

Council Bluffs Fish and Game Club
Annual Meeting and Election of Officers: October 17, 2024

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

Board Member Absent: Larry Cooper, Mary Kay Peters, and Jim McVay.

Board Members Attended: Jay Wilson, Ryan Campbell, Sam Barta, Bill Campbell, Paul Coffman, Marcy Lucas and Chris Nadler were present at this meeting. The seven board members, plus 18 Club members were present for a total of 25.

Bill Campbell led as we recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

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

Jay asked all present members to review the minutes from the 2023-2024 Annual Meeting. No changes were suggested, and Bill Campbell made motion with Paul Coffman second to accept the minutes as presented. All present approved.

Presidents Report: Jay Wilson 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.

Jay 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.

“Membership” – Jay noted that we currently have 582 members.

“Education/Conservation” – Jay noted that previously Nich McVay, who was a scout master for the local scout group did a lot for the club, and we rewarded them access to the club for their various events. The scouts have done many things for the club such as creating the kids playroom and doing fish projects.

“Member Engagement” – The Annual Kid’s Halloween Trunk or Treat, the November Soup Supper, as well as the Annual Christmas Party is coming soon. The club held the Easter Egg Hunt, the McElderry Kid’s Annual Fishing Tournament, two adult fishing tournaments and the July Boat Parade this year. After the upgrade of the upstairs, we also saw an increase of rentals of the banquet room.

“Community Engagement” – the club allows several community clubs to hold their meetings at the facility such as The Department of Natural Resources, the CB Pistol and Rifle Club, the Pott County Conservation and Soil Agency, etc. We also donate one year memberships for the auctions being held for other charity events, which as Jenny Ed Spirit of Courage, Iowa Western Comm College Black Tie and some individual fundraisers for members medical issues.

“Site/Capital Improvements” – the large one this past year was the upstairs renovation, which included replacing the sub flooring. Bill Campbell organized the work and volunteer labor consisting of family, friends and members for this project. The HVAC furnace and air conditioner were also replaced, which resulted in a reduction of our monthly utilities bills. The plumbing pipes in the basement were also replaced.

“Online Presence” – We updated club information on Facebook and our website. Approximately 36% of the members renewals were sent over the club website.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Report: Sam Barta presented the financial statements as of September 30, 2024, making note of the following items:

Treasurer Report: Sam Barta presented the financial statements as of September 30, 2024 making note of the following items:

YTD Income was \$92,0122.19 and YTD Expenses were \$103,917.66. The total Cash and Investments amount was \$139,025.9 versus \$141,343.79 last year. Spending was managed accordingly and in line with timing of receipts. Budgeted for the upstairs remodel which came in around \$15K total. There were no unexpected increases to Operating Expenses year over year. \$64,485 in 2023 vs \$65,639 in 2024. The club remains in a strong financial position at this time.

There was also mention of decreased paid renewals year over year. With the increase in fees that were voted on last year, we anticipated an elasticity of around 10%. We are currently seeing around 14% decrease, noting that there are still a few pending past dues. That being said, we able to maintain the same amount of income vs this same time last year. The membership numbers are something that will need to be monitored with the new board and going into the new fiscal year. Sam indicated that the club would need to maintain around 500 paid members in order to be comfortable running the club as we have been, without any actions needed in order to reserve cash. Membership drives might be needed in 2025.

Tom Tews made motion to approve the Treasurers report, and Marcy Lucas second. All present approved.

Secretary Report: Paula Woodard presented the Secretary Report for Mary Kay Peters.

Paula noted the membership is currently 582, with 45 new members joining since November 2023 through October 2024. Also, we are pleased that most members are

renewing using the online website application, and this helps save time from making manual deposits and trips to the bank. Plus members are able to pay on a timely basis.

Paula thanked Mary Kay for letting her handle the rentals of upstairs and assist with the social events as it keeps her busy. She noted that Mary Kay continued sending out the quarterly news letters and the email blasts herself, as well as putting information and events out on Facebook. Mary thanks Ed Washa for updating the website as necessary.

