

FRIENDS OF HULLETT

MINUTES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Friends OF Hullett – Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

June 24th, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

Present:, Mat Shetler, Steve Dalrymple, Ryan Bayne, Duane Inkpen (virtual), Mario Coniglio, Donna Taylor (newly elected), Craig McDonald (newly elected),

Regrets: Barb Orchard, Mark Penhale

Guests: Justin Johnson, Ben Elliott, Emily Dearing

Meeting called to order: 7:28 pm

- Minutes from the May 25th meeting approved.

Election of Directors

- Treasure – Ryan appointed unopposed
- Chair – Duane appointed unopposed
- Vs chair – Mat appointed unopposed
- Secretary – Mario appointed unopposed

Action Item review

- Proposed Mallard Stake relocation of 3, 4, and 5. Proposed locations by Justin and Ryan **agreed to by BOD.**
 - Justin and Ben have reviewed the proposed changes with local COs, and they agree the changes are beneficial
- Ag Field review following comments from AGM regarding field boundary edge around wet area in crop field along Hydro Line Road.

Treasurer's Report:

- With Chris stepping down, in between Treasurers select, Justin to send update from bookkeeper when he receives it.
- Ryan will follow up with Chris for notes/procedures and any other comments

Marsh Report:

- Over 40 Turtle nest protectors have been deployed, resulting in great public outreach.
 - Grant partnership has been very successful
 - Turtle Release coordination, August 8th
- Grassland Restoration
 - FoH met with Ontario Nativescapes on June 10th at Hullett and toured several grasslands.

- Thinning woodlot areas discussed around Front Road to improve Woodcock habitat.
- Field 61 Buffer
 - Small buffer would not impact allotted acreage. Shrubby species (i.e., Salix sp., Cornus sp.) could be transplanted into buffer post-harvest.
- “Sighting-in Area” Cleanup
 - MNR and Huron F&G on hand to assist with clean-up.
 - A bin of garbage removed from Hullett, cleaned out Office Barn, Goose Barn, and Front Road Parking lot area.
- Trappers, Doug Vincent and Matt Duncan to stay on, Herb Oakes’ agreement has been terminated.
 - **ACTION** – How should we advertise for/select a new trapper? There is local interest.
 - Determine a process for applicants and go to Huron Perth Trappers with advertisement, review existing plans and areas with remaining trappers
 - Set a criteria for selection, review applications from trappers and select a successful applicant.
- Membership Survey – survey distributed to 700 plus members, 38 responses recieved
 - Addition One: Shed Hunting not permitted between January 1st and March 31st
 - 57% – Agree; 23% - Neutral; 31% - Disagree
 - Vote to addition one - passes
 - Addition Two: A Zone Target Shooting, no target shooting in A Zone
 - 79% – Agree; 21% - Disagree
 - Vote to addition two - passes
- Mallard Pool Hunting Stakes
 - New stake locations shared with Conservation Officers, board agrees to change of stake 3, 4, and 5 in Mallard Pool.
- Titley Acoustic Recorder
 - Ultrasonic analysis completed; report attached with Marsh Report.
 - Hoskin’s Scientific is using the project to promote Titley’s products in Canada.
- MarshReach
 - Photo monitoring project expected to be operational in a month
- Property Maintenance
 - Red Trail - ACTION – Should the south loop of the Red Trail be closed and decommissioned?
 - **Motion to close loop forwarded by Steve, seconded by Craig, motion passed**
 - Parking lot maintenance completed, Huron County has completed grading of interior roads, maintenance grading by Ben
 - 5 loads of fill, to be used for dyke repair, repair at Sat 14 dyke and Gurgler

MNR, Ducks Unlimited:

- DUC’s Engineer Elise McLeod has completed her assessment of water structures.
 - HPWA infrastructure is in bad shape (concrete dam in particular).
 - DUC to be on property next week – repair Woodie Pool dyke and investigate Sat Pond Nine.
- MNR
 - Mat reached out to MNR to confirm requirements of the management of Pheasant releases on property

- MNR has provided comment, but ultimately the decision for the management the pheasants release program will be with the BoD

KPI review

- Convert the Tall Grass Prairie fields to a hay crop [COMPLETE APR 4th]
- Following BoD approval, the final agricultural access point along Burns Line is repaired. [IN PROGRESS]
 - **Motion** to approve spending \$7,020, plus taxes, Motion by Steve, Seconded by Mario, Passes
- All agricultural access points are mapped and their condition (Poor/Fair/Good/Very Good) assessed. Results and recommendations for next steps will be shared with the BoD. [COMPLETE MAY 22]
- Prune and cut limbs and brush from the perimeter of at least 4 agricultural fields [NOT STARTED]
- Bluebill and Butterball canoe channels are monitored monthly from May – October and debris removed as discovered. [IN PROGRESS]
- A proposal to improve the meadow area next to the 1-20 parking lot is presented to the BoD and the BoD votes on a course of action. [COMPLETE JUN 4]
 - Review of potential options
 - **Action** – Staff to prepare a preferred plan of approach and present to board in August meeting
- Knowledge transfer from Scott to Justin and Ben [IN PROGRESS]
- Create a survey to gauge public interest in interpretive programming at HPWA and present the results to the BoD with recommendations. [COMPLTE APR 29]

User Guide Review

- Draft user guide submitted to board
- Review of comment to draft
 - **Action** - BoD to submit any comments/edits/revisions by July 7th

New Business:

- Update to Personnel Policies and Constitution (VP Award criteria, hiring policy, AGM and comments from the floor, elections, having more than 9 directors etc.
 - Action – Mat will draft changes, Donna to contribute to edits.
- Roundtable.
 - Justin – how to boost pheasant challenge participation
 - Justin – Hullett Calendar for fundraiser, or a pictures from the Marsh as puzzles.
 - Ryan – habitat recover, Justin will follow NativeScapes for funding, following those results, a plan with Justin, Steve, and Ryan covering areas will be revied.

In Camera

- none

Meeting adjourned @ 9:40 pm