

Potato Lake Association
Annual Meeting – June 10, 2023
Minutes

Harley Wells Former President presiding in his last official meeting called the Annual Meeting to order at 9:20 AM on June 10, 2023 and thanked Kelley and Debbie Casey for hosting the Annual Meeting at their cabin.

Attendance: Harley & Leanne Wells, Kelley & Debra Casey, Traci & Steve Miller, Kevin Montgomery, Larry & Joan Wilhelmy, Rich Krisch, Jody & Roger Cornett, Carla & Jay Linderholm, Patti Weldon, Dave Schmidt, Randy Pladson, Bob & Paula Leland, Tiffany Brynteson-Johnson, Mike & Andrea Pokorney, Jim Ekholm, Amy & Paul Gillis (Poll), James & Jill Kirchen, Bruce Johnson, Cheryl Johnson Wiitala

President: Harley Wells introduced the current board members

Resigned President: Harley Wells

Vice President: Kelley Casey

Treasurer: Traci & Steve Miller

Secretary: Rich Krisch & Donna Krisch

Directors at Large: Larry Wilhelmy, Kevin Montgomery, Jack Wolf

Absent at meeting: Jack Wolf and Donna Krisch

Recognition of outgoing board officers: Kevin Montgomery representing The Potato Lake Association (PLA) recognized Harley Wells and Joe Adler for their long service to the PLA. Joe was elected to Board in 2001 and Harley was elected to Board in 2003 and elected President in 2005. Joe and Harley were awarded plaques thanking them for their service.

Secretary Report: Rich Krisch read the 2022 Annual Meeting minutes report. Kevin Montgomery made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Kelley Casey and approved by members.

Treasurer Report: Traci Miller gave the Treasurer Report. The current balance in the bank is \$10,093 dollars. Forty Eight to Fifty people have sent in their dues with new dues to date of around \$1200 dollars. Traci reported looking into investing some of the PLA funds to earn higher interest.

Options are 3 month 1.76% with \$2,000 minimum.

9 month 4.35% with \$5,000 minimum.

Members asked the board about any upcoming costs. Currently no large costs are planned. Harley said beaver trapping costs are \$200 for setup and \$100 per beaver so the costs are not very high. Boat landing signage is currently being finalized with a down payment already paid. Discussion about investing in a CD at the same bank made sense and rates are similar. A \$5,000 9 month CD was proposed. Kevin Montgomery made a motion to approve the CD seconded by Rich Krisch and approved by members.

Winter Conditions: Harley Wells and Dave Schmidt addressed the winter conditions. Ice out was April 15th, 2023. Dave Schmidt is taking over duties of performing oxygen readings from Joe Adler. Dave told how he watched Joe walk across the frozen lake with a hand auger and it inspired him to take on the job with a snowmobile and an electric auger. During March Dave recorded near zero oxygen readings in the northern half of the lake. Readings from areas near shore on the south east side showed oxygen but very low. Members asked about the type and size of fish in the winter fish kill. Dave said some 20" bass, ½ dozen northerns. The lake flows down into Potato Creek and many crappies and sunnies were seen floating in the creek. The ice melted very fast and the oxygen level rose to summer reading levels very quickly.

A member asked about the weed reduction work mentioned during reading of the 2022 minutes and the current weed removal status. The board explained that no weed harvesting approach appears to be a solution for weeds, snails and winter fish kill. The DNR only approves weed removal necessary for navigation. Dave talked about Chinese Mystery Snails starting a discussion about how to manage them. An article written by Peggy Tierney was mentioned as an excellent source of information. Most agreed that raking and dumping snails and weeds into the woods appears to be a good solution. Dave Schmidt mentioned floating algae and surface muck and some of the ways other lakes are harvesting/removing it and future research is needed.

Election of Board Members

Members with Term expiring in 2023.

Traci Miller – Treasurer

Traci agreed to another term. Larry Wilhelmy made a motion to approve, Traci position was seconded and approved by members.

Nominees for board open positions.

President – Joan Wilhelmy nominated Kevin Montgomery for President. Andrea Pokorney seconded and members approved.

Vice President – Kelley Casey wants to remain on the board but not as an officer. He stated the work is minimal but after 17 years the PLA needs some new people. Roger Cornett volunteered and Kevin Montgomery seconded. PLA members approved.

Secretary - James Kirchen was nominated by Traci Miller and seconded by Andrea Pokorney. PLA members approved.

At Large - Kelley Casey, Mike Pokorney, and David Schmidt volunteered for At Large board positions and they were approved by the PLA members.

Boat Landing – Harley Wells reported for Jack Wolf. The concrete pads at the boat landing were re-positioned by the county correcting the erosion caused by the power loading of boats onto their trailers. Jack Wolf is working on finalizing steel signs at the landing with “No Power Loading” visible in two directions. One direction looking towards the lake and the other direction looking from the lake up the landing.

New Business – Roger Cornett commented on the PLA logo wondering if we could generate a little more funds for PLA by putting it on t-shirts, hats, etc.

Old Business – Kevin Montgomery

Board members commented water management is the primary focus of the PLA.

The website: potatolakeassociation.org is a good source of service providers for members. Under the menu item Members choose Recommended Service Providers Kevin also spoke about the PLA facebook page and that it needs some management to help clean up the page and secure posting member access. Andrea Pokorney volunteered to take on that role and will be connected to Marilyn Adler the current facebook manager.

4th Of July Boat Parade – Scheduled for Monday July 3rd at 4 PM. Meet at the boat landing with your decorated vessels.

Annual Picnic – We are still looking for a host for the 2023 Annual PLA Picnic. Dates for the picnic normally occur on an early weekend in August. A port-a-potty scheduled and provided along with the main dish, door prizes from local vendors. Paul and Mary former hosts cannot host this year, but plan on hosting in upcoming years. If you are interested please let someone know.

Open Mic – Dave Schmidt commented that the DNR may be coming soon to do a Shock Test to determine the severity of the fish kill.

Members discussed renters and how to make sure they receive information regarding Potato Lake Association Boating Safety and Etiquette Rules to Follow.

James Kirchen brought up the possibility of getting Eagle Cam's installed on either Roger's property or his property. James will work on the research if the Eagles continue their nest build there.

Adjournment

The Casey's were thanked for hosting the meeting. Bruce Johnson introduced a motion to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded and the meeting adjourned at 10:55.

Attachment to Minutes
2023 Potato Lake Association Board

President: Kevin Montgomery - kevinmontgomery@me.com
Vice-President: Roger Cornett - rogercornett@gmail.com
Treasurer: Traci Miller – tracim07@hotmail.com
Secretary: James Kirchen - jkirchen95@gmail.com

At Large

Kelley Casey - kelley.casey5431@gmail.com
Jack Wolf - wolfminn1@charter.net
Larry Wilhelmy - larrywilhelmy@yahoo.com
David Schmidt - dlschmidt@frontiernet.net
Mike Pokorney - mpokorney@terragc.com

Volunteer Admin for PLA Facebook

Andrea Pokorney - pokorney.andrea@gmail.com