

Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters
Zone F
Annual General Meeting
Perth Legion and Zoom
Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2024, at 6:00 pm

Call to Order:

Kerry called the meeting to Order at 6:00 pm.

Conservation Pledge:

The Conservation Pledge was recited by all those present.

Introductions by members present.

Members present introduced themselves for attendance.

Chair's Report:

Kerry Coleman delivered the chairs report, covering some of the highlights of Zone activities of the past couple of months.

Kerry mentioned the OFAH reorganization. This has taken a substantial amount of the director's time. Matt DeMille is the new Executive Director for the OFAH. Further work in terms of reorganizing the organizations membership roles, by-laws and activities continues.

Kerry highlighted other activities being done within the zone:

Lake St. Lawrence Controlled Waterfowl Hunt

Kerry attended a couple of meetings that dealt with some issues of access and blind placement at the Hoople Creek Provincial Wildlife Area. After negotiations some adjustments have been made that will address the concerns.

Paddy's Lake Dam

The replacement of the Paddy's Lake Dam by members of the Lanark Fish and Game Club.

Mountain Provincial Wildlife Area

This is a developing project that will help restore 30 acres of the Wildlife area that was illegally cleared. This is being developed in partnership with the Osgoode Fish and Game Club and MNR staff.

Eastern Ontario Youth Hunt Collaborative:

This activity provides Hunter Safety, PAL instruction and opportunities for an upland hunt, waterfowl hunt and trapping day for new hunters.

Delta Waterfowl Youth Hunt:

Kerry provided students with their Hunter Education course.

Clean Drain Dry signage

This is a continuing project within the zone. Signs continue to be deployed throughout the zone.

Facebook and Website

Merrill Elliot has been very active updating the site. If you have anything you would like to share about club events, other events and photos please send them to Merrill.

Acceptance Vote:

Acceptance of the Chairs Report was moved by Bob Emery, 2nd by Gordie Morrice. CARRIED.

Secretary/Treasurer's Reports:

Minutes of General Meeting: April 11, 2023.

The minutes of the Zone General Meeting of April 11, 2024, were presented. There were no questions or business arising from the minutes.

Jim Tye raised an issue of being able to review the minutes from the previous meeting. Approval of the minutes was deferred until they are posted on the website and people have an opportunity to review them.

Financial Report:

Ben reported there is no Financial Report since the Zone has no Finances. All monies were returned to Head Office, and these will be distributed to the new charity arm.

Correspondence

Ben introduced several pieces of correspondence that has been provided lately.

New Website: OFAH Membership | The Voice of Anglers & Hunters

In conjunction with the launch of the Non-Profit membership arm of OFAH the OFAH has launched a new website. [OFAH Membership | The Voice of Anglers & Hunters](#)

ERO 019-8896-mandatory hunter reports.

There is a new Environment Registry Order being circulated that would adjust the penalties for failure to submit mandatory hunter reports. This is being done to encourage more reporting.

Transport Canada Survey for Mandatory Life Jackets:

Transport Canada is doing a public survey of a new initiative that would make it Mandatory for Life Jackets to be worn at all times. Public comments will be open until Oct. 13th

Informal Supper Break:

There was an informal Supper Break for pizza prior to the presentation.

Special Presentation: Andrew Dunn from the Leeds and Lanark Health Unit spoke about ticks and the diseases they spread. This is particularly important for outdoors people.

The focus of the presentation was.

Know the Bug
Know the Bite
Know what to do

Know the Bug:

Ticks are distributed worldwide, feed on mammals and birds, there are two classes hard and soft ticks. They need a blood meal to survive, develop and reproduce, Ticks can become infected with Lyme disease at any stage and stay that way through their lifecycle, they transmit it to their next blood meal host. They have a 2-year life cycle and need a blood meal at each stage of development from eggs, larvae, nymphs and finally adults.

Black legged ticks are the most common in our area. Check the internet for a visual identity. They typically are found in long grass or brushy plants where they wait for their next meal to come by. It is very important to do tick checks when you are in the field and when then you come home.

Ticks are well established throughout Lanark and Leeds and Grenville Counties.

