

Monthly Meeting Presque Isle Town Lakes Committee Aquatic Invasive Species	Date:	March 10, 2026	
	Time:	7:00pm	
	Location	ZOOM ONLY	
	Next Meeting Date/Time:	April 14, 2026 7:00pm	
Conducted by:	Nick Williams		
Recorded by:	Judy Ruch, Carlin Lake		
ATTENDEE INFORMATION			
Attended	Name	Lake	Attended via Zoom or CC
	Behr, Fritz	Lynx Lake	
x	Benn, Eric	Armour	
x	Boyce, Joan	Horsehead	
x	Burke, Jeff	Van Vliet	
x	Burke, Jorja	Van Vliet	
	Eaton, Phil	Oxbow	
x	Eschenbauch, Al	Town Board Liaison	
x	Heilman, Bob	Annabelle	
	Higley, Catherine	Vilas C. Invas.Spec.Coord	
	Horswill, Bob	Armour Lake	
x	Kemnitz, Joe	Crab	
	Kenkel, Jeff	Lone Pine	
	Lewandoski, June	Rosalind/Papoose	
x	Lewandoski, Paul	Rosalind/Papoose	
	Logan, Richard	Vilas Cty Supervisor	
x	Mawicke, Ann	Natural Lakes	Zoom Host
	Meessmann, Jeff	Natural Lakes	
	Phillips, Carol	Wildcat	
	Phillips, Richard	Wildcat	
x	Pire, Tim	Presque Isle	

x	Plouff, Gary	Frontier Lakes	
x	Preston, Tom	Katinka	
x	Ruch, Bob	Carlin	
x	Ruch, Judy	Carlin	
x	Sisbach, Sarah	Presque Isle	
x	Vogt, Dave	Annabelle	
x	Walters, Lorine	Horsehead	
x	Weber, Cathy Logan	Annabelle/Town Supv.	
	Wierzba, Tom	Big	
x	Williams, Nick	<u>Crab</u>	

MEETING MINUTES	
Topic/Subject	Discussion Items
Call to Order	By Nick Williams @ 7:00pm
Pledge of Allegiance	Deferred
Secretaries' Minutes	Approved as submitted
Changes/additions to agenda	None
Intro of new members/guests	Andy Sisler from Van Vliet Lake
Treasurer's Report/Budget	Refer to Appendix 2, all accounts current
Correspondence	None

6. Old Business

a. Grant Status: (Attachment 1)

- i. 2024 grants - all bills have been paid to White Water and Associates (WW).
- ii. 2025 grants - Carlin, Little Presque Isle, Lynx, Round and Wildcat have all made their lake contribution payments.
- iii. 2026 grant activity has started for Big, Papoose, Presque Isle, and Van Vliet. A professional services agreement has been signed with WW. The DNR is behind on paperwork so we have not received the first DNR payments (approx. \$7500 each) for the grant funds for each lake.
- iv. Wilderness Waters Report: This report sums up all scientific data for all PI lake reports. This is a large effort and as the number of reports increases the work for WW to create this report increases. Ann researched the DNR Surface Water Grant guidelines and there is actually a grant to pay for the report revision. Unfortunately grants funds to do this revision will take away from the \$50K grant allowance we use for Surface Water Grants. We will be looking into this during the fall grant submission.

b. The Town Website and PITLC: Ann/NL Ann worked with the Town Clerk to update the name on the town website as well as to update the Lake Studies report.

c. Electronic Storage of PITLC Material: The most current lake studies information is now on the town website and the library website. Financial reports have been created by Nick and Ann for fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026. They will provide a monthly update to the PI Town Financial Committee for 2026 financials. The current month financial report will also be added to the PITLC minutes **(Attachment 2)**

d. Volunteer Hours for 2025: Nick asked the PITLC representatives to forward 2025 volunteer hours for all volunteer activities in lake projects. Including all meetings attended, PITLC, lake association, DNR, etc. Only total hours are required.

7. New Business

- a. Walleye Restoration Project** - At the February 12th PI Town Board meeting, Rand Atkinson presented a proposal requesting the town's support for his Walleye Restoration Foundation project, with a focus on Presque Isle Lake. Al Eschenbach noted that the Town's resolution supporting Rand includes a clause requiring approval from every governmental agency before any action is taken — Rand agreed to this condition. As of 3/6/26, Rand posted on his website that his egg and fingerling stocking proposal has not been approved by the DNR. PITLC supports the goal of creating healthy walleye restoration environments. Planned projects in the town require government agency approval before continuing.
- b. PITLC Distribution List** – Per PITLC's operating procedures, PITLC membership is to be reviewed in the first quarter of the year. Ann will send the current list to all current members asking for confirmation of their membership for another year. Ann will also confirm current lake association president information.
- c. Sub-committee updates:**
- i. Grant Committee: Nick and Ann -**
 - **501(c)(3) Organizations as Alternative Grant Applicants** - Ann floated an exploratory idea: lake associations with existing 501(c)(3) status could potentially apply for DNR lake grants independently, rather than all grants flowing through the Town. This could allow PITLC to spread its \$50,000 annual grant cap across more lakes. Crab Lake, which has a 501(c)(3) noted their interest in this approach. The next step would be to contact the DNR to understand eligibility requirements for non-town entities. No formal action taken; this is exploratory and requires further research.
 - **Lakes Without Public Landings** – Currently the Town can pursue grants for lakes without public landings; however, those grant applications receive lower award points often putting them at the bottom of the award list. Last year the Town was awarded a grant for Carlin Lake, but in 2026 the Town was not awarded a grant for Lone Pine. Ann suggested exploring whether the town could contribute a modest amount toward these lakes to help qualify them for grants, supplemented by donations or fundraising from the lake associations. There is precedent for this approach with past grants for Round Lake. No formal action taken; more discussions needed.
 - ii. Signage Committee: (Fritz B/Lynx, Dave V/Annabelle, Bob H/Annabelle):**

