

# PHEASANTS



# FOREVER

## Chapter - 585

Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2006

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Leo Kolaszewski called the regular meeting of Pheasants Forever – Chapter 585 to order at **6:45** at the Oshkosh Gun Club.

This first order of business was to present the Oshkosh Hunter Safety program with two Henry 22 caliber rifles to be used in future hunter safety courses. Head instructor, Bill Akan, was present to accept the guns on behalf of Oshkosh Hunter Safety.

Discussion with Bill indicated that the program badly needs instructors as well as locations to hold classes. The group brainstormed this problem.

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

JACK DOEMEL    LEO KOLASZEWSKI    JERRY MATHUSEK    RYAN SEELEY    TERRY ZAWACKI

*The following Board members were absent:*

STEVE HARNITZ    AL HEIDL    MARK LEWIS    RACHAEL BUSCHING  
JIM RYF    ERIN DOUGHERTY    JOHN MANION

*Others Present Included:*

Paul Fowler    Bill Akan    Josh Jackl

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**  
In the absence of a quorum, no action was taken.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT**  
Treasurer John Manion is on active duty in the Middle East and substitute Treasurer Steve Harnitz was recovering from surgery so there was no report.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**
  - a) The chapter received a letter of thanks from Paul Fowler in regards to the passing of Justine. A tree has been planted on behalf of the chapter in memory of Justine near Ames Point in Menominee Park. In all, 16 trees were planted – a great memorial to a wonderful person.
  - b) Jack received a letter from Jeff Gaska indicating that we still have not received our funds from the Wisconsin Stewardship program. The DNR noted that the holdup is because PF National has not completed the required steps to receive the funds. Ron Leathers, at PF National said that it is the responsibility of Jeff Gaska to get this done. He has not done so to date. This has dragged on for a year now when the normal process time is six months. This failure by PF National is costing the

chapter \$200/month in interest.

c) Jack received a letter of resignation from Erin Dougherty effective August, 2006. Erin served 2.5 years on the Board and will be sorely missed. She still plans to stay involved in chapter activities. Thanks to Erin for her valuable service to Pheasants Forever. This leaves two vacancies on the Board.

d) Other correspondence included:

- An application to apply for a \$100 grant from National for the Youth Hunt
- Information on Pheasant Fest to be held January in Des Moines.

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) **Habitat** – Paul reported on the tree & shrub sale. In April we had over 90 orders for our tree-shrub package, which is a 20 % gain over the prior year. Paul was surprised to see where some of the orders came from, like Michigan, Middleton, Green Bay and many from Fond du Lac. We had close to 80% of the people ordering the prior year come back again. Many of you had 90-100 % of their trees survive. Next year everyone who has ordered will be contacted by letter in early 2007. Also, we will be expanding our advertising over a wider area. The Blue Spruce have been especially popular and as most of you know they make great winter cover for birds with their special branch structure. Suggestions would be appreciated if any of you have comments on the varieties included in this year's package

b) **Land Acquisition** – Jack passed around the plaque we received for our donation of \$30,000 towards the purchased of 44 acres in the Town of Poygan in Winnebago Co. The total cost of the land was \$112,500 with the balance being paid by DNR. Our net cost of the \$30,000 PF donation was \$15,000 as that was matched by the NAUCAW grant program for the Rush Lake Area. Very little work will need to be done on this land as it contains prairie and wetlands. The parcel connects at one corner to the Deppe Wildlife Area.

Jack also reported that our property on Ginnow road has been sprayed and seeded. Two scraps will be dug next week by Jerry's company.

Also related to this subject, The Rush Lake Restoration Committee is trying to get the Winnebago County Board to pass a resolution opposing any further purchases of land by the DNR in the Rush Lake area. The resolution included statements that were false. Jack attended a meeting and Leo provided statistics opposing such a resolution. The resolution was sent back to the Winnebago Land Conservation Committee for further review. They will meet Thursday, August 03, and Jack will again be present as will Tim Lizotte. Hopefully this ridiculous resolution will be withdrawn at that time.

c) **Banquet** – The only item discussed was that we must choose a locale for our 2007 banquet. We are not currently on good terms with Park Plaza, who operates the Oshkosh Convention Center. The only other places large enough for our banquet are EAA and Sunnyview. Paul will meet with Park Plaza management to discuss our options. He will have a report by the September Meeting.

d) **Habitat Crew** – Josh reported he has been having his busiest summer. This spring, he burned 190 acres and indicated that next year he plans to eliminate the mileage charge and go with a basic rate of \$35/acre for burns and prep. He will get volunteer names and hours worked to AI for the Partnership Program. Besides burning, Josh has planted 335 acres, mostly in Fond du Lac and Outagamie Counties and is currently mowing, and plans to have 370 acres complete for 7

landowners.

