

Minutes of July 26, 2007
Town of Plum Lake—Lakes Committee Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Co-chair Chris Wise called the Lakes Committee of the Town of Plum Lake Board of Supervisors to order Thursday, July 26, 2007, at 6:34 P.M. Attending: Co-chair Chris Wise and Frank Splitt, Treasurer, Jim Haberle, Secretary, Vicki Haberle, Jan Wise, Vicki Gillett, Bob Munsen, Bill Sloey, Nancy Atwater, Dennis Neilsen, Joan Schacht, John Schacht, and Guest, Ted Ritter.

2. **OPEN MEETING VERIFICATION.** Notices have been posted at the Sayner U.S. Post Office, the Town Hall in Sayner, and the Star Lake Store in Star Lake with additional notices to the Vilas County News-Review, P. O. Box 1929, Eagle River, WI 54521, and WERL-WRJO, P.O. Box 30.

3. **APPROVE AGENDA** Motion was made to approve agenda, seconded and approved

4. **APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING ON MAY 24, 2007.** Motion made by Bill Sloey, seconded by Jim Haberle, and unanimously approved.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT** Jim Haberle reported that there was \$1,536.84 in the total budget. In the Town of Plum Lakes Budget we have \$1,186.84. \$320.88 in expenses have been turned in by Chris Wise direct to Jack Damos. Jim Haberle said those expenses should have been given/sent to him first so he could keep an accurate total record of all the Committee's expenses. There is approximately \$700 in Town Budget which should be expensed before using the donations per Jim Haberle. Frank Splitt agreed with Jim and said all expenses should be going to our Treasurer first and he will send the expenses on as quickly as possible. Jim turns the expenses in to Jack Damos by the next day to be paid by the Town. Motion was made to approved the Treasurer's report by Bill Sloey, seconded by Frank Splitt, and unanimously approved.

6. **SUMMARY REPORT BY TPL--AIS PUBLIC AWARENESS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE WITH RELATED DISCUSSION.** Frank Splitt—said the bait container labels are ready for distribution. The patch for shirts are now available to be put on. Jan Wise needs to get shirts to Debbie for stamping and distribution. Signage has been revised and is on billboards for all to see. Resolution 2007.2 is ready for distribution to all organizations concerned. Frank can send electronically to everyone. Ballard, Irving, White Birch Assn picnic will be on Saturday, July 28th. Brett Peters will be attending and will give a short talk about invasive species (rusties). \$1400 has been received by Frank Splitt to help the campaign on invasives. Frank also passed out a copy of an article, authored by Frank and Bill Sloey, and sent to the Lakeland Times for publication. The Annual Report from the Association of Lakes was submitted to Chris Wise by Frank Splitt. The Wisconsin Counties Assn has several good articles about invasives. Chris Wise has a copy of the ad from Skeeter. The ad was free for us. There are about 1000 copies available for distribution. The 4th of July Parade had several volunteers distributing our brochures before the start of the parade. Chris said he feels awareness is becoming more wide spread on behalf of our work. Chris also has copies of Viral Hemoragic Septicemia information for distribution. All the invasives are on the website with the DNR. Nancy Atwater said restocking is now being allowed and you must have a certified health certificate before the fish will be released into the lake.

7. **SUMMARY REPORT BY TPL CLEAN BOATS-CLEAN WATERS COMMITTEE WITH RELATED DISCUSSION.** Jan Wise reported that Plum Lake had a training session for the Memorial Weekend to train volunteers and also man the boat landings for the summer. Boaters have been very cooperative especially during the inspections; so far it has been a very good experience. Most people have heard about AIS from posted signs and newspapers. Vicki Gillett has been doing some casual checking at the boat landings. With the BIWBLA potluck meeting on Saturday we may possibly get some volunteers. Carol Tucker has been going to the boat landing every day and could use more brochures to distribute to the boaters. Joan Schacht needs recording sheets to keep records of the boat landing inspections, for Star Lake. Ted Ritter will be getting copies of all our minutes via e-mail from Vicki Haberle for the new website. Chris Wise suggested the possibility of getting a grant to pay people for inspecting the boats at boat landings; also to pay the committee members for meeting attendance as Ted Ritter said that the money doesn't necessarily have to be used for only the boat inspectors at the boat landings.

8. SUMMARY REPORT BY TPL LAKES MONITORING & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WITH RELATED DISCUSSION. Bill Sloey suggested purchasing another set of crayfish traps to help in sampling. Escanaba has rusties—proven. Bill will have a full set of crawfish and plant sampling kits available at the “Shack” on his property. Bill and Bob Munsen sampled Lake Laura and got many samples. Chris and Jan trapped on Star Creek for crawfish—which have been traveling through the muck as well as at the sand. Jr Dewitt and Chris Wise checked out 17 areas on Plum Lake and found that Plum Lake is not the same as it was many years ago. Chris will put together his data and have Bill Sloey clean it up. Frank Splitt needs to get help in presenting our changes for the bass regulations. Steve Gilbert said he can't do anything more to help us. (There was a clerical error which postponed the regulations change to 2009). Maybe the Plum Lake Riparians may give some money to help make cribs or cut shrubbery for inclusion into the lake for the fry. Chris said Steve Gilbert we can do ½ log and a concrete block to be put into the lake in winter to act as a fry fishery for the small fish. Bass really like the cribs. The Gps' are working OK. Frank Splitt needs a GPS to give the DNR the exact position of the signs at the boat landings. Bob Munsen checked out Stewart, Camp 10, and Wilson Lakes for access. Ted Ritter said Lost Lake may be added to the list with Eurasian Water Milfoil. Samples have been taken for analysis. Laura has a banded Mystery Snail per Bill Sloey.

