

FRIENDS OF HULLETT
MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – ZOOM MEETING
(Corrected)
27 October 2020 7:30 PM

Present: Bill Dineen, Ryan Bayne, , Jim Bayne, Mat Shetler, Chris Ambrose

Absent: Duane Inkpen, Wade Beaudoin, Mike Cardinal, Steven Zingaro

Guests: Scott Austin

Meeting called to order: 7:32 PM

Review September Minutes:

Adopted as circulated.

Treasurer`s report.

Balance sheet, a mistake found on the document but will be corrected.

We are being conservative on our spending. Agricultural contracts are keeping us in good shape. Our savings are increasing with our cautious spending.

Some of our GICs were cashed and we moved that to cover our operating costs. Scott had moved some money from savings to chequing to keep on top of our finances.

Scott – from our financials we have spent \$4000 of our own money for equipment – we will recoup this as this was for outstanding insurance money that will be reimbursed to us later.

Discussion on some of the insurance monies coming in. There will be lots of hidden damage that may turn up down the road and is not apparent yet. We still have \$2500 coming from Canada Summer Jobs. We have no major expenses coming up.

Ryan shared a financial screen for our monthly account activity. He discussed our budget, payroll, expenses and liabilities. Wages have been updated with future assumptions and estimates. Not sure, for income purposes what we will do next year regarding public fund raising due to the pandemic. We are doing pretty good considering the situation we find ourselves in. Membership is higher than we had thought it would be. We were projecting a loss but this did not happen. Our budgets are usually very conservative, so we are in good shape. 2021 budget will be based on what we`ve done in recent years. Some discussion on what we`ve spent our money on. Equipment: we are in good shape. Maybe \$3000 could be budgeted for parking lot barriers for next year if we can. Some of the parking lot roads need attention too. Our Conservation Officers would like to see auxiliary parking for hikers, photographers ,etc, which at this time, makes our parking lots crowded. There was a calculation done for

our parking spots in the past for the whole property. Some discussion on where our auxiliary parking spots are. Originally parking spots were based on hunter numbers. So if there are big projects for next year, we need to put auxiliary parking spots in our budget. \$4000 would do three parking lots. Maybe we could use large concrete blocks instead of wood. Some discussion with alternate ideas discussed. Should health and safety have it's own budget spot in our financial planning? We'll have a more finalized budget for the next meeting.

Some discussion on doing projects and how we decide what to do and where to spend the money. Suggested a drone to do some film work to look at what we may be able to do in some of our areas. Ryan to look at a source to find someone to form a plan to address some projects. We need a plan....then get some funding for this. White tail is the best target for projects. We should be able to make our own plan on how to do our projects. We should get photographic shots of all our water control systems.. Ryan can look after a lot of the survey shots to take.

Marsh report

Opening Day in the Marsh Report and how we handled opening day this year, assuming we still have this pandemic issue next year. Scott talked about how we could have handled our opening day plan in a better way. There were a couple cases of people jumping in ahead of time. They were told to move and they did cooperate well enough. We did not really have a lot of problems considering the situation. Lorraine will look into some of the parking on Burns line as well.

Pheasant Challenge success has gone up quite a bit.

Scott recommended that we put Don Dodds name on our Memorial Plaque. There have been lots of our dedicated people lost in the last few years.

We are almost through most of our corn. Some discussion on help to distribute the baiting corn.

Scott talked a bit more about the Pheasant Programme. A lot of the hunters believe they should be helping out in paying for the pheasant programme. The money goes right back into the programme and a lot of people feel good about this. There's a lot to be said about the power of social media; we picked up several new memberships with our two minutes work on social media. People are liking what we are doing and that's good for us.

We have a lot of support for the pheasant programme. With this, we should keep our bird numbers high. Maybe we could even buy more birds from our own budget? Scott to send out a report to the membership on the success of the Pheasant Programme. Bluebird boxes – are we collecting data or just cleaning boxes? We don't have reliable data, only the maintenance of boxes by our volunteers.

Trappers – update – the trappers will fill the void by trapping more diligently. We won't look for another trapper if they fulfill the need to trap more. Scott may scout out other interested parties just to know what's out there.

Some discussion on continuing to spread more corn for baiting.

Report from MNR and DUC – updates. We have a bit of money left. Have some money left over on the dike maintenance.

MNR; Lorraine is reviewing our timber harvest. The file on the building (barn) is still up in the air.

There was a team of Indigenous people looking for artifacts on Marsh property recently. They were doing a survey.

New Business.

Jim – do we have a list of people who we could hire if we lose Alex? Scott reports that we have lots of people that have applied to work for us, so are in good shape now.

No further business being brought forward;

Meeting adjourned 8:40