

## DRAFT MINUTES CONSERVATION COMMITTEE April 10th 2015

Meeting was called to order by Ed Thomson @ 7PM.

ATTENDEES: Bob DeMeulenaere, Scott Grush, Jeff Major, Rob Clink, Dave Lucas, Bob Schemanske, Ed Thomson, John Bishop

Absent: Bob Bastion (excused) Tony Spina (unexcused)

Open Forum:

Two members talked about improving duck habitat and duck hunting by planting buckwheat. They suggested an approach that members can volunteer to pay to plant buckwheat. The conversation expanded into the possibility of members donating or sponsoring certain conservation activities that are underfunded or not funded.

March 27th 2015 meeting minutes approved.

Changes to agenda: None

### **Regular Item Reporting led by "Point Persons"**

Lakes/Dams/Fish: Ed stated that the lake levels are good.

Budget: Bob D reported that there is nothing new to report. Bob D reminded point people to voice any needs for their areas for next year.

Fields: Bob D reviewed the field plan. Bob D discussed the option of using the chemical Raptor to treat fields that are overgrown with plantain.

Timber: Scott reported that the harvest is ongoing and everything is going well.

Turkey Feeders: Dave reported that we need to fill the turkey feeders earlier this year. Corn is gone and the cameras need to be removed. The corn fields are not supported by the budget.

Future Planning: Bob S reported that there is nothing new to report.

To Do List: Bob S reviewed the list. Everything is complete or has a plan in place to complete.

Pheasant shoots: Ron reported that there is nothing new to report.

Surveys: Dave handed out the surveys. They will be conducted April 15<sup>th</sup> - May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Hunters Round up: Rob and Ed are working on a raffle ticket sponsor.

Articles: Scott will submit an article for the June newsletter.

Outside Resources: Eric Ellis from the Ruffed Grouse Society will be here for the June 6th meeting. Scott is looking into obtaining MDNR grant money for regenerating tag alder through the MDNR and the Ruffed Grouse Society.

Social Media: Still nothing on this from Scott and Rob.

### **Old Business:**

Report on actions of BOD as they apply to CC: John Bishop is going to present 2 BAR's at the next BOD meeting. The two BAR's are for a rules change recommendation and for the proposed timber harvest.

Boat Launch Improvement: Ed and Ron are working on obtaining a DEQ permit.

Hunter's Roundup Permit: Rob and Ed are working on this. Rob has found a sponsor.

Hubbard Lake foot path: Bob D led a discussion on the foot path. There are a lot of different options to create a path. The next step might be to find out how much the club is willing to spend to research the path and to build it.

Replacement options to the BOD for Biologist LeMarbe Management: There was discussion on the progress and where we are in the process at this point.

Rule Change Recommendations: Ad hoc committee to look at rule changes. Ed, Bob D, Rob, Bob S will be on the ad hoc committee. They will meet for one hour after the May meeting.

**New Business:**

Fish house structure raffle. Scott will pursue this and work with the promotions committee.

2015 special hunting seasons. Bob D made a motion to suspend the early antlerless seasons and the late antlerless seasons. There was a discussion and Bob D rescinded his motion.

Special Sites (Grossman). Terry will be at the May meeting to discuss this among other items. The listing or self-reporting of Special Sites are part of the Tree Farm Certification.

Communications- None.

Discussion- A member complained about cutting unit 3 in the 2015-16 harvest. There was a discussion, the CC voted to recommend to the BOD to harvest unit 3. The CC encouraged the member opposed to be present at the next BOD meeting to voice his opinion before they adopt to accept the harvest proposal.

Warren MacNeill led a discussion pertaining to a summer meeting with neighboring landowners.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Jeff Major, secretary

