

**Lost Lake Woods Club**  
**Conservation Committee Minutes for Saturday April 1, 2017**

Meeting was called to order at 8:08 a.m.

Roll Call: Present: Brian Deutschel, Dan Failla, Mike Jolly, Greg Lewis, Bill Ruelle, and Bill Zimmerman. Excused: Dan Gauthier, Scott Grush, and Jim West. The required quorum of six (6) was met.

Minutes for March Meeting were reviewed for approval. Brian so moved and Mike seconded. All members voted to accept the minutes as presented.

No changes to the Agenda.

**Old Business**

Rules and Regs Update: Brian has created a rough draft of all R&Rs relating to the CC and sent this to Dan G. for later committee review. Any committee member with suggested changes should send them to Brian for inclusion.

Oak Wilt Visit: Dan F. read Scott's email update. After touring the club, the Alcona County District Forester, Eric Brandon, stated that our forestry practices were sound and that our forest was very healthy. Eric will be invited to attend our May CC meeting.

GPS Blind System Update: Using the projection screen, Wayne Romatz presented a demonstration of the workings of the computerized recording of our hunting members' blind locations and gave an update report:

- The computer system has been installed in our lodge lobby. Anti-tampering features are installed to prevent any changes to the program.
- Sample entries were presented to demonstrate the features of the system.
- 2013 through 2016 blind locations were recorded for all members who purchased hunting buttons in 2016. Over 300 tags were sold in 2016 with paperwork for 100+ blinds turned in.
- Conflicts will be resolved by the blind committee.
- Our committee discussed changing the "safe" distance from 208 to 200 yards for simplicity. A 10 yard variance of distance will be built in to the blind recording software but not in to our Rules & Regs.
- Wayne will expand the blind approval form to include information (mutual agreement) for variances. The manager will handle situations in which ALL signatures have been acquired (total agreement). When agreement can not be reached, the blind committee will resolve said differences.
- The club-owned Garmin GPS Indicator will be available for members to use who do not own one. Ian will make this available upon request.

Field Sign Repair Work Bee: 200 stop sign posts were picked up by Scott and Tim Moffitt and delivered to LLWC. These will be used for mounting our new location/direction signs on the trails and fields. Posts were purchased from the Alcona County Road Commission at \$1 each.

### **Regular Item Reports**

Lakes, Dams, Fish Stocking: Dock for Deer Lake will be installed. The old docks will be resurfaced and converted for use as bridges where needed. All the dams have been checked, cleaned, and depth boards adjusted to protect the dams from too much water being held back. Future discussion is needed regarding documented procedures for regulating the lakes and dams.

Budget: Brian reported that updated information will be forthcoming after meeting with Ian. We will await the result of the assessment vote later this month.

Fields: Greg reported that our soil sampling will continue to be done by Ellsworth for cost savings. The weather is affecting our plantings and slurry applications. Greg's research (Ashley @ DNR Office-Gaylord) shows that the danger of TB potential being carried by slurry is extremely low (even less than by nose-to-nose contact). The herds providing our slurry are TB-free. Planting rotations are currently being worked out with our maintenance staff. The plow is needed for plowing – Ian will acquire. The lean-to for storage of CC equipment will be constructed after April 22. A motion was proposed by Brian and seconded by Bill to invite KC Kevritch to demonstrate a soil improvement process on a field designated by Greg over the next 3 years. This was approved unanimously.

Timber: Brian reported that the timber cuts need further cleaning: Loggers still have cut logs at the Lost Lake and North Line cuts; dozer is still at North Line. The assumption is that the loggers are waiting for the frost limits to be lifted. Ian will follow up with the timber cutters to make sure that this is done as soon as possible and report the status at our next meeting.

Turkey Feeders: An unused feeder will be installed near the stables. We will explore the legality of smaller feeders with our DNR CO, Jeff.

Future Planning: No activity.

To-Do List: No report

Pheasant Shoots: Our 2016-2017 pheasant hunts are finished. There will be a number of Rules & Regs changes suggested for pheasant hunting regarding ammunition that may be used.

Surveys: Dave Lucas reported from the audience that the survey teams have been constituted and that the surveys for drumming and gobblers will begin on April 15.

Hunters Round-Up: No official report. Ian stated that an article re: the Round-Up will be published in our next LLWC News.

Articles: No report.

Outside Resources: No report.

Forest Health Issues: Nothing to add to “Oak Wilt Visit” covered above.

Blind Committee: No additional items to be added to Wayne’s report above.

Trail Sports Committee: No report

### **Open Forum**

A question was asked about progress for the Lost Lake dock. The trees have been cut in preparation for the dock installation.

### **New Business**

- Oak tree stump fencing (to protect new growth from deer browsing) will not require a work bee but rather this will be done on a piece meal basis.
- A second work bee will be scheduled for completion of our new field and trail signs and posts.
- An introductory discussion of the various deer hunting seasons was begun with a review of the published (DNR) dates for 2017. Brian introduced a novel idea for improving our antlerless harvest by creating a “Doe Pool” for all hunters harvesting a doe with the winner being selected by random draw. He already has \$300 committed to the pool with more money to come.
- The final approved copy of the CC Survey will be mailed with the next dues mailing.

### **Adjournment**

Brian moved; Greg seconded; all approved. At 10:30 a.m.