

# **Hermit Lakes Recreation Inc. Special Meeting**

**August 30, 2025 - 10:00 AM**

**The Barn**

## **MINUTES**

Meeting - Call to Order – 10:00 a.m.

Board members present: Keith Walker, Penny Wagner, Jim Brusak, Steve Office

Other members present: Carol Wann, Jackie Christian, John Heineke, Matt Thompson, Collin Gardner, Nancy Gardner, Merritt Gardner, LeeAnn Gardner, John Faron, Alan McDowell, Marsha Thompson

### **1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Jim Brusak and Steve Office**

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

- Motion to approve the Agenda and Minutes from the last meeting – Jim motioned to approve Steve seconded. Motion carried.

### **3. Board Changes**

- Robin Clutter resigned from the Board on August 15th. Brady Boyd has agreed to fill the vacant position for the next 10 months until the annual meeting in June. Motion to approve – Jim. Second – Steve. Motion carried.
  - Keith Walker, president
  - Brady Boyd, vice president
  - Penny Wagner, secretary
  - Jim Brusak, treasurer
  - Steve Office, at large

### **4. Committee Updates**

#### **a. Grounds Committee**

- Willows at Trails End, Lake 2 and Lake 3 dam area have been removed.
- A decision has been made for Plot #171. The bylaws will need some minor revisions for building on bare shares in the future in the areas of legal, regulatory and boundaries.
- The Range Rules are posted at the Range. We still need two additional signs:  
Range Closed Due to Fire Restrictions and Range Waiver Information
- The 25-yard target needs replaced.
- Potholes from Lake 5 to the Range need filled.

#### **b. Fish Committee**

- Lake 5 is drained. There is one board left to drain Lake 4.
- There's been some success with sucker mitigation during lake draining - but not as much as expected.

- Efforts have been exhausted with the state for pelican removal. Now checking at the federal level. Using a laser is totally ineffective. There is concern for Lakes 1 and 2 next Spring when they return.
- Items will be collected to put in the drained lakes for fish structures. The Gardner family offered as many tires as we need. We will make sure they are environmentally safe before used.
- Motion to accept committee reports - Keith so moved – Steve. Motion carried.

## 5. Updates

### a. Dam Project

- We have a proposal from Davis Engineering to make plans, specifications, and contracts and we're also working with dam state engineers to get the whole project approved.
- Ski Hi Engineering will provide a proposal for engineering and one for construction.
- The Gardners have offered to provide a potential budgetary estimate for the project. These figures will be used exclusively for grant purposes only. The Board will seek official bids as a separate process.
- Geotechnical dirt testing will also need to be done.
- The culvert on lake 5 will also need to be replaced. This lake is not recognized by the state.

### b. Banking changes

- The Club is in the process of changing banks from San Luis Valley Federal to Del Norte Bank and Edward Jones.
- Money market accounts and CDs will be set up at Edward Jones. Current rate is 4.1%
- The Club operating and fishing accounts will be at the Del Norte Bank.
- Deposits can be made at the Creede Branch.
- All account changes should be made within a week or so.

### c. Shooting Range Liability and Waiver Release

- The Release is effective immediately. We will rely on members to comply.
- Signed Waivers will be kept in a book in the office.
- A new waiver will need to be signed annually. One will go out with the annual packet, and they will also be available in the office.
- Signage will also be posted at the Range.

### d. Loafing Shed

- Caution tape has been placed around the loafing shed.

- Work will begin in the spring to restore the shed to a safe structure. Some materials from the burn pit will be able to help provide structure.
  - We have the old curriculum from when the shed was a school.
  - A project to memorialize the history of Hermit will be put together for the 100-year celebration in 2027.
  - Alan McDowell is involved with the Historical Society and has offered his assistance.
- e. Club insurance policy
- The Board will be seeking several volunteers to do an in-depth review in the spring. Areas of liability will be a primary focus.
  - Contact the Board if you're interested in volunteering.
  - The Club will get three proposals for the next renewal process.
- f. Road Grading
- Three main criteria were discussed for proper road grading:
    1. Should be done when conditions support it. Moisture is required.
    2. Do the best you can in segments. Shorter sections. Prioritize.
    3. Better cleanup after the roads are graded.
  - Materials will be included in the budget.
  - The criteria for grading will be included in the caretaker job description.
- g. Mission and Purpose Statement
- This is still a high priority. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

## 6. Other Issues/Concerns

- a. A clean-up day has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The focus will be around the office, barn and shop areas. A notice will be posted at the office asking for volunteers. Steve and Terry will walk around the target areas to get an idea of what needs done. Future clean-up days will be scheduled for next spring and summer.
- b. A club wide clean-up will be scheduled for next spring.
- c. Mark Spicer #363 is working on improving his plot. Merritt Gardner asked if materials could be used out of the quarry (by Powers) for the process. Request approved by the Board.

**Motion to adjourn- Steve**

**Second-Jim. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 10:46**