

DRAFT MINUTES CONSERVATION COMMITTEE May 4, 2013

Meeting was called to order by Bruce Frappier, co-chairperson@ 8:00 AM

ATTENDEES: Bob DeMeulenaere, Bruce Frappier, Dave Hohlfeldt, Dave Lucas, Jeff Major, Gary Jankens, Bob Schemanske

Megan LeMarbe was also present

ABSENT: Ed Thomson, Ron Tacia (both excused)

Minutes from the April meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Reports were heard from “point persons” areas as follows:

Fish/Lakes/ Dams: Members of the committee reported that Badger Lake was still high but it has come down quite a bit. All other lake levels look good at this time.

Budget: Nothing at this time.

Fields: Bob D. reported that field work for the year was about to commence. The fields were just coming out of winter dormancy and were improving daily. He also reported the club’s purchase of a used John Deere grain drill to assist in our planting efforts.

Timber: Jeff M. reported the last remaining timber harvest should be complete next week. They will continue hauling wood out now that the roads are drying out.

Turkey Feeders: Dave L. reported that the turkey feeders are both empty now and the decision on if and where corn will be planted this year will be made soon. Locations of new feeders to be constructed will be discussed at the June meeting.

Future Planning: The documents requested by the Future Planning Committee will be complete and delivered at their next meeting.

To-Do List: Bruce F. reviewed the list. Items related to the future timber harvest dates need to be moved to later in the year. Terry Manty will inform Bruce as to when they should occur.

Pheasant Shoots: Unfortunately the dispute with our bird supplier will be taken to court.

Surveys: Spring surveys are complete. After all data is compiled and analyzed, the report will be placed on the website.

Hunter’s Roundup: Ron Tacia reported to us by email that a shotgun for the raffle has not been located at this time. More info to follow in June.

Habitat tour: Dave H. reported that Megan, Jeff M. and he have made edits and additions to the self guided tour book and it is ready for printing.

Articles: Megan LeMarbe is handling the article writing. The next article will be about the fishery at LLWC.

Outside Resources: Bruce F. reported that he has contacted the biologist for the Ruffed Grouse Society and has asked to be put on the schedule for a visit to the club. This will be coordinated with Megan so that she can be present at the visit.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

- **Quality Forest Program** Jeff M. reported that new legislation on expanding this program should be voted on soon. He stated that the cost to prepare the applications would be about \$100 per township enrolled and should be a tax savings of about \$12,254.00 per year from the wild lands tax that all members share.
- **Conservation Info Needed on Website:** Megan reported that the maps have been approved to be put on the website. Bob D. asked if short articles could be added to some of the areas on the site describing what the programs are and their importance to the habitat.
- **Opening up all Trails after November 22:** A survey is in the May newsletter. Bruce F. and Bob S. will compile the data from the survey and present them at the June meeting.

New Business:

- **2013 Field Guide Revision:** Bob D. presented a new revision to the field guide approved in April. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report. Motion passed. The field guide will remain as approved in April.
- **Phantom Blind Solutions:** Bob D. stated the BOD asked for suggestions on possible solutions for this problem. It was reported that last year 474 buttons were sold, 382 blind tags with 215 hunters going through the gate during the first 3 days of the season. Ideas will be assembled by Bruce F., Bob S., and Dave L. and discussed at the June meeting.
- **Phragmites Control:** Megan discussed the info that we all received in April. An ad-hoc committee has been formed consisting of Megan and Jeff M. They will estimate the size of problem areas and a cost estimate in June.
- **Rules Review Ad-Hoc Committee:** Ed T., Bob S., Dave L., and Bob D. will review the current rules and will report at the June meeting.

Communications: The Promotions Committee has asked for input/opinions on having a Badger Lake fishing tournament on Labor Day Weekend.

Next meeting: June 1, 2013 @ 8:00 am

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 am

Respectfully submitted— Bob DeMeulenaere, secretary

