

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2011 - BOARD OF ISCCW (LAKEGUARDS)
9:00 A.M. USFS CONFERENCE ROOM

Members present: Dudley Pierce, Chair; Ken Wendt, Steve Wilkinson, Fred Duerkop, Jim Floriano, Bob Turnquist, Bill Rehling, Bob Zelinski

Guests: Jim Reiels, Wes Kiley, Ian Shackelford, Norm Nass, Bill Artwich, Frank Puffer

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dudley called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. He reported that Jim Okraszewski was working on a \$64,000 grant from the "Sustain our Great Lakes" coalition. He congratulated Ian Shackelford as a recipient of the national award for Innovative Control & Management of Invasive Species. The award will be presented in Washington, DC. Also at a recent DNR meeting in Crystal Falls there was great concern expressed about the possible advent of Asian carp in our northern waters.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ken indicated that there was no report at this time.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Steve gave the treasurer's report indicating a 1/17/11 starting balance of \$87,817.89, membership receipts of \$1,050.00 (975+ 75) and expenditures of \$1,628.34 (1,380 + 48.34 + 200), resulting in a 2/14/11 ending balance of \$87,239.55. Report was approved; as was payment of \$25.00 with ISCCW's thanks to Roy Porterfield for preparation of 1099's.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Ken reported that two people responded to his request to review grant possibilities, Jim Okraszewski and Barb Gajewski. Barb spent about three days researching the 26 opportunities for NOAA Funding Available for Restoration Projects in Great Lakes region, specifically as they pertained to habitat restoration in U.S. Great Lakes Areas of Concern. Her conclusion was that we did not qualify for any of the available funding. Jim Okraszewski researched the "Sustain our Great Lakes" web-site grant opportunities and found that we could submit a pre-proposal. The proposal was filed on February 14th for a total of \$64,000 for servicing Duck Lake and Bass Lake. If this pre-proposal is approved then a detailed grant petition will be submitted. Sustain Our Great Lakes is a public-private partnership among ArcelorMittal, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Ken also reported that the RAC (Resource Advisory Committee) grant of \$50,000 for Bass Lake has been denied by the Forest Service Regional Manager who had the final say.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

In the absence of Diana Mehlhop, Dudley reported that 243 memberships have renewed so far contributing a total of \$26,230. At the end of February Diana will be sending out a reminder to 80 unpaid members regarding their dues payment. Diana reported that the cost of getting a hard copy of all lake property owners from Gogebic County office would cost \$244 and asked that the Board address this issue. This request will be added to the agenda under new business.

EDUCATION/PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Bill Rehling reported that the committee had met and accomplished the following:

- The fish rulers have been received. The 50 over-run copies were returned to the printer rather than pay for the extras. Jim Reiels reported that the OIA store in the Visitor Center offered to display them with a suggestion of a \$2.00 donation. Bill & Bob Turnquist will make a display suitable for use in the area bait shops.

- The coloring contest winners will be posted on the ISCCW website.
- There are still about 1000 place mats so no reorders will be made this summer.
- Bigger signs will be ordered for use on roads pointing direction of boat washers.
- Instruction sheets for use in training sessions for weed identification will be laminated to avoid water damage.
- One of this summer's Thursday programs at the Visitor Center will feature invasive species.
- A series of public relations releases will feature the achievements of the ISCCW as well as plans for 2011.

JANUARY 18, 2011 MINUTES WERE APPROVED

THERE WERE NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

AGENDA APPROVED

The agenda was amended to include under "Old Business" a discussion of which Cisco Chain Lakes are to be monitored this year by ISCCW for CCROA. With that addition, Ken moved approval/Bill seconded. Agenda was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. "Point Intercept Survey" was presented by Bill Artwich. He reported that the Army Corps of Engineers had surveyed 16 Watersmeet Township lakes in 2002 and suggested that ISCCW could replicate the survey now to determine changes in floristics. He and Barb Gajewski could do 14 lakes for approximately \$22,000 this summer and compile a comparative report. If approved he would begin to seek a grant to cover that cost. Ken mentioned that it would be good to have a separate meeting of the Board for the sole purpose of discussing the operational activities for the 2011 season. At that time Bill and Barb could present their ideas and thoughts. He also suggested that it would be appropriate to have the particulars of the Point Intercept Survey researched including what possible sources of funding would be available before any action to approve or disapprove is taken.
- B. Bass Lake EnviroScience proposal – Ken mentioned that Barb Gajewski asked for an OK to talk with Nancy Cushing on matters concerning their pre-proposal plan. She will report back at a later meeting. Dudley suggested that the combined use of 2/4/D and weevils may be advantageous and that should be revisited. Concern was expressed that Bass Lake residents have been rather non-responsive to the ISCCW initiatives; also whether residents would be willing to undertake a five-year treatment program. Ken stated that Bass Lake residents were in fact concerned and he thought they would be active once we started to develop a plan.
- C. 2011 PR plan will include press releases for distribution via all area media. All PR releases should include the multiple achievements and goals of the ISCCW and not just a focus on Bass Lake treatment plans.
- D. Petition to the Watersmeet Township Board will be presented at their 2/16/11 Board meeting.
- E. Ken said that he thought the end of February was the deadline for submitting grant requests to the Fish and Wildlife Foundation and he would be following up on that. There was further discussion as to why the RAC \$50,000 grant was rescinded. Norm Nass indicated that the funds were to be used to enhance forest-owned land and that Bass Lake did not meet the Title II requirements. Ian indicated that it could be possible to write a grant proposal to fund the boat

washer and/or operator or other activities on lakes with forest service property. As of this date the federal budget has not been approved so there are no monies available to fund the boat washer activity as was done last year. This could change.

- F. Wes Kiley made a presentation about the various surveys that have been made on the Cisco Chain and their use of the Northland College, Ashland, personnel and expertise in lake surveys. Wes expressed a desire to avoid duplication of effort between the CCROA and ISCCW. He suggested that ISCCW survey Big Africa, Cisco, Thousand Island, Record and Lindsley Lakes and waterways connecting Little Africa to Big Africa and other connecting waterways of the above mentioned lakes (basically, everything on the north end of the chain except for Clearwater and Little Africa). He stated that the CCROA would be responsible for the rest of the Cisco Chain lakes and waterways. He said that they would like to have someone accompany our surveyor on the water. Ken stated that he didn't think that was possible due to the complexities of the various insurances covering CCROA, ISCCW, and our independent contractor. An informal poll of ISCCW Board members' present expressed agreement with his proposal. Final details to be worked out.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. No action was taken on paying \$260 to obtain mailing address from Gogebic County. Under the public information act this data should be obtainable directly from Watersmeet Town Office. Ken will talk to the Township Supervisor about this.
- B. Ken reported that the DNR wanted to know if ISCCW had any objections to construction work at the landing on Tamarac Lake. The consensus was that, while we had no objection to the proposal, it was not within the jurisdiction of ISCCW but rather Tamarac Lake residents. Bob Zelinski suggested that the DNR should get opinions from lake residents. Ken said he would notify the DNR of our position.
- C. Ian reported that there may be money available to purchase and install a boat washer at Black River Harbor.

ADJOURNMENT

Ken moved/Bob Turnquist seconded adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jim Reiels
Acting Secretary.