

## FRIENDS OF HULLETT

### MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - HELD AT EXETER TOWN HALL 26 April 2016 7:30 PM

**Present:** Mike Cardinal, Dale Ann McKichan, Mat Shetler, Bill Dineen, Ryan Bayne (Vice), Danica Rush, Jim Bayne

**Guests:** Diane Schwier MNR, Scott Austin,

**Absent:** Duane Inkpen, Wade Beaudoin

**Meeting called to order by Ryan 7:36 PM**

**Review Minutes:** Motion to accept as circulated by Dale Ann, Seconded by Mike Cardinal.

**Treasurer's Report:** The financial sheets were adjusted to correct discrepancies. Now both book keeper and accountant sheets match. Our accountant reports that some things are lumped differently each year so it is difficult to compare but they do, in fact, balance. Anyone can go onto the Canada revenue site and see our financial reports if they desire to. Mat said we need a signature on the report so he can file it with the government. Ryan to sign.

#### **Marsh Report**

1. 8 month technician position - Sarah starts Monday, 2 May.
2. New Equipment - With the need for reliable equipment this coming season, Scott has quotations for new chainsaws and weed whacker including the associated safety gear and consumables. We need more machines in good order because we will have more people working this season and we need to be ready for this. Scott estimates that around \$1500 - \$1700 will be needed to get this equipment. New equipment for the chain saw was not bought locally, so the question was posed; why not? Price was the issue. Dale Ann asked that local people be asked for prices because we ask for donations from these people. Question was raised regarding whether these new part timers can use power tools. Budget agreed upon at \$1800 to buy this new equipment, with local suppliers preferred if possible. Motion by Mat, seconded by Jim Bayne. All in

favour.

Further discussion followed on local buying even if not the cheapest isn't always the best way to go. We also talked about the new Kabota and the accessories that are possible with it.

3. CJS Funding. It's anticipated that one for sure and maybe two positions will be funded. We will know in early May. We are currently posting these jobs.

4. Pheasant Program; The higher quality birds cost \$12. Most hunters prefer more birds rather than bigger birds for less money. For packages auctioned off, they will be the higher quality birds. We will keep things as they are - \$800 down payment to be made. Motion made by Mike, seconded by Dale Ann, to stay as we already are, at \$8 per bird. All in favour.

5. Big tree down across parking lot on Wildlife Line (80754)...A work day will be called to cut up that tree.

7. BOD Mtgs. - Scott will book Exeter Town Hall - 28 June, 26 July, 30 August, 20 September, 25 October, 29 November.

8. YPH Committee Donation towards Youth Waterfowl Clinic; We received another \$500. The hunt to be on the 17th October. Discussed the instruction for the young people as being such a good thing. Let them camp at the office - 10 kids. Hopefully, successful hunt and then they can do some identification, dressing and then eating some wild duck. Jim has asked for money to be donated so that will help if he gets it. If we get more than 10 youths, maybe we can accommodate them. The clinic will be promoted on facebook, etc. We will need enough mentors. Only 2 people are allowed at each stake so we must stay within those numbers. One gun only at the stake because of safety reasons. Discussion on some of the new stake signs and their numbering. Some stakes will be relocated for safety reasons as some shots could infringe on neighbouring property or buildings.

9. Handheld GPS - New Garmin Oregon 600 purchased for Sarah to use in her GIS mapping of the marsh.

10. New Large DUC Signs - glued and almost ready for mounting.

11. Two Constitution Changes

(1.) Under section 0 - Banking, Item 3. "All extraordinary expenditures in excess of \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) shall first be approved by the board."

It is recommended that it be voted on at the AGM to change the amount of \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) to \$500.00 (five hundred dollars).

(2.) All references to MNR to be changed to MNRF to reflect the updated Ministry of Natural Resources name to Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests.

12. Earth Day, 19th April was a grounds clean up day by over 100 students from the Hullett Public School. FOH volunteers were, Ryan Bayne, Bill Dineen, Ann Kap, Glen Carey, Daren Stevenson, and John Leppington. Dump expenses were \$10 and \$16.50 was recovered by cashing in bottles and beer cans. Ideal Supply supplied all the garbage bags and gloves at no cost. Discussion followed that these students who worked on this may not be future vandals when they grow older. The children were a very well mannered and highly enthusiastic group. Joining them in this clean up were many parents and teachers. Seaforth schools could be approached for this as well in another year.

13. Vanessa Palmer Award - Scott asked some schools but still no takers. Qualifier must be someone moving on to further education preferably in conservation..