Know the Bite:

Tick's regurgitate a neurotoxin when they initially bite that will prevent you from feeling the bite. They stay attached as long as required to feed and then drop off when completed this can be from 3-7 days. They transmit the virus that is Lyme Disease when they regurgitate material from their stomachs as part of the feeding process.

Watch when walking in areas of tall grass or brushy areas, also if sitting on the ground around leaf litter. They typically go to parts of body where they won't get knocked off, it is important to use stiff brush to wipe down clothing and then when home put outdoor clothing in dryer on high heat to kill any ticks that might be loose in your clothing. Have someone assist you to check areas where you can't see such as back and head area.

Use DEET or other repellent on your clothing to help repel them. Permethrin is a spray that is sprayed on clothing. Clothing can be purchased at Marks that is pretreated with Permethrin.

Know what to Do:

If you find an embedded tick don't squeeze or burn the tick, use tweezers or tick pullers to get close to the head and remove it as much as possible and then clean and disinfect the area.

If it is flat, it probably hasn't been on very long, if fat it has been feeding for a while and you need to consult your health care provider. Mark the date on the calendar and observe if you are feeling unwell after that date. A single dose antibiotic is available from the pharmacy as a preventative measure, however upon consultation with a doctor a full 10-day treatment of antibiotics (doxycycline, amoxicillin), will address any concerns about Lyme disease exposure.

Not all ticks carry the bacteria that is Lyme Disease, and it usually must be attached for 24-36 hours. Lyme disease classic symptom is the bulls-eye rash that develops around the site of the bite. This usually takes a couple of days to develop. Other symptoms include fever, chills, fatigue, muscle and joint pain. If left untreated additional debilitating symptoms occur as it attacks the central nervous system. Blood system tests can be conducted to see if you have the anti-bodies related to Lyme disease that can help determine future treatment.

Three new Tick-Borne diseases have now been reported in Ontario

Anaplasmosis: Similar issues to Lyme but no rash, left untreated can lead to death. Treatment is similar to Lyme.

Babesiosis: Similar symptoms to Lyme disease, develop within 7-30 days. Infects and destroys red blood cells. Antibiotics are the typical treatment.

Powassan virus: This is quite rare, more in southern US. Creates neurological and long-term health issues. Currently no know treatment.

The Lone Star tick is not reportable in Canada currently.

For more information check out www.healthunit.org

Advisory Committee Reports: (all committee reports are posted on the Zone Website)

Agriculture Liaison Committee - Kerry Coleman.

CWD:

Kerry noted there has not a meeting by this committee but gave a current update on this situation. CWD is present in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and now western Manitoba. It is only a matter of time before it makes an appearance in Ontario. MNR continues to monitor regions, but it would have major affect on our populations when it arrives. They require the head of an animal to test for the disease. It is very resistant to any combat efforts. It takes time to test, but health officials are recommending not eating an infected deer.

Big Game – Ben Storey

There was no meeting held.

Kerry did have a report from a member, that the Elk population around Bancroft has declined from 600 animals down to 200 animals. Kerry contacted Mark Ryckman at OFAH, about this situation. He stated that there are issues with the overly optimistic population estimates of the elk population, but the MNR has not conducted active management of this species. OFAH continues to advocate for more efforts to be done.

Indigenous Relations Committee:

Ed reported that this not been active for some time. Ontario and Federal governments are still in the final stages of a process that started back to 1983. The Algonquins of Quebec have complained that they have never been part of the process, and claim they live in the watershed of the Ottawa River and therefore should be. They have also raised concerns about the eligibility of people who are involved in the process. In response to this the Ontario side Algonquin band reviewed their membership list and have eliminated several previously eligible families, which has cast doubt on the whole process. Recent federal court cases have provided other bands with substantially larger

settlements, which more than likely will require a larger settlement to be offered in this case.

Firearms – Ed Giffin

Federal Firearms Confiscation

Ed reported there has not been a meeting, but it has come to light that since 2020, the liberal government has spent 67.2 million on the firearm confiscation program but have not confiscated a single firearm.