9. NEW BUSINESS Chris Wise wants to talk about the new Budget. Frank was asked to come up with a new number for the 2008 Budget Year. Jan, Frank, Bill need to get some numbers to Frank so he can put everything together. Bob Munsen said he would like to see our budget go down because the Town Board is very frugal and he thinks we should show that we are also being responsible in our spending habits. His thinking is that he wants us to be fiscally responsible so that if we really need the money for something large we may be more likely to get it. Jr Dewitt has said the Town Board does appreciate what we have been doing as a committee for AIS. John Schacht asked who is responsible to monitor the boat landings at the campsites.

10. OLD BUSINESS. Ted Ritter said (Warden) Steve Filbert(sp?) says he is available for us to use. Had not been available; now (Mike Mackenzie has said he will now be writing tickets for unclean boats and invasive species).

11. SET DATE AND PLACE FOR NEXT MEETING. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 23rd. at the Town Hall in Sayner at 6:30 PM.

12. CORRESPONDENCE AND CITIZENS COMMENTS None.

13. ADJOURNMENT. Motion made by Frank Splitt, seconded by Bill Sloey. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Haberle,
Secretary

**Addendum to July 26, 2007 Meeting
Item No. 7**

Clean Boats/Clean Waters
Plum Lake Lakes Association
July 26, 2007

Since May, 2007, the Clean Boats/Clean Waters coordinator for Plum Lake, has been busy setting up, and maintaining our volunteer program on Plum Lake.

We began our efforts before the Memorial Day weekend with a Clean Boats/Clean Waters training meeting, where 3 people were trained. We began the weekend with volunteers, three of whom do not live on Plum Lake, though one lives in Sayner. These three took turns on the Memorial weekend along with Cheryl Carper. In June, Chris and I attended a Clean Boats/Clean Waters workshop at Trees for Tomorrow. Ten Riparian members, 3 per cent of the total number of this organization, have been monitoring the State House Point Boat Landing throughout the months of June and July. They logged about 80.05 hours at the landing, with 124 boats checked and an estimate of 209 people educated about our program. I believe that there are probably many more than 209 people, as some of the volunteers forgot to mark the "Number of persons contacted," column, so I gave a count of "one" for those forms that did not designate how many people were contacted.

The vast majority of boats launched were Fishing boats (86), with Pleasure/Ski boats (19) being the next category, followed by Pontoon (6) boats. The volunteers cited 32 lakes that boats had previously been on before launching in Plum Lake. We have had boats from all over Wisconsin, including Lake Winnebago, Lake Michigan, and the Eagle River chain, which do harbor invasives. Of the boats checked, eleven were from reported infested lakes. Three states were recorded along with Wisconsin boaters. These boats came from Illinois, Minnesota, and Iowa. We were asked to identify two specimens of plant life that volunteers at the boat landing brought in. Neither was an invasive species; both were native to the area.

All the volunteers shared the experience of having very cooperative boaters when they worked at the boat landing. In fact, most enjoyed meeting and sharing our message with others. It was nice to meet people who live on the lake, as well as, people from other parts of Wisconsin, and other states. All of those boaters were very cordial and sympathetic to our cause. It was reported that boaters have heard about AIS and Clean Boats through the Newspapers (56), Other Volunteers (39) and Other category (39), and Signs (31), which were cited as the four most frequent ways of their getting information about AIS issues.

Thank you to: Sheehan Donoghue, Charles Seehafer, Joe and Judy Lakota, Brian Craig, Patty and Ken Hepburn, Cheryl Carper, Barb Gloss, Lindsey Adams, and Ryan Croker for their help at the State House Point boat Landing these past three months.

Thank you, too, to Jim Thomas who has been helping with inspecting boats on the boat landing on West Plum Lake, near his home, with putting our trailer checklist, and a pamphlet, "Help Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers," on the windshields of vehicles parked at the boat landing there. The Kurth family also does the same inspections of parked vehicles at State House Point from time to time.

Before the Fourth of July parade in Sayner, Frank and Judy Splitt, Carol Tucker, Vicki Gillette, Nancy Atwater and Chris and I, wearing our Clean Boats/Clean Waters T-shirts, walked the parade route, giving our "Help Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers" pamphlet to spectators. Next year I am thinking about having a float in the parade.

On the scheduled weekends, I have changed times (the hours) on Fridays and on Sundays, which, hopefully, will enable us to catch more boat traffic.

We have purchased more T-shirts in the hope of obtaining more volunteers. The cost was \$299.46. This is all we have spent in our Clean Boats/Clean Waters budget so far this year. I cannot express my

appreciation enough to the volunteers who have donated their time to inspect boats at the boat landings.
Thank you.

Submitted by
Jan Wise
Clean Boats/Clean Waters
Town of Plum Lake Lakes' Committee and
Plum Lake Riparian