

Council Bluffs Fish and Game Club
Annual Meeting and Election of Officers: October 19, 2023

Meeting called to order by President Jon Barnes at 7:00 PM, who introduced himself to the attendees.

Board Member Absent: Roger Amburn and Mary Kay Peters.

Board Members Attended: Jon Barnes, Jay Wilson, Sam Barta, Paula Woodard, Nich McVay, Jim McVay, Larry Cooper, Bill Campbell, and Ryan Campbell were present at this meeting. The nine board members, plus 29 Club members were present for a total of 31.

Nich McVay led as we recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

Jon Barnes dedicated a moment of silence for those club members who have passed away in the last year.

Jon asked all present members to review the minutes from the 2022-2023 Annual Meeting. Larry Cooper made motion with Nich McVay second to accept the minutes as presented. All present approved.

Presidents Report: Jon Barnes provided “The “Presidents Report” which is also the Club Scorecard. He provided the information on the “Club Scorecard” to help let our members know how their member payments were utilized, and described the six different areas on the report which explains how the club engages with members and our community. Jon noted the items noted under each section of the report which are titled “Membership”, “Education/Conservation”, “Member Engagement”, “Community Engagement”, “Site/Capital Improvements” and “Online Presence”. The details of his report is attached to the back of this report.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Report: Sam Barta presented the financial statements as of September 30, 2023, making note of the following items:

YTD Income and YTD Expenses as well as the total Cash and Investments amount for last year. The details for these figures are available in the club. Sam noted the board was smart with spending, and were able to retain the balance. The investment has grown, and there is opportunity with the Edward Jones account to increase. Sam noted that the annual online renewal percentage this year was 37.42. He provided a second financial page which showed the details breaking down the past three years for the income and expense figures. This report explains the board’s request for the increase of dues effective January 1, 2024. A copy of both reports are attached to these minutes.

Larry Cooper made motion to approve the Treasurers report, and Nich McVay second. All present approved.

Secretary Report: Paula Woodard presented the Secretary Report. She noted the membership is currently 682, with 70 new members joining since November 2022. Also, we are pleased that many members are renewing using the online website application. Paula thanked Roger Amburn for handling the rentals of upstairs, and Mary Kay Peters for sending out the quarterly news letters, the email blasts and putting information and events out on Facebook. She also thanked Ed Washa for updating the website as necessary. She thanked all of the members who volunteered and helped out with the annual kid's events. These fun events could not have been held with out everyone's assistance. Quite a few members rented the upstairs, which also helps bring in money for the club. As in the past, the club donated one year memberships to some of the local charity events, such as he Midlands Humane Society, The Pheasants Forever and the Lewis Central Booster Club. She is pleased to note that most of the winners of the memberships renew afterwards. Paula thanked the members who support Courtney Merk in the kitchen. Last, Paula stated that she will be stepping down from the secretary position but does intend to help out the new secretary. She noted that she has total respect for the prior secretary with all that they did.

Warden of Building - Presented by Nich McVay: An addition was added to the stairway railing, and it has been stained. There have been paint touch ups to the outside of the building, the grease trap was replaced and the faucets were replaced in the kitchen, one of the air conditioners & furnaces were replaced, repair was done to the ceiling fans, the furniture was replaced in the downstairs patio, and the old furniture was placed in the upstairs patio, the flooring was also replaced in the upstairs patio. All of the water pipes in the basement were replaced.

Warden of the Grounds - Presented by Larry Cooper: The outside lighting was updated by the power company and a member donation of time on the side of the property with the docks. The dead cottonwood tree was cut down for only \$2,000 thanks to one of our members. Tim Lustgraaf donated the parking lot snow removal last winter and pea gravel this past spring. Larry noted that the club cannot run without members who volunteer their time.

Warden of the Boats and Docks - Presented by Bill Campbell: The winter ice removed a section of the dock this past spring. He has not yet been able to repair it, but there are plans in the works. The bubblers have been turned on for winter recently. Bill and the volunteers did some general maintenance to the docks and boats. The boats still need a little repair, and we still need a lift for the new paddle boats as they are larger than the originals.

Presentation of Honorific Lifetime Members: Jon Barnes was pleased to award a Honorific Lifetime Award to Bob Olsen. Jon noted it is well deserved for all the things Bob has done through the years. Bob thanked the club for the recognition.

2023 Member of the Year: Jon Barnes awarded Paula Woodard the Member of the Year award for the work and time she provided as secretary the past few years. Paula is very grateful for the recognition.

