

PHEASANTS FOREVER

Fox River Valley Chapter - 585

Meeting Minutes

11/2/2005

I. Call to Order Board Chairman Steve Harnitz called the regular meeting of Pheasants Forever – Chapter 585 to order at **6:35 PM** on **Wednesday, November 11** at the Oshkosh Gun Club.

II. Roll The following Board members were present:

Jack Doemel Leo Kolaszewski AL Heidl Steve Harnitz Jim Ryf

Others Present Included:

Josh Jackl Ryan Seely Terry Zawacki Paul Fowler

III. Moment of Silence

The meeting opened with a respectful moment of silence in memory of Mike Solomon.

Paul and Jerry are planning a meeting on November 9 with the Oshkosh Community Foundation to discuss a foundation in memory of Mike. Right now there is about \$1300 to \$1,500 in donations. Jerry probably can't make the meeting so Paul would like at least one other board member to join him. Terry volunteered to attend with Paul.

M/S/C – Dedicate \$1000 to the Mike Solomon Foundation.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Manion emailed this month's report. It was decided we should renew our note for six months Jack noted that we could still get about \$5,000.00 from the Build a Wildlife Program.

M/S/C – Accept the Treasurer's Report as written.

VI. Committee Reports

a) *Habitat* – no report

b) *Land Acquisition* – Jack reported the committee hasn't done anything concrete of late though a couple of possibilities exist. One involves twenty acres of Jerry's land that could end up costing the chapter nothing. We still have \$15,000.00 to spend. Discussion of various possibilities and partnerships. We need to add interest payments to our budget. There was also a discussion of easements. We have eight months to spend the additional \$15,000.00. We could borrow the entire sum needed from National. The board decided to act by going ahead with spending the additional \$15,000 for land acquisition.

c) *Internship* – there was no news to report on this topic at the meeting. However in a subsequent message Jack reported that Skylar may complete his internship with us this winter. In that case we would still be liable to pay the second half of the internship which amounts to \$1,000.00.

d) *Habitat Crew* – Josh reported that things have slowed down due to the warm weather. He met with his boss, Matt O'Connor, and will be working with NRCS in several areas near us, but not Winnebago County, to get more CREP contracts. Josh has a goal to get fourteen CREP contracts per county. Josh (PF) will be getting paid by successfully getting CREP contracts. This is similar to what some other states have done. Josh will work in at least four counties.

e) *Membership* – Erin and has two new members

f) *Youth Programs* – no report

g) *LEP Programs* – Leo reported that Wisconsin was number one in the nation for LEP scholarships. Terry will take over Mike's position as chairman of the LEP programs

VII. Old Business

a) *Summer Gun Ticket Raffle* – Jerry was not here with a final numbers.

b) *New Sprayer Receipt* – Josh does not yet have the receipt

VIII. New Business

a) *Cost Share* – Josh reported that cost sharing may be much different this year as CRP signup was very successful. Because of this success, there has not been much interest in cost sharing. Josh would like to have the option to say he has it available if the landowner is not in a government program. It won't amount to a lot, and it is not necessary to allocate it. Josh is willing to come to the board with each individual request.

M/S/C – Fund Josh's costs year for 2006

b) *Scott's Resignation* – the board reviewed Scott's e-mail concerning his resignation and accepted it. Steve volunteered John to take over Scott's recordkeeping duties. Leo volunteered to help. We decided to address next year's burns at a later meeting - it will be added to the December agenda.

c) *Vacant Board Positions* – discussion of the need to find interested parties to fill the spots of Mike and Scott on our board. At this point there are several interested people including Brian Wilke, Ryan Sealy and Terry Zawacki. Jim will talk to Paul Landig to find out if he is interested in remaining on the board. We will assume there are three positions to fill. Our bylaws call for selection by executive committee meeting.

d) *BWWA Board Hunt* – Paul once again volunteered to host a PF board hunt at the Black Wolf Wildlife Association if we are interested. Paul suggests having three birds released per participant along with dinner, drinks, bird cleaning and trap shooting for \$60.00 to cover the costs. The day he has in mind is November 16 on Wednesday. Festivities would begin approximately 2:00 with trap shooting.

IX. Other Business

a) *Volunteer Coordinator* – Ryan Seely has volunteered to be our new Volunteer Coordinator. He will also take over setup of the banquet facility which was previously Mike’s responsibility

b) *Banquet* – Al would like to have the first banquet committee meeting in mid December. There were several recommendations to have a meeting before that (November).

c) *Raffle Ticket Sales* – Terry would like approval for his idea to sell raffle tickets at an event. The event is a fund raising tool for a Save Our Troops program. For each raffle ticket sold the chapter donates \$2.00 to the program **M/S/C** – The chapter will donate \$2 per ticket sold for the “Save Our Troops” program. This will be for the November 12 event at Vinland and Stil (sp).

d) *Keys to Oshkosh Gun Club*- we’re wondering if there is any way to get additional keys for the club. There have been several occasions when board members had to wait out at the locked gate for someone with the key to arrive. Al will ask if this is possible noting that we paid \$100.00 for club expenses.

X. Next Meeting

Wednesday December 7 6:30PM Oshkosh Gun Club

XI. Adjourn

M/S/C – Adjourn – 8:50 PM

