

Lakes Committee Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2018

1. Meeting called to order at 9:04 by Cris Neff
2. Committee Members in Attendance: Cris Neff, Rick Rehl, Tony Bauer, Linda Mackley
Absent: Bob Schoneberger

Board members in Attendance: Chris Webb, Tom Emerson
3. Motion to approve the agenda – Linda Mackley, Second by – Tony Bauer. Motion carried.
4. Motion to approve October 15, 2018 meeting minutes – Tony Bauer, Second by Linda Mackley. Motion carried.
5. Public Comment Period:
 - Ted Eastlund provided comments regarding enforcement of watercraft statutes, DNR regulations and town ordinances.
6. Introduction & Presentation of Mark Little with the DNR. Paul Susienka, Bayfield County Sheriff, arrived about an hour later and joined the discussion.
7. Discussion:
 - Enforcement: Options for issuing citations include State citations and Local Ordinance citations. This could be a costly effort. A second option would be to contract with the Sheriff's Department; however, they are obligated to serve the entire county at the same level.
 - Water Safety Education is the starting point. Law Enforcement utilizes resources such as social media, print media, kiosks at boat landings, town meetings, etc. As a last resort, education through citation is used. Education is required for all users of watercraft including motorized and non-motorized vehicles.
 - Water Safety Patrols for towns and municipalities: The state has a Water Safety Patrol Grant Program with reimbursement of up to 75% from the WDNR for specific costs. An accredited law enforcement officer must be engaged to run this program.
 - Call the WDNR Hot Line first (1-800-TIP-WDNR) for complaints rather than calling the DNR Warden or Bayfield Recreation Officer directly. This way the call gets logged and initiates a report that will require follow-up. Gather as much information as possible – who, what, when, where, how....
 - When the Watercraft Ordinance is no longer in effect, reiterate the fact that **ALL** State laws are still enforced.
8. Next meeting is December 10th at 9:00 AM.
9. Motion made to adjourn meeting by Linda Mackley, Second by – Tony Bauer. Motion carried.