



POKEGAMA GOLF COURSE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, October 15, 2024
7:30 AM**

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof, a Regular Meeting of the Pokegama Golf Course Board will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 7:30 AM at Pokegama Golf Course, 3910 Golf Course Road, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Member Rick McDonald
Member John Ryan
Member Tom Lagergren
Member Deb Godfrey

ABSENT

Member John Bauer

PUBLIC INPUT:

No one from the public was present.

SETTING THE AGENDA: (This is an opportunity to approve the regular agenda as presented or add/delete an Agenda item by a majority vote of the Board members present.)

APPROVE MINUTES:

1. Approve the minutes of September 17, 2024 Golf Board Meeting.

Motion made by Member Lagergren, Seconded by Member Godfrey to approve the agenda and the September 17, 2024 minutes. Voting Yea: Member McDonald, Member Ryan, Member Lagergren, Member Godfrey

CLAIMS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

2. Review and approve verified claims

Motion made by Member Godfrey, Seconded by Member Ryan to approve the claims. Voting Yea: Member McDonald, Member Ryan, Member Lagergren, Member Godfrey

3. Review Financials

Director of Golf, Tom Beaudry, gave an overview of the financials. The golf season is ending soon. In November the repairs will be made due to flooding. Insurance money will be used to repair sheetrock and base boards.

Simulators will be starting soon.

VISITORS:

No visitors present.

REPORTS:

Superintendent Steve Ross reported that they are spraying fairways today. They will be putting a snow mold treatment down just before the first snow, probably next week or the following week. Late next week they will be putting carts into storage. There are 50 carts total. Ryan Sutherland will be taking 5. It costs \$2100 to have the carts stored for the season. They have been blowing mulch and leaves and keeping things cleaned up. There has not been a lot of golfers. They have found someone to trap the skunks. There are a lot of skunks. Six traps were set yesterday. They also spray areas for grubs. That also keeps skunks from digging. They have pulled fixtures off, and ball washers, benches, garbage cans, and tee markers have been put away. Employees are contracted for 185 days. The next few weeks employees will be done. The blade was approved for the John Deere Tractor. Cody is working year round. They are working on next year's budget. There will be two applications on the fairway next year. The fairway is doing well. They will aerify fairways in November on a nice day. Irrigation and pump house are done. Thursday, depending on the weather, they will move the carts. It should take a couple of hours depending on how many show up to help. Mike Plackner was approved for tree work, with an amount around \$20,000. He should start in November. This years the course was in good condition and they received a lot of compliments.

Director of Golf, Tom Beaudry, reported that they are winding down the year, focusing on paperwork to deactivate employees and marketing plans for next year. Simulators will start the Friday after Thanksgiving and be closed Monday and Tuesday and open Wednesday through Sunday.

BUSINESS:

Discussion was had about changing the time of the monthly meeting from 7:30 am to 8 am. It was decided to change it and return it to 7:30 am sometime in the Spring.

Motion made by Member Lagergren, Seconded by Member Ryan to change the Pokegama Golf Course meeting time to 8:00 am until further notice. Voting Yea: Member McDonald, Member Ryan, Member Lagergren, Member Godfrey

Question was asked about playing golf in November. It was stated that due to liability insurance the player could only do so if they were a season pass holder.

CORRESPONDENCE AND OPEN DISCUSSION:

4. Junior Range Pass Discussion

Discussion was had about the Junior Range Pass. Many members have been hearing concerns from the public. The golf course is proposing a punch card system or a 3 bucket a day limit. Discussion was had about youth abusing the current pass. Director of Golf, Tom Beaudry, provided details of family usage and a financial spreadsheet. Discussion included the importance of this pass and the impact it has on the youth and adults. Discussion was had about teaching kids proper golf etiquette and holding them accountable. Member Rick McDonald spoke about a young girl who reached out to him expressing her concern and the importance of the Junior Range Pass to her. He was impressed with her respect and initiative. More ideas were discussed: increase price, if rules aren't followed you lose your privilege for a week, teaching and interactions from staff with the youth. The system is working for adults, (18+), and there is no need to change that system. Young adults employed with the Golf Course are not included in the Junior Range Pass. They have access to as many buckets as they want. Discussion about the Simulator revenues originally being meant to offset Junior golf and right now it is used for the school. It's a line item in the budget but could get lost over time and not used for junior golf. Tom B. mentioned it is a small season and it takes \$20,000 to run the driving range. It was mentioned that some of the Simulator money should be used to offset the Junior Range Pass, to support the juniors. Discussion was had about documentation of use. There is a record of who uses it and how much they use it. A comment was made that this is a community course. Also mentioned, in consideration with the three bucket rule, if a youth is working hard, giving them another bucket with pointers from Tom B. It was decided Junior Range Pass is still in effect with a 3 bucket a day limit. If they wanted more, they would have to come in and talk with Tom B. There will be no family pass. There was talk of sponsoring due to financial hardship.

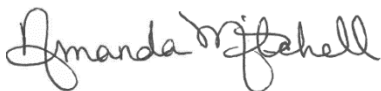
Surveys that were discussed at the previous meeting are printed off and available to read.

ADJOURN:

Motion made by Member Lagergren, Seconded by Member Ryan to adjourn the October 15, 2024 Golf Board meeting. Voting Yea: Member McDonald, Member Ryan, Member Lagergren, Member Godfrey

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 AM.

Respectfully submitted:



Amanda Mitchell, Recorder