Scout Troop Acknowledgement: Jon Barnes acknowledged the clubs appreciation to the Scouts for all they have done. Nich McVay explained that his son is in the Scout Troop. Besides the projects they have provided so far, some Eagles will be presenting some more proposals this coming year. The scouts have created 7 or 8 fish habitats so far, cleaned the outside grounds area when they were camping out and helped with the cookout this past July 4th. The club appreciates all they have done.

Visitors Comments:

JoAnn Tews – JoAnn commented that a few months ago she had complained about the lack of help during club events by some of the board members. She is pleased that they responded and now more of the board is helping with the set up and tear down for the events.

Bruce Pike – Bruce asked if the club had any information regarding the water level of the lake. Jay Wilson noted that the Friends of Lake Manawa held a meeting this past week, and the highest state officials were present. The issue is being addressed by them, but they were told there will not be immediate action because of the monies wer were allotted for the recent dredging. Jay also noted that Mosquito Creek has been wide open and will continue to be so.

Marge Shoemaker – Marge noted that the Friends of Lake Manawa are also concerned with the issue, and it was the head of the DNR, the SW Director, Director of Lakes, Conservation Officers and three politicians who attended the recent meeting. She said they did receive some practical answers. The FOLM is working with all of them. Most of the water is in the watershed and no water is coming in at this time. She noted that they are aware Lake Manawa gets 1 to 3 million visitors a year.

Roland Lynch – Roland asked about water being pumped from the river. It was explained that it had been tried in the past, but then stopped and the pipes were taken out. Bill Campbell stated that this is the lowest the lakes water level has been since 1960. We are 2 feet down at this time, and would probably be 4 feet down if not for the water being pumped from Mosquito Creek.

Paula Danker – Paula asked if it would be possible for family members to earn an extra vote by paying an additional \$30 per year so both husband and wife would be able to place

a vote. Jon explained that it would be too complicated for the club to keep track of and enforce.

Jon Barnes – Jon noted that this would be his last meeting as President. He is stepping down from the board at this time. He appreciates all of the help and support everyone gave him during his tenure.

Vote on Increase of Dues: Sam Barta explained why the club needs to increase the dues and upgrade the club premises. As noted above in the Treasurer Report, he provided an extra report that breaks down the income and expense amounts for the past three years in detail to explain the rationale. Voting Ballots were provided to attending members, and JoAnn Tews and Kathy Baker were asked to tally the voting ballots. The results were 23 Yes votes and 4 No votes. The dues increase were approved by the attending members for \$170.00 renewal and \$200.00 new applications beginning with January 1, 2024.

Election of Officers for 2023 - 2024:

Voting ballots were provided to attending members. Jon Barnes, Paula Woodard and Roger Amburn were not included on the board for this coming year. Twelve club members signed up on the sign up sheet. Jon Barnes had each existing board member introduce themselves and then had the new nominees introduce themselves. Chris Nadler was unable to attend, but Larry Cooper spoke for him, and Mary Kay Peters also was unable to attend, and Paula Woodard spoke for her. Jon then asked if there were any other nominees that need to be included in the vote, and none were forthcoming.

Paula Woodard asked Kathy Baker & JoAnn Tews to tally the voting ballots. Once the totals were obtained, Jon thanked the ladies for their assistance, and announced the new board members for the 2023-2024 year.

The Board Members elected then went to the next room and chose which office the elected Board Members will hold. The new board was then presented. The following are the 2023-2024 Board Members and the position they now hold:

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| President - | *Jay Wilson |
| Vice President - | *Nich McVay |
| Treasurer - | *Sam Barta |
| Secretary - | *Mary Kay Peters |
| Director - | Jim McVay (for 1 year) |
| Director - | Ryan Campbell (for 2 years) |
| Alternate Director – | Chris Nadler |
| Alternate Director – | Marcy Lucas |
| Warden of the Building – | Paul Coffman – Nich McVay assisting |

Warden of the Grounds - Larry Cooper – Ryan Campbell assisting

Warden of the Boats & Dock – Bill Campbell

* Executive Committee

Call for additional discussion: There were no further topics presented for discussion. With no further business, Marge Shoemaker made motion with Bill Campbell second to adjourn this annual meeting. All present approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Paula Woodard
Secretary 2022-2023

The Board would like to thank all of the members for their continued support of the Club and for their participation in Club activities. We especially appreciate the members that attended this meeting and provided such good input.