Due to the 2025 identification of Spiny Water Flea (SWF) in Lynx Lake, Bob Heilman checked other lakes with SWF to see what information is at the landings. Signage at Walton Lake in Lac du Flambeau was used as a template for the committee to design one for Lynx Lake. It would be an Alumocore sign and cost \$30–\$40. They have a quote for 15 signs at \$355. Open discussion occurred for potential adjustments to the sign and where they should be posted.
 - iii. Communications/Outreach/Education: (Judy R/Carlin, Dave V/Annabelle, Bob H/Annabelle, Jorja B/VanVliet):**

Judy provided a list of materials they use on Carlin Lake, per Judy (**Attachment 3**) Judy has ordered product, noting that the number of minimum shipping pieces is substantial. Most of it is free. Dave V has a couple items to add to the list. Nick reminded us that the Linda Rennhack Memorial Funds may be used for literature. Ann offered to create a PDF that would provide links to the materials list. Sarah Sisbach will follow up with Kathy Curtis regarding welcome materials for new lake members.
 - iv. Invasive Rapid Response:** Nick Williams and Paul Lewandoski will work on a procedure for reporting AIS. The goal will be to include the line of reporting and invasive: the individual reporting to their lake representative, then to PITLC and then to Cathy Higley or

	<p>the Discovery Center. Also, a procedure for collecting a sample for investigation and testing.</p> <p>v. Volunteers are Needed. PITLC is always looking for volunteers on any lake to help with PITLC projects, if you are interested contact PITLC at pitlc54557@gmail.com.</p> <p>vi. Future Agenda Item: Paul Lewandoski said he will need to purchase supplies for the Oxygen measuring equipment.</p>
<p>8. Next Meeting 9. Adjourn</p>	<p>April 14, 2026, 7pm. via Zoom</p> <p>Meeting adjourned by Nick Williams @ 8:35pm.</p>

Unapproved minutes WILL BE APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Attachment 1 – List of Active Grants by Year

Lake	Last Grant Award	2024 Grants in Process	2025 Grants in Process	2026 Grants in Process
Annabelle	2023	X		
Anne	2018			
Armour	2023	X		
Averill	2018			
Beaver	2017			
Big	2018			X
Carlin	2025		X	
Cathaline	2016			
Crab, Little Crab, North Crab	2023	X		
Dunn	2017			
Horsehead	2023	X		
Katinka	2009			
Little Horsehead	2023	X		
Little Presque Isle	2025		X	
Lone Pine	2009			
Lynx	2025		X	
Mabel	2016			
McCullough	2017			
Morton	2017			
Oxbow	2023	X		
Papoose	2016			X
Presque Isle	2018			X
Red Bass	2018			
Rice Creek	2015			
Round	2025		X	
Rudolph	2009			
South Branch PI River	2017			
Stateline	2017			
Twin Island	2017			
Van Vliet	2018			X
Wildcat	2025		X	

Attachment 3 – List of Outreach Material available through DNR

The attached is a request drafted by Carlin Lake for documentation for their lake association. These documents are available to order from the DNR. Go to the following link and search on the codes in the first column to see the documents available.
https://widnr.widen.net/view/pdf/a2bvcnrfo3/AIS_ProductSheet.pdf

I have been a member of the Presque Isle Town Lakes Committee for 20 years and developed the program for kids teaching the basics of CBCW. As invasives are ever encroaching upon our area, we are increasing our education through our town lakes associations. I would like the following items:

WT-801	fold-out “Stop Aquatic hitchhikers -	200
WT-747	stickers. “ “ “ -	200
WT-830	stickers Don’t dump bait. -	200
WT-782	CBCW Watercraft Inspection Program.	50
WT-828.	CBCW stickers	200
WT-745	EWM watch card	200
WT-752.	Rusty crayfish watch card	200
WT-730	Zebra mussel watch card	200
WT-753	Spiney water fleas watch card	200
WT-759	curly leaf pondweed watch card	200
FH-930-ww.	VHS watch card	200
WT-744.	Purple loosestrife watch card	200
WT-996.	Mystery snail watch card.	200
Book -	Protecting Your Waterfront Investment.	10 @ \$3 each