Amnesty Extension:

The amnesty for those firearms that were prohibited by the Orders in Council had an amnesty that was extended to October 2023 and has now been extended again until October 2025.

The impacts of the failed gun legislation will have negligible impact on crime rates as most criminal firearms are smuggled into Canada from the United States. Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba, have stated they will not cooperate with the confiscation. It is estimated the gun ban will cost over 2 billion to implement.

Fisheries - Merrill Elliott.

Merriell reported the FMZ finally had a meeting. Talked about link to mandatory life jacket survey.

Paddy's lake is scheduled for stocking with Rainbow trout once the dam is repaired.

Merrill posted the FMZ 15 and 18 stocking list for 2024 on the website.

Walleye slot size won't be looked at it for another year or more.

Land Use/ Trails/ Access - Bob Emery.

Bob presented a report from the committee.

GRCA Conservation Authority:

The OFAH provided a response to their revised recreational policy, and promoting resource based recreational activities such as fishing and hunting within their areas.

Small Game - Kerry Coleman.

There has been no meeting but Kerry provided an update on the Sandhill Crane season being proposed.

Sandhill Crane Season:

There could be a season sometime around 2026 more in the north and northeast.

Sporting Dogs - Kerry Coleman.

There was no recent meeting, however Kerry reported on a couple of issues of concern to this committee.

Hunting Dog Trespass

There have been a few incidents where hunters using dogs have been charged with trespass, when their dogs cross onto other people's property.

It is concerning a precedent will be set as the cases wind through the courts.

Despite the use of tracking collars, it is difficult to control your dogs when on a chase.

Train and Trial Areas:

Kerry reported the Ministry passed an amendment that would allow new compounds to be established as well as allow for the transfer of licenses.

Eastern Ontario Deer Advisory – Bruce Hutchinson.

Bruce wasn't present and they haven't had a meeting.

Mazinaw/ Lanark LLC: Jan Kammerscaard

Jan stated he hasn't heard from MNR. Kerry indicated the planning cycle is a lot longer.

A motion to accept all the committee reports was moved by:

John Palmer, 2nd by Jan Kammerscaard. CARRIED.

Club Reports:

Lanark and District Fish and Game Club: Gordie Morrice / Jim Tye

Bottle Lake Road Access:

There no movement on this issue now but hopefully will be able to see some progress on this file soon.

Paddy Lake Dam Replacement:

Looking to replace the stop logs at the Paddy Lake Dam that has been deteriorated. Looking to get MNR approval to replace the logs.

Westport Outdoor Club: Tom Myatt

Tom reported on the Club's efforts at Walleye hatching. He reported that tough environmental conditions and weather meant only 6 fish were captured to be milked, despite lots of hard work when it came to collect the fry none survived.

New Business

There was no new business raised.

Old Business.

Bob mentioned that the Lanark Club has reached out to the Almonte Club to include them in the Clean Drain Dry signage project. They have installed 14 signs at various launches around the county.

Kerry reported that he put up some signs around Kemptville. Other signs have been installed by the Osgoode Club east of Ottawa. Kerry mentioned we can provide signs and the posts.

Jan reported that the cottages association at Robinson Lake has reported seeing freshwater Jelly Fish.

Request for Funding

There were no funding requests.

Other Business:

The Door Prizes were then distributed via random tickets draw.

Kerry also offered raffle tickets to support the Eastern Ontario Youth Hunt for anyone who was interested.

Upcoming meetings in 2024.

Kerry mentioned the following proposed meeting schedule:

- Thursday December 12th, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was raised by Jim Tye at 9:35 pm.

Ben Storey, Secretary

Date

Kerry Coleman Chai

Attendance:

Present:

Kerry Coleman, Bob Emery, Merrill Elliot, Ben Storey, Ed Giffin, Jim Tye, John Palmer, Tom Brownell, Tom Myatt, Jake Warner, Gordie Morrice, Phill Hammond, Jan Kammergaard

On-Line:

Dave Crosbie, Donn MacMillian, Thomas Benoit, Blake Corbin, Katie Petrie, Eric Boysen, Jamie Lariviere, Bill Skinner, Dave Crosbie,