- e) *Foodplots* – Seed finally was distributed and leftovers were sold to the Green Bay chapter.
- f) *LEP* – Terry reported he has 10 area teachers signed up who have each paid a \$20 deposit. As an incentive to complete the seminar, the \$20 will be returned to them if they attend. The program will cost the chapter \$70/attendee. Schools represented in the teachers signed up include Carl Trager Middle and Elementary and West High.
- g) *Newsletter* – Jerry and Leo reported that Rachel has decided to give up the newsletter. Thanks to Rachel for all her hard work. The newsletter committee consists of Jerry, Leo, Ryan and Krissy Seeley. Krissy will take over the primary operation of the newsletter. At this time, several changes may take place to the newsletter and an introductory issue will be mailed next week. Krissy will be paid \$125/issue which is the same as we have paid previously.

## 7. Old BUSINESS

- a) *Mike Solomon Fund* – Leo and Jerry reported that we have met our initial goal and have qualified for \$2,500 in matching funds from the Oshkosh Community Foundation. Our current official balance is \$10,179.72 which does not include some recent donations. Becky, our liaison with the foundation indicated that they are in the process of closing out their fiscal year so are a bit behind in accounting.

## 8. New BUSINESS

- a) *DU Great Outdoors Festival* – The chapter had previously indicated to Jeff Gaska that we considered this event a low priority since we have been struggling to get volunteers to staff it. Jeff indicated he wants to go ahead with it and will get habitat specialists to help out. We can also try to get help from other area chapters. The event is to be held Aug 25-27 at the EAA grounds. Jack has agreed to set up a schedule. Ryan, Terry and Josh will handle set-up. Leo, Terry, Paul, Josh, Ryan, and Jim have volunteered for staffing so far. Anyone interested, please call Jack.
- b) *\$15,000 Note* – We have a loan out which was needed to meet our financial obligations toward land purchase without draining our treasury. That note came due in April and had to be renewed. We will need to address how we will pay off note as currently we are not paying down the debt.
- c) *August Social* – Jerry reported that this year's event will again be held at Vitales and will be Monday, August 28. The Packers play Cleveland that night on Monday Night Football. We will again have a big screen set-up. The following is taken from Jerry's report for the newsletter: Planning is completed and we are ready to celebrate at our 5th annual fall social to be held at Vitale's Italian Restaurant on Monday August 28th beginning at 5:00 p.m. The slate of door prizes are once again outstanding. The Grand Prize is a PACKER GAME DAY PACKAGE including four (4) tickets to the Packer-Lion game, you and your friends will be transported to and from the game by limo, a full tailgate party with grill and an ice chest full of drinks, and, when you get home you will enjoy your professional grade stainless steel high quality Brinkman gas grill. Second Prize is a Sharp 32" LCD High Definition TV. Third Prize is a Browning BPS Grade III shotgun. Fourth Prize is a Savage M-93 .17 HMR w/3x9 scope. Fifth Prize is a 20 bird/4 man hunt, with lunch, at Rustling Meadows. All tickets include hors d'oeuvres, all you can eat Italian Cuisine, all you can drink ice cold keg beer, pop, coffee, milk, dessert, and of course, high odds at winning one of the above listed fabulous door prizes. If you would like information on obtaining tickets please call Jerry Mathusek at 235-5610x11.

Remember, this special event is limited to the first 100 tickets sold. Ticket prices remain the same as previous years at \$80.

As in previous years, in an effort to get as many directors to be present as possible and to reduce the chance of directors winning major prizes, directors have the option of paying \$35 and not be eligible to win any door prizes or can pay the full amount and be eligible to win.

## 9. OTHER BUSINESS

a) *Woods & Waters* – Terry has been in contact with Rhonda Bartels and the principal at West has agreed to allow interested parties from North High to attend meetings and hopefully get a similar program off the ground there.

b) *Youth Hunt* – Leo reminded the group that this event will be held later in the year due to the high heat that has plagued us in most past years. A definite date has not been picked but we are considering December or perhaps March. We will likely go back to a one day format at that time.

c) *Attendance* – There was discussion of why, after not having a meeting since May, we still only had 5 board members present. This will need to be addressed at future meetings and in our recruitment process of new directors/officers.

## 10. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday September 6 6:30PM Oshkosh Gun Club

## 11. Adjourn

Adjourn – **9:15 PM**

