

PHEASANTS FOREVER

Fox River Valley Chapter - 585

Meeting Minutes

1 February 2006

1. **Call to Order** Board Chairman Steve Harnitz called the regular meeting of Pheasants Forever – Chapter 585 to order at **6:35 PM** on **2/1/06** at the Oshkosh Gun Club.

II. **Roll** *The following Board members were present:*

JACK DOEMEL	LEO KOLASZEWSKI	JERRY MATHUSEK	AL HEIDL
STEVE HARNITZ	RYAN SEELEY	TERRY ZAWACKI	MARK LEWIS

Others Present Included:

Paul Fowler Brian Trebiatowski

III. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

Secretary Leo Kolaszewski supplied copies of minutes of the previous meeting to any members who had not received them.

MISIC – Minutes were approved as read.

IV. **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer John Manion previously electronically sent copies of his report. Our current balance in checking is \$5,042.90.

MISIC – Accept the Treasurer's Report as written.

V. **Correspondence**

a) Red Cedar Women's Youth Hunt – this all woman chapter has requested a donation to help support their Youth Hunt, which is their largest event of the year. They have about 300 kids participate in this mentor hunt.

MISIC – Donate \$100 to the Red Cedar Women's Chapter to support their Youth Hunt.

b) Tom Davies has asked that we let him know if we are planning to sponsor a Habitat Intern for 2006. Our cost would be \$2000.

MISIF – Participate in the 2006 Habitat Biology Internship program with a \$2000 commitment.

Discussion – Jack will ask Tom if he feels this program has been a good bang for the buck in previous years. If he feels it has, we may be willing to revisit the issue.

VI. **Committee Reports**

a) **Habitat** – Paul went over the new tree/shrub package. He estimates we will net between \$1800 and \$2000. Discussion of whether we should start selling earlier (maybe fall). Send order form to other conservation clubs. Paul will check into putting an ad in the Fond du Lac Action and possible the Omro paper.

b) **Land Acquisition** – There still has been no payment from the Stewardship Fund to PF. We received two awards at the State Meeting – one for achieving \$100,000 in habitat expenditures and

one for reaching the \$150,000 mark. Mike Leach of the Kenosha Chapter requested we contact them about the possibility of that chapter donating additional funds for our land purchase.

c) *Banquet* – Al reported the Banquet Committee last met Monday 1/30. The next mailing should go out on or about 2/14. 32 people had sent in registrations to that point. The next meeting is planned for 2/13 at 6:00 PM. If board members have not received the shirt they should at the banquet, they are at Jerry's office.

There is some confusion about the pricing on the hand painted paddles. Leo will check the prices given when they were presented to the board previously and email those out.

Jerry would like to kick off the Mike Solomon fund at the banquet. It was agreed it should be called "Mike Solomon/Pheasants Forever Memorial Fund to Benefit Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Education". Information of the fund should be included in the 2/14 banquet mailing.

Rachael had a question about a dog auction at the banquet. The chapter had made a previous decision that we would only allow a dog auction if we began advertising well in advance of the banquet.

Note to add a line for registrants to provide their e-mail address on next year's banquet registration form.

d) *Fundraising* – Jerry asked if we should have as February Gun-of-the-Month raffle. This will be a \$5/ticket raffle and the winner will be drawn at the banquet.

Leo noted that the applications for our two raffle licenses have been submitted. We need to be sure to keep track of winners of any prize valued at over \$100. Another WI chapter was just audited and was unable to provide this information so are now in the doghouse. Leo will provide a spreadsheet for this.

e) *Membership* – No report

f) *LEP* – Terry passed out a letter from the State LEP coordinator. He would like to sponsor an Oct. 7 workshop being planned at Mosquito Hill Nature Center near New London. Leo suggested we sponsor a workshop but make an effort to hold it the Sheldon Nature Center in the Town of Algoma.

MISIC – Sponsor up to 10 participants at up to \$70 each for the October 7 workshop.

g) *Newsletter* – Rachael sent an email noting the newsletter was being proofed. There was discussion about the problems of not getting the newsletters out again. It was suggested to have Jerry's secretary take over the project. There could be a few problems with having someone not familiar with the chapter be in charge of the newsletter. The chapter pays \$125/issue for getting the newsletter set for publication and delivered to Rogers. Additional discussion of the benefits of having a board member does it. Leo agreed to take the project over on a trial basis for a few months. The board directed that this will take effect for the March newsletter.

VII. Old Business

a) *State Meeting* – Paul and Jack attended the meeting in Reedsburg and reported it was the best turnout ever. Discussed changes taking place that effect our organization, government contracts, 22% of PF Habitat Specialists are in Wisconsin, invasive species, habitat (Prof. Dave Sample), and Agrecol.

✦ Results of a video camera tests that monitored 31 pheasant nest showed 15 nests (or 50%) were lost to predators. Of the 15 lost, 9 were destroyed by foxes, 3 by snakes, 2 by gophers, 2 by voles, 1 by a skunk and 1 by a weasel.

VIII. New Business

- a) *Inventory* – Ryan announced that Saturday will be a work day at Jerry’s office. A cage will be constructed to keep our inventory secure and a physical inventory will be taken. If you can help, be at Jerry’s at 10 AM.
- b) *Magnets* – Jim requested that Leo order more of the vehicle PF magnets as they provide excellent publicity. We have had at least two stolen from vehicles so far. Leo will order 12.
- c) *Maps* – DNR has indicated that our hunting area maps were one of their hottest items and would be happy to distribute more should we decide to provide them. Paul will check on costs and numbers for our second printing.
- d) *Multi-Club Fundraising Social* - Jerry has been contacted by Jon Gafner about directing and participating in an event similar to our August Social, but with four other organizations. This would be a more elite event, still limited to 100 guests, but with an admission of perhaps \$100 and more upscale raffles, etc. Discussion involved whether this would help us or hurt us. Jerry will investigate further, but no commitment from the chapter at this point.

IX. Other Business

- a) *None*

X. Next Meeting

Wednesday March 1 6:30PM Oshkosh Gun Club

XI. Adjourn

M/S/C – Adjourn – **8:30 PM**

