

FRIENDS OF HULLETT

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - HELD THROUGH COMPUTERS (ZOOM)

28 April 2020 7:30 PM

Corrected

Present through ZOOM: Mike Cardinal, Bill Dineen, Ryan Bayne, Duane Inkpen, Wade Beaudoin, Jim Bayne, Mat Shetler, Chris Ambrose, Steven Zingaro

Absent:

Guests: Scott Austin, Lorraine Moir

Meeting called to order: 7:30

Review March Minutes: adopted as circulated.

Zoom Discussions:

Ryan, regarding the financials, asked if any questions on taxes? No questions asked.

There are a couple of things going on in our reduced income. It is because of our lack of fund raising mostly, and as well as Ag Contracts. We have a smaller deficit as we usually have. We are in good shape financially. Without the additional income normally generated by fund raising, our pandemic situation cancellations will leave us with a larger deficit.

Losses due to our fund raiser calculations is about \$20,000.

Duane doesn't think we should apply for government COVID funds as other businesses are struggling more than us. Discussion on whether we should do this, and how we could do this.

Almost everyone can get at least a 10% income subsidy, and it is not thought that we will qualify for this. We would only be entitled to the 10% wage subsidy. At the end of the taxation year, we don't pay taxes but we do file our monies raised. There may be penalties. We believe we will get the 10% wage subsidy. Since we're a not for profit entity, we come under different rules. Motion by Christopher to apply for the 10% wage subsidy but not other programs. Secunder, Steven. Passed.

Wade - With us running a deficit, our wants verses our needs need to be the way we look at this year. We need to do our best to tighten our belts this year because our income will be down.

Scott feels we are in good enough shape with our equipment, but, would like to get the shop overhead door looked at and repaired or replaced.

Ryan looked up funding expenses, and showed us this years budget. There's nothing too extreme in what we're doing this year. The main loss was the fund raising dinner. There may be a little less membership this year, as well.

Wade comments that we may have less donations this year and we should be watching our expenses. We should only buy what we need. We may not know for several months just how much money we generate from members. We may not get the amount of people who normally contribute to our user guide. We just need to manage our expenses. Yes, we need to get quotes on that door. Then, we'll see if we can get that done. It's something we use every day. Some people left their money for the cancelled dinner.

Marsh Report:

- Pheasant release – pretty confident there will be a pheasant season. What is the time

line? The supplier needs a commitment. She can assure us a supply of birds. Lorraine says hunting and fishing will be okay, but with social distancing. So, we should be able to open the marsh for pheasant hunting. Is there a deadline? There are 920 birds at \$9.50 a bird. We shall open the marsh when we listen to hear what other places are doing. Some spots should be barricaded where people can congregate. We will send out to the media what our rules will be on this situation. It is believed that we should get the pheasants regardless of what

happens. We also should support the business that supplies these birds. The birds will be purchased.

- Youth waterfowl clinic. Should we cancel that this year...? We don't know the dates as they don't announce the season till mid summer. We may not have many families that will take part in this after what's going on now. We shall wait for a decision till we are closer to that date. Scott will put this down in our spring newsletter that no date is yet set.

- Question by Wade about a van load of people coming from another city into this area. The only thing we can do is to keep the information going out about the rules in place. It is not anything we will enforce, we can only advise. The duck season opening day parking lot, is going to be a lot different than our prior ones.

We can see our place opening in the next thirty to sixty days. Maybe we can do something to allow this to happen. We have not an established dates yet.

- AGM – no other candidates applied as of yet. What if we get four applicants? So we should email all our members by email for their vote for three people. It should be out there for at least a week. Ryan, Jimmy, and Wade.

- There may be a presentation on the turtle nesting box program.

- Turtle nesting protection boxes - Cassy could just go out alone and do the turtle nesting program during June.

- Vanessa Palmer Award. Why don't we give it to both. Motion by Duane – to give to both. Chris seconded. All in favour. At some point when we do the memorial plaque, they can attend. Scott will announce it in the newsletter.

- Dinner ticket refund....should we call the contributors and tell them it is not going to happen and give them the choice as to whether to get their donation back or leave it for next year. Some people have said to keep their donations. They should get recognized in our newsletter and then send a copy to all our contributors.

- Memorial Plaque – Scott asks permission from the Board to add Bob Pegg, Tom Lobb and Kalvin Van Massenhoven if they should be honoured on the plaque. No objections from the Board. A piece will be in the newsletter on Tom and also Bob.

- No more questions for the marsh report.

- We applied for at species at risk application.

- Membership drive is something we need to pursue.

- When we open up, there's way to have remote volunteers. Bluebird boxes are largely done. There are lots of things single volunteers can do in the marsh. Sounds good.

- How do we move forward in what we can do with this virus problem? Things are being done in a safe way right now. Things will be handled on an individual basis. "Lorraine, what are your your feelings? Lorraine believes there's no doubt this is a good thing.

- Some discussion on how Scot and Alex are working in the marsh.

MNRF – Lorraine. She's working from home. It is not business as usual. One question on her meeting with DUC. She got things sent to her in terms of operations. Things are being kept up to date and the information is being filed. Do we need to communicate through emails and if that's not good enough, do it through zoom meetings. We need to ensure the water levels are where they should be. Some levels have to be maintained for plant growth. Stick to the five year plan regarding water levels. Scott's set up to send pictures to Jeff. Last year, Burns Line was under water. Some discussion on the past year's work plans. Can we be pro-active to take pictures and water levels to send to DUC. Lorraine to reach out to Jeff. Scott should CC communications with Lorraine .

Lorraine doesn't know when they're going back to work. Decisions aren't being made at the upper levels, so they're on a day to day basis. In the Marsh Report – did the tree trimming go well. Scott went out with them for part of it. It went well.

Forestry – we're moving along. Things are not stopped. They did an environmental testing on it. There should be no problems. Hullett has sent all the stuff they need so that's moving on well. Still working on it.

If any questions about the operations, send to Duane and he'll forward it to Lorraine and Jeff.

-Website and newsletter. Scott's got that going out. Websites being up dated. No comments.

-Pheasant Challenge. We can start with ticket sales early.

- New business. The Live Pheasant Hunt is lost – maybe we could sell some tickets on special pheasant hunts. But what about the logistics. Could be a lottery for a special pheasant hunt be done? The worry is that someone else may hunt their birds. Scott would have to look after that. It's a lot of work for that little money. To be left with Scott.

No further business brought forward. Adjourned 9:18