MEETING MINUTES CONSERVATION COMMITTEE May 6, 2017

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Gauthier @ 7:59 a.m.

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

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

April, 2017 meeting minutes were accepted Brian moved to accept, Dan F. 2nd, all approved.

Changes to Agenda: None

**Old Business**

Rules and regulations update: Brian presented a rewrite/edit of the current rules/regs. It is still a work in progress with CC members bringing possible changes as suggestions.

 Oak Wilt: The report from Eric Brandon @ the Alcona Conservation district came back negative for the presence of oak wilt.

Survey results: Ian and staff presented the survey results via a slide presentation.

GPS system update: Wayne submitted a report updating the Committee. It was noted that a slight modification to the rules regarding distances between blinds be sent to the BOD. A BAR will be sent.

Field sign work bee: A work bee will be scheduled for Saturday the 13th @ 9:00a.m. at the maintenance building.

Tree Planting: Dan G. is researching the cost and availability of different species. $2,500.00 is budgeted. Brian made motion to plant different deer tolerant conifers in traditional deer yards areas of the club. Dan F. second. Motion carried.

**Regular Item Reports:**

**Lakes/Dams/Fish**: Bill R. Bill Z. – will check the dams. Lost Lk. Boat launch, Dan G. reports it is a 3 year permit and the stumps need to be pulled as a next step. Ian will follow up with stocking the trout pond.

**Budget**: Dan F., Brian –Are working through it. Ian and Greg are tracking the financials as we move through the Spring planting season.

**Fields:**  Greg, Bill R. – Chippewa dairy declined to sell us any slurry. Reworking the plan to incorporate commercial fertilizer now and some oats have been planted.

**Timber**: Scott, Brian – Scott made motion to close the 2016-17 timber contract, Jim second, motion carried. All wood is hauled and Fairview Woodyard wants to pick up the dozer if we are satisfied with the roads, we are. A woods tour will be scheduled soon.

**Turkey Feeders:** Dan G., Jim. –No turkeys on cameras, some damage out by gravel pit.

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

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

**Pheasant shoots:** Mike, Greg – Ian is reapplying for the shooting preserve permit thru the DNR. Beginning discussions for a club sponsored out are underway. Shot size parameters need to be discussed prior to the upcoming season.

**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. – Safari club will get the raffle license for 2017, it has been applied for.

**Articles**: Scott, Brian, Jim – Dan G. will write an update about the Lost Lk. Boat launch project among other submissions.

**Outside Resources**: Scott, Dan G., Mike, Bill – The ABC tag alder treatment project is being investigated. Dan F. made motion and Scott second to pursue the project. All approved, motion carried. Scott will have the plan by next month.

**Forest health issues**: Mike, Scott, Brian – Some of the burr oak in the sunflower field planted in 2014 are now dead.

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

**Trail Sports Committee**: Denny Gauthier, Bill Z. – H trail work is in progress.

**Open Forum**

* Jim West noted that many cormorants have settled upon our lakes again.

**New Business**

Rick Pender milkweed project garnered full support from the CC. Brian made motion to support Mike second, motion carried.

**Communications**

Mr. Al Corn Jr. sent communication to the CC and was present at the meeting to read his email.

A concern about loggers damaging existing ground blinds was the focus. The CC will discuss with the Forester if language needs to be added to the timber contract.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Brian moved and Mike 2nd.  Unanimous approval.  Meeting adjourned at 11:21a.m.

Submitted by Scott Grush, Secretary.