

## **AUSABLE VALLEY AUDUBON (AVA) MEETING**

**March 11, 2025**

East Tawas Senior Center, East Tawas  
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

### **ATTENDEES:**

Board Members Present:

Bill Roth, President

Kathy Swindlehurst, Vice President

Dawn Hooper, Treasurer

Amy Kohlhepp, Secretary

Nancy Myers, Member at Large

Absent:

Sign-up sheet was presented to members at Welcome Table, a quorum was present.  
Thirty-four people attended.

Guests Present: None

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer's Report provided by Dawn Hooper.

The Chapter had \$5,131 on February 28<sup>th</sup>. There was a donation in the amount of \$500 and another for \$200. There was a use fee for the room for the meeting \$30. \$653.83 was spent for the bird feeders at the Point leaving: \$4,947.84.

Motion made to accept report, seconded and passed.

#### **Minutes Report:**

Minutes from the February 11, 2025, meeting were read by Amy Kohlhepp.

Motion made to accept report, seconded and passed.

### **MEETING SUMMARY/DISCUSSION**

At approximately 3:03 pm, the Au Sable Valley gathered for a monthly meeting.

#### **BIRD SIGHTINGS:**

Trumpeter Swans, Canada Geese, Ring-necked Ducks, Widgeon, Scaup, Red Head ducks, Killdeer, Cedar Waxwings, Red Winged Black Birds, Grackle, Turkey Vulture, Red Tailed Haws, Northern Shrike, American Tree Sparrow, Goshawk, Sandhill Cranes

EM'S BIRD LESSON OF THE DAY: Time to put out eggshells for mama birds, use native plants, Hummingbirds will come when pussy willows bloom, use bird friendly coffee and there is now bird friendly chocolate.

**PRESENTATION:**

Bird City by Pam Carter. Very educational. If anyone wants to volunteer to help contact Pam.

**10 MINUTE BREAK**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**MEMBERSHIP**

AVA yearly membership was due by January 1, 2025. Pay Dawn.

**TAWAS POINT**

Closed until April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT (GBBC)**

Peggy Ridgeway provided a summary, there has been a drop of Evening Grosbeak by 90% since 1970. Information: Birdcount.org

**OWL at OSCODA SCHOOL**

Peggy offered a short overview of happenings with the owl and the rescue.

**HURON PINES PIPING PLOVER TRAINING**

May 2nd, Noon to 4:00 pm at the East Tawas Community Center (See e-mail from Bob)

**KIRTLAND WARBLER ART CALENDAR**

AVA has three members judging: Maggie Berch, Sam Burckhardt and Carol Cole

**MASTER GARDNER PLANT SALE**

Going forward on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, from 9:00 am to noon at the State Dock in East Tawas

**HAWK WATCH**

May 15 and 16 is when Golden Eagles are most likely to be migrating.

**HURON PINES**

Sam Burckhardt is now a board member and offered an overview of the organization's activities. Bill Roth mentioned that the field trips offered by Huron Pines are very worthwhile, especially the ones to North Point in Alpena. May 10<sup>th</sup> is the Bird Sit at the site.

#### **DONATIONS**

Bill mentioned where donations were coming from. These have been very helpful since we are not doing the festival this year.

#### **M55 HIGHWAY CLEANUP**

Will be in April. Details will be in e-mails.

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm, Oscoda Senior Center, 653 State Street, Oscoda, MI 48750. Presentation topic: Osprey by Bill Roth

#### **OTHER EVENTS:**

**TAWAS COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND:** Will be playing on St. Patrick's Day, March 17 at 7:00 in the Tawas High School Gym. AVA members, Sam Burckhardt and Amy Kohlhepp play for the band. Noteworthy is that Sam is a professional musician and he has a solo at this performance. Very worth the time if you can make it.

Meeting Adjourned by motion.