User Guide Ads - discussion developed about the cost of ads in our user guide. Should we up the price? It was decided that we wouldn't up the price as we did that two years ago.

14. Privy pumping - North Privy seems to have been either flooded or there could be a problem. It's due to be pumped later this week or next.

15. New Wildlife Crossing signs - three have been placed on Hydro line.

16. 40 Acre Grassland - A consultant from Stantec spent about 6 hours GPS'ing the field north of the Goose Barn. Discussion developed on the incentive land owners have for doing this programme. We have the power to manage the recruitment of land owners for grassland planting. That is an income source that we could take advantage of.

So what do we need to next...(for a new client).... the cost to clear, cost to plant, cost to maintain...(presented to land owner). We have a contract now on some of our sections of land.

Discussion on the opportunities regarding grassland income.

Suggested that we keep some nice easy sections of land for us to use for the purpose of doing our own programme. How do we go about putting a price on one of these projects?

Do we have the means to create and maintain these kinds of lands?

What do we do for 2016? Maybe just sit back and see what DUC does. So, we mow again this year.... DUC is eyeing up the property by the Goose Barn...

Suggestion that we slow down on allowing fields to be committed to DUC grassland fields. Scott has lots of areas to mow this year for our own purposes. These grass lands have to be a converted grass land... Dogwood needs to be cut for three years in order to reduce the dogwood growth.

Do we cut the 40 acres this year - yes. - and we will wait and see what they come up with..

Discussion developed that there are quite a number of dog trial people and we have not received any money from them.

17. Charity Dinner / Auction - people are still trying to get tickets. Donations continue to come in. Overwhelming. 61 tickets sold. Who is coming to help? - Scott, Duane, Wade, Scott's daughter, Richard Lobb, and Jim Bayne. Mike Cardinal.

Gathering spot is the Scott's log cabin.

Art auction suggestion - three pieces of art.....auction for first choice, the rest sold at the same amount as the highest bid.

18. Newsletter should be good and sent out well before the AGM. Target after the charity dinner for publishing. Information for the newsletter - something on the guest speaker will be important.

19. AGM - For the BOD, breakfast at 8 and have a little meeting at Kate's. (pre-AGM). Should we have a Conservation Officer at the AGM - maybe the subject etiquette in the Marsh during hunting and regulations, early shooting, etc. could be the Officer's little talk. The officer should be in uniform if possible as that will have the most impact. Maybe supply stickers or cards with the call in

number on it could be distributed.

A short discussion was had on the election process.

20. Jim and Bill reported that the new Kabota appears to be a very good machine.

21. DUC Ops Meeting set at the Hullett office for Thursday, 28 April, at 10:30. Expected to attend are Bill, Scott, Duane, Mat, Diane (MNRF), Jim, Jeff Krete (DUC)

Scott reports that Jim Hill has already offered free corn this year. He received a tax receipt for this.

Scott reports that the trailer needs an eaves trough.... The trailer is being damaged by the rain and wind coming in the door. This is an urgent need. Discussion followed and we believe that both sides should be done.

Scott will look into pricing the trough.

**Diane MNRF** - Diane, spoke of the discussion we will have with DUC at the mtg.

- Old business from 2015 identified as work done and information on that.

- They have spent \$20,500 dollars on maintenance. We can get more information at the Operations mtg.

- Things accomplished in 2015...date was wrong.

*New business* - what are all the things we want done in this next year?

Diane prepared a chart showing all the things we will talk about at the Operations meeting so it was decided that we ignore these items until then.

## **New Business**

**Summer jobs** - hiring committee Sarah, Scott, and Diane offered to help. High schools are targeted.

All students will have the training they will need in Guelph. Must be done 1st week of July. Maybe the other students we hire could be in on the training?

Roof on Main Viewing Stand - Again this roof repair on the main viewing stand was discussed. The question was asked about volunteers doing this work at

"height" and that it should be by a contractor for safety reasons. We have the steel for this repair at the main office area (assuming that it is enough). It was suggested to ask Jansen Masonry about taking on this small job. Bill offered to approach Mr. Jansen about looking at this job.

Mtg adjourned. 10:14

In Camera session followed.

BOD Terms:

For election 2016

- Replacement for Dan Kilby - 3 year
- Mat Shetler - 3 year
- Duane Inkpen - 3 year
- Mike Cardinal - 3 year

For election 2017

- Jim Bayne - 3 year
- Ryan Bayne - 3 year
- Wade Beaudoin - 2 year

For election 2018

- - 3 year
- Bill Dineen - 3 year
- Dale Ann McKichan - 3 year