The club thanks all of the members who volunteered and helped out with the annual club events. Especially the ladies who help plan and provide a lot of the food for these events. The club also thanks Kari and Steve Feeken for hosting the annual kid's Christmas Party. For several years Kari has decorated and organized the kids entertainment while Steve has played Sana Claus. None of the club events could have been held without everyone's assistance.

Quite a few members rented the upstairs, which also helps bring in money for the club.

Mary noted, that as in the past, the club donated one year memberships to some of the local charity events, such as the Midlands Humane Society, Iowa Western Comm College, Spirit of Courage by Jennie Edmundson, The Pheasants Forever and the Lewis Central Booster Club. She is pleased to note that most of the winners of the memberships renew afterwards.

Mary wanted Paula to thank the members who support Courtney Merk in the kitchen. We hope that more members will come and use the kitchen for breakfast and lunch in the coming year. It's a great way to enjoy a good meal and socialize with other club members.

Last, Paula confirmed that Mary Kay Peters is sorry to note that she will be stepping down from the secretary position because of work and church duties.

Warden of Building - Presented by Paul Coffman: The Upstairs banquet room went through renovation. New floor and white walls were installed, and they freshened the paint around the windows. The lighting and ceiling tiles were also changed and upgraded. As Jay had already noted above, the plumbing downstairs was also changed out. A new water fountain has arrived and will be installed. Some repairs in the ladies room are being done.

Warden of the Grounds - Presented by Jay Wilson for Larry Cooper: Tim Lustgraaf did our snow removal during the winter and provided pea gravel in the spring. The large dead tree at the end of the west portion of the parking lot was cut down. The leased area on the east side was maintained and mowed.

Warden of the Boats and Docks - Presented by Bill Campbell: The new floating dock was installed to replace what the winter ice removed this past spring, and damaged boards on the old dock were replaced.

2023 Member of the Year: Jay Wilson awarded Paul Larsen the Member of the Year award for volunteer work he did on the building. The club could not afford many of the repairs and upgrades without the help of people like Paul.

Visitors Comments:

Bill Campbell: Bill noted that a member wishes to help the club raise money for the facilities repairs. The member is willing to match money raised up to \$100,000. It was thought we would use the funds for the downstairs remodeling. We will plan fund raising events such as raffles. It was noted that by volunteers helping with the labor portion we usually save as much as 75%.

Bruce Pike: Bruce asked if there are any events we can hold to encourage new membership. Jay explained that we have discussed hosting an open house in the spring, and during that time we may resume offering existing members a percentage off their upcoming renewals for referring new members. We also intend to contact the Daily NonPareil about putting an article in the newspaper like they did a couple years ago.

Blake Nelsen: Blake asked when the lighting would be put back up over by the boat ramp. We explained that our electrician is looking for a metal post as it would last longer than a normal wooden one. We hope to have it soon.

Vote for Constitution Changes: None this year.

Election of Officers for 2024 - 2025:

Voting ballots were provided to attending members. Nich McVay, Mary Kay Peters, and Jim McVay were not included on the board for this coming year. Bill Campbell noted that Larry Cooper is willing to be included on the ballot and voters were instructed to write Larry's name if they wished to vote for him. Twelve club members had also signed up for the sign up sheet. Jay Wilson had each existing board member and the new nominees introduce themselves. Jay then asked if there were any other nominees that need to be included in the vote, and none were forthcoming. Joann Tews to tally the voting ballots. Once the results of the vote were obtained, Jay thanked Joann for her assistance, and announced the new board members for the 2024-2025 year.

The elected Board Members 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 2024-2025 Board Members and the position they now hold:

President - *Jay Wilson
Vice President - *Ryan Campbell
Treasurer - *Sam Barta
Secretary - Marsha Gawronski
Director - Marcy Lucas (for 2 years)
Director - Chris Nadler (for 2 years)
Alternate Director – Julie Bowen
Alternate Director – Tom Reardon
Warden of the Building – Paul Coffman
Warden of the Grounds - Pete Willadsen
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, Bill Campbell made motion with Paul Coffman second to adjourn this annual meeting. All present approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Paula Woodard, Assistant to Secretary
for Mary Kay Peters, Secretary 2024-2025

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.