they need to forward them to the DNR... not PITLC and not to the PI Town Board. Further, PITLC/WW undertakes tasks as directed by the DNR before any grant dollars are paid to the town. Nick emphasized that the DNR establishes the criteria (i.e., inspection of the shoreline). It was also noted, that everyone's property is continually being photographed via satellite and has been for many years.</p> <p>Discussion continued with the following comments re review of the Lake Study Grant for 2018/2019:</p>
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John M. objects to the letter Nick has written and read. He considers photographing a shoreline, one of many DNR requirements for reimbursement of grant monies, an invasion of privacy. He states that he thinks Whitewater is a sham and that he also objects to having to sign two checks for their services.

Richard P, speaking as an attorney who has spent time studying constitutional law, advises that photographing the shoreline from the water is entirely permissible under federal and state law.

Paul L explained that pictures were taken of logs in the water and vegetation on the shoreline, not private homes or docks.

Ann M. suggests if John receives complaints from citizens in the future, those complaints be forwarded to PITLC so a coordinator from the lake in question can contact that person to explain any issues as education is part of PITLC's purpose. Also, for further clarification, a survey could be taken to determine how many lakeshore residents are actually in favor of lakeshore studies vs those who are not.

Sarah S and Judy R both spoke of residents who are interested in learning more about lakeshore studies. Having any complainant document the offensive photo in question would be helpful.

2. 13 Lakes' reports are in progress. Whitewater's (WW) reports will begin arriving soon (Annabelle Lake report has already been received). Earlier in the year, Nick received the reports from WW, then sent them to PITLC committee members to review for errors. Comments by members were returned to Nick who then forwarded them to WW. Reports were repaired by WW, then sent to Kevin Gauthier/DNR who is projecting completion in May 2022. Two things were noted: 1. that in the past, final approval could take up to a year and 2. we only get paid by the DNR after all reports are approved.

Discussion re these reports:

Sarah S: Rusty crayfish in PI Lake appear to have reduced. Could be due to gut bacteria or a virus, could just be cyclical or food supply. Addressing plants in PI Lake, it was noted some aquatic plants thrive in disturbed water whereas others grow better in quiet area. Sarah also commented re WW's willingness to answer questions during the time they were inspecting the shoreline on Oxbow Lake

Tom P: Pyrethrin from mosquito spraying could be an issue in changes seen in PI Lake.

Ann M: There is a virus affecting the population of rusty crayfish on McCullough. Smallmouth Bass have figured out the “rusties” are worth going after.

Nick W: Perhaps populations are in a dropping cycle. Also, Northland College in Ashland has been contacted. Crab Lake has again hired the same landing boat monitor.

Paul L: Dean Premo/WW talked about fluctuations in plants and other aquatic life during one of the Papoose Lake studies during a pontoon cruise and how this is a naturally occurring shift in prevalent plant life.

Nick reminds us that another benefit of our surveys is the recurring relationship PITLC has maintained for many years with the same vendor, Whitewater.

Eric B to John M: You’re hearing good quality scientific data here. It’s complicated to collect with a systematic survey. And...it’s not cheap!

Philip P: Appreciates the establishing of where we are with our lakes today and working to preserve their quality.

It was noted by a committee member “we are not scientists” and that the most important factor in lakes studies is the education of residents. PITLC has been supporting PI lakes’ studies for 17 years. It has been found that most people do want to learn and do the right thing for the lakes.

Dave V is happy to see WW include lake monitoring on individual lakes in their reports.

- c. **Shoreland study – Carlin Lake:** In progress. Grant work was done in 2020. Photos are not posted on DNR website yet. As soon as they are, WW will be able to finish up.
- d. **Hazardous Wake Ordinance:** PI Town Board determined there would be no new ordinance as VC Circuit Court Judge did not rule in favor of the Last Wilderness Alliance request for a ruling of direct legislation. A referendum question regarding the ordinance was not included on the April 15, 2022, ballot. An unidentified member mentioned that the DNR is beginning to look at legislation for this issue and WI Lakes are beginning to lobby as well.
- e. **Internet Update:** The Town’s cost share has been reduced and the PSC grant will be covered if it’s awarded to Charter. There will be no tax increase to cover this cost. The Broadband Committee appreciated all the letters of support. If Charter is awarded this grant, all property owners in PI will receive updated broadband access. If we receive

	<p>the grant, everyone in PI will get the same level of service at the same cost.</p> <p>f. Other: Nick/Sarah noted that fishermen on PI Lake last fall thought they saw evidence of spiny water fleas and reported same to the DNR. Samples were taken, there were no invasives found. Much like an occurrence on Stateline Lake a couple years back when a MI DNR person suspected curly pond weed which turned out to be a native plant and not the cpw invasive. It's good to have people looking out for our lakes!!</p>	
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<p>New Business</p>	<p>a. Wisconsin Conservation Congress Reminder: The online 2022 survey is currently available for the public to make comments. Find the webpage @ DNR.wi.gov and type in “Spring Hearings” in the search box. Sign in and follow the directions.</p> <p>b. Pipe Ponds: Previously, PITLIC was sometimes dragged into actions in the park. For instance, we do not do fish stocking, so those looking to work on this issue were directed to Parks & Rec as it’s more related to “parks” than to “lakes.”</p> <p>c. Other: Bob R addressed his and Judy’s recent trip to the Lakes & Rivers Annual Convention in Steven’s Point and shared with us some of the topics of discussion, including the difficulties of increased traffic facing Big Cedar Lake near Milwaukee. Paul L: Spoke to including links on the website for related lake issues to think about. Ann M is willing to create such an additional or updated webpage with links for issues of interest to PITLC followers. Addressing the cost of Lake Studies: Judy R addressed how our money has been well-spent for keeping our lakes clean and free of invasive species. She said that on Carlin Lake, packets of suitable information for lake living are given to new owners. She also remarked that the reasons people give for moving to PI/Carlin Lake are the same today as 20 years ago - quiet living and clean water. Our biggest resource is our lakes! Dissolved Oxygen Meter: Gary Plouff/Frontier Lakes wishes to use the PITLC dissolved oxygen meter. He will contact Paul L for calibration of the unit and instruction on using it when it is required. Monitors may do readings as soon as soon as two days post ice out. A comment was made that 2 weeks for water chemistry may be the most optimum time to begin. PITLC Meetings: John M would like someone to be at town hall to greet the public for Zoom meetings held from another location and suggested hiring someone do that. Cathy LW agreed. Susie G suggested using the library's OWL system. Recap by Nick: Nick referred to tonight’s meeting as an “airing of grievances” and suggested there is more we can do as a committee, including additional PITLC webpage link information and teaching opportunities.</p>
<p>Next Meeting Adjourn</p>	<p>May 10, 2022, Zoom or PI Community Center Meeting adjourned by Nick Williams at 8:20pm</p>

Unapproved minutes.