MEETING MINUTES CONSERVATION COMMITTEE June 3, 2017

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Gauthier @ 8:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES: Scott Grush, Dan Failla, Bill Ruelle, Mike Jolly,

Jim West, Brian Deutschel, Dan Gauthier, Greg Lewis, Bill Zimmerman

 May, 2017 meeting minutes were accepted w/ one edit- add $$$ to tree planting motion. Mike moved to accept, Bill Z. 2nd, all approved. Motion carried.

Changes to Agenda: Doe Pool- Deutschel presenting.

**Old Business**

Rules and regulations update: Brian presented a rewrite/edit of the current rules/regs. Motion was made to send a BAR to the BOD, Brian moved, Bill 2nd. All approved. Motion carried.

Survey results: Jim West presented the drum and gobble survey results. When staff adds the final route to the graphs the CC page will be updated.

Field sign work bee: Denny from Trail Sports offered suggestions. A June 10 @ 8:00a.m. workbee will be planned.

Tree Planting: It’s getting late. Much inventory is sold out, Dan G, is looking for alternate resources.

Down to Earth proposals: Deer check station proposal- Brian moved to accept the DTE check station proposal, Bill Z. 2nd. Motion passed 7-2 with Lewis, Ruelle dissenting.

Camera survey proposal- Brian moved to accept, Jim W. 2nd. Motion passed 7-2 with Lewis, Ruelle dissenting.

**Regular Item Reports:**

**Lakes/Dams/Fish**: Bill R. Bill Z. – Dan G. met with Sharbonneau excavating to start clearing the launch at Lost Lake. There are tagged fish in Badger Lk. And the Trout pond. Bill will get ahold of Imlay city fish hatchery to plan for the Fall plant.

**Budget**: Dan F., Brian –N.N.T.R. (Nothing new to report)

**Fields:**  Greg, Bill R. – No beans plated in 2017, cost skyrocketed out of our budget limitations. Switch to buckwheat. G. Lewis article to follow.

**Timber**: Scott, Brian – There will be a woods tour following today’s meeting. The 2016-17 timber contract is closed. Thank you Fairview Woodyard for once again buying our timber.

**Turkey Feeders:** Dan G., Jim. –Jim reviewed pictures, one turkey pictured outside the feeder. Other options being discussed.

**Future Planning**: Mike, Brian - Nothing new to report.

**To Do List**: Scott - Scott read the To Do list for June.

**Pheasant shoots:** Mike, Greg – Mike will clarify the rules for shoots. Add eye protection requirement, Shot size limits, licensing, etc…

**Surveys:** Dan G., Jim- Update the Spring drumming and turkey gobble surveys and add it to the Conservation webpage.

**Hunter’s Round Up**: Dan G, Bill R. – It was decided to keep the ticket the same as last year.

**Articles**: Scott, Brian, Jim – Oak thinning article.

**Outside Resources**: Scott, Dan G., Mike, Bill – The ABC tag alder treatment project (Golden Winged warbler) is being investigated. All application paperwork has been filed we await approval/disapproval at this point. Huron Pines contacted us to spray the Phragmites out at the duck pond. A site visit is planned.

**Forest health issues**: Mike, Scott, Brian – Tent caterpillars are epic this Spring. A couple apple trees from the 2014 planting cycle have been defoliated. Scott and volunteers will spray with soap water to discourage.

**Blind Committee**: Dan G., Bill Z., Dan F. – NNTR

**Trail Sports Committee**: Denny Gauthier, Bill Z. – H trail work is in progress. A standing time/ date for a work bee every Thursday @ 2:30 p.m. until complete. Sharbonneau will grade from Wolf Rd. to the culvert.

**Open Forum**

* Timber: Dick McLeod is concerned about the size of areas being harvested displacing hunters.

Bob Ruelle asks why we entered the same general area 4 times in 20 years?

**New Business**

Prelim 2017 deer quota discussion: Brian quickly presented his model for harvest recommendations. To be discussed further in July.

Corn/bean planter: The club purchased a used corn planter without Committee approval. GM Dockril approved it on Chair Gauthier’s recommendation. It was noted that this was a good to very good deal and they “don’t last long” so you have to act fast.

Doe Pool: Jim moved to accept Brian D organizing and administering a “Doe Pool” for 2017. Dan G. 2nd. Motion passed 8-1, (Lewis No).

**Communications**

None.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Scott moved and Brian 2nd.  Unanimous approval.  Meeting adjourned at 11:25a.m.

Submitted by Scott Grush, Secretary.