**AuSable Valley Audubon**

**September 9, 2025**

**Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

Board Members Present:

Bill Roth, President,

Pam Carter, Vice President,

Dawn Hooper, Treasurer

Jill Laidlaw, Member at Large

Absent

Amy Kohlhepp, Secretary

A signup sheet was presented at the Welcome Table, a quorum was present, 38 members attended.

Guests:

Nick Theisen, Huron Pines

Fred McDonald

Reports:

Treasurers Report

The treasurer’s report was provided by Dawn Hooper

The chapter had $5107.84 on September 9, 2025. We are awaiting the return of a deposit from Oscoda from the rental of the Warrior Pavillion. The balance will then be $5454.84

A motion was made to accept the report by Kathleen Swindlehurst and seconded by MaryAnn Wojan

Minutes Report

The minutes from April 9, 2025, were read by Pam Carter.

A motion was made to accept the report by Sarah Humphries and seconded by Maggie Birch

Meeting Summary and Discussion

At approximately 3:05 pm, the AuSable Valley gathered for a monthly meeting

Bird Sightings:

White face and Glossy Ibis, Prothonotary Warblers, Blue Winged and Golden Winged Warblers, Brewster’s Warbler, Lawrence Warbler, American Goshawk, Whimbrel, American White Pelicans, Peregrine Falcon.

Em’s Bird Lesson of the Day:

Em presented on Pileated Woodpeckers and what they like to eat. She provided a list of native shrubs and trees that can support our birds.

Presentation: Piping Plover Data for 2025 by Nick Theisen from Huron Pines

Old Business:

We had a nice potluck at Warriors Pavilion on August 19th, great food with great attendance. Michigan Audubon presented our AVA Chapter a plaque and presentation which designates Iosco County as a Bird City in Michigan.

New Business:

AVA yearly dues can be paid to Dawn. We are working on updating the QR code on the website, and calendar to accept yearly dues.

AVA Calendars:

Hard Copies are available at meetings, on the website and Facebook. Jill Laidlaw put a