

**Half Moon Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District  
Fall Board Meeting - September 5, 2015**

**Location:**

Milltown Fire Hall  
129 Eider St.  
Milltown, WI 54858

**Time:** 9:00am

**Agenda:**

1. Call to order – called to order by John at 9:07
2. Roll call – John Weber (Chair), Bud Ericksen (Vice Chair), Ellen Butler (Treasurer), Dave Balestri (Secretary), John Briegal (Fisheries), Pat McMahon (Newsletter), Harlen Hegdal (Township).
3. Minutes of previous meeting(s):
  - a. Summer meeting minutes reviewed and approved
  - b. Annual meeting minutes reviewed and approved
4. Treasurer Report
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> half tax check has not been deposited because it was sent to Dan but he's out of town so it hasn't been deposited yet. Ellen will call to have it switched to be sent to her for next time.
  - b. Owe the boys for checking boats; can't cash checks until tax check is deposited – should be another week or so.
  - c. Motion to approved Treasure report. Approved.
5. Committee Updates:
  - a. Newsletter: post office box has been problematic – it gets full over the winter and stuff gets thrown out or returned to sender. Pat has asked for fliers not to be put in there, but they can't do that. We have been forwarding to Dan Leh. Question as to whether to forward to Ellen now. Discussion. Looking for Sept 25 as deadline for committee reports. Want a page of the annual meeting (photos and such). Suggestion to include minutes of annual meeting, committee reports, note about Nextdoor, pic of Erin Balestri doing water testing, pics of people and dogs jumping into water (for Spring newsletter), note about polluting while ice-fishing. Email address to send newsletter materials is [halfmoonlakeloonlines@gmail.com](mailto:halfmoonlakeloonlines@gmail.com).
  - b. Township: Harlen put in a call to Polk-Burnet about cones on lights. Guy said they have a new bulb that shines down, not out. They'll put a cone on one, the bulb on the other light at the public launch. Might already be in place. ATV ordinance passed, roads opened except for roads where majority of people that own property on that road sign petition. If you live on that road, you can still use it for your ATV to get to open road. In retrospect, the new boat launch structure is not as good as slab would've been. Stuff gets stuck. Minor repair to landing has been conducted. Eventually may need to make a structural change. Weren't able to put the 3<sup>rd</sup> dock in at the public launch due to beaver dam. Not sure how to address; probably hold off until changes in the landing.
  - c. CBCW: Pat noted that icefishermen pollute the lake in the winter by leaving trash. Discussion about putting signs at the 3 entry points (both boat launches and the informal one at the south end of the lake) to take trash with you. Putting actual garbage cans at entry points was discouraged because in the township it causes additional more problems. Other ideas: hire kid to pick up trash or take photos (with ice house numbers). Boy scouts community service project? County can make signs, maybe get township to pay for them. Debate over whether a sign at the south end will actually increase traffic at that point. John makes motion to "experiment" with one sign at main access this year and see what the results are. Seconded by Bud. Discussion

about wording – Dave can follow up on that. Size, cost, placement TBD – to be followed up on by Harlen and John. Current thinking is to leave it up all year. Motion passed. This is the last weekend that Charlie will be working at the landing. To John's knowledge, no issues at landing; however, people are still showing up with weeds. Discussion about a new invasive species that is even worse than milfoil. Ellen suggests adding more inspections during bass-fishing tournaments. Board members don't know when tournaments are. Some of the tournaments are after inspections are done for the day. Harlen will look into how the tournaments are organized. So maybe we can extend inspections for those events. Will have to figure out staffing.

- d. Fishing: nothing to update after annual meeting. Fish haven't been stocked yet. Usually in the fall. Bud would like a catch-and-release only policy for walleyes. There is a slot limit, but Bud thinks that people are keeping walleyes smaller than the limit. John proposes that Bud and John B form a subcommittee to do more research. Harlen suggests they talk to the DNR. Harlen noted that there are more muskies getting caught out of Balsam Lake.
  - e. Conservancy: John W has mowed the trail. Some ATVs have been in there causing damage. Marv Pass will put some additional rock in to firm about a stretch. No district money needed. Part of the field (prairie) needs a periodic burn. David Butler met with Milltown Fire Department and DNR about conducting a burn later in the Fall. Some members of conservancy board are not in support. Ellen reported that there is about \$100,000 in the account to purchase additional land if/when it becomes available. Harland says we need to build a stronger Conservancy board to maintain control as David Butler transitions out of his role.
6. Old business:
- a. Discuss and critique annual meeting, notes for change: we ran out of food - will plan for more for next year; otherwise, consensus was that it went pretty well. Good crowd, good sound system. Question had come up about voting procedures/requirements. John W will research standards/requirements, particularly around properties owned in Trust.
  - b. Discuss advertising, fireworks, and July 4<sup>th</sup> issues:
    - Fireworks: didn't have advertising money this year; asked for contributions at Annual meeting (didn't get enough/any); Ellen lent money so we could have fireworks this year, but she has not been repaid yet. For next year, we will get about \$4,500 from advertising in the newsletters from Paperworks (Sally), part of which will go to repaying Ellen. Could send a card (~\$350) asking for contributions. Last year, Township picked up cost of insurance (\$250 for the event). Discussion to keep cost of fireworks separate from district costs. One advantage: can always adjust/cancel if problematic. Also, some people don't support fireworks as a district function. John says important to keep fireworks finances totally separate from district budget, separate account. Discussion about whether to create a new fireworks committee or to manage it ourselves. Harlen suggested asking for volunteers at next annual meeting. Bud and John B offered to help Ellen and John W for this year. Activities include talking to Milltown Fire, Milltown Library (for movie), etc. We now have our own popcorn machine. Harlen offered to continue doing those activities for this year and creating a checklist for future years.
    - Boat wakes: Harlen expressed concern about big wakes from boats that add ballast and go slow with the intent to create big wakes. No current ordinance about max HP, max boat length, speed.
  - c. Arrange speaker for 2016 annual meeting: consensus that this year's speaker (Captain Steve Smith) was very good. Suggestion to ask him again for next year. Pat had suggested to John W of having a Jim Miller (not "our" Jim Miller) to talk. He had been on Deer Lake Conservancy. Harlen noted that we know as much as him now.
7. New business:
- a. Lakes conference (info and update): John W handed out info; district will pay for new board members to attend. Conference is in April. Ellen and Dave may attend.

- b. Schedule long range planning committee meeting: hasn't been on one for quite some time. John W wonders aloud if we should dissolve the committee. Question about who was on it. Glassman, Pat M. Dave made motion to dissolve it. Harlen suggests amending to inactivate rather than it. Not seconded. Motion dies for lack of a second. Committee remains inactive at this time.
  - c. Other: idea for buoys for south end to keep water skiers further from docks. John W. made a motion to purchase 2 portable buoys that can be deployed to show where 200' from shore is. Bud seconded. Cost is about \$270 apiece. Ellen asked about which budget it comes from. Harlen says it could come from discretionary funds. Motion carried. Also: "Nextdoor" has 12 members and is already proving effective. Dave will write up an article for newsletter. Question about how/whether to communicate new zoning laws. Add to newsletter? Harlen has the attorney's opinions. Harlen to send to Dave to summarize for the Fall newsletter.
8. Adjourn: motion to adjourn by John B. Seconded by John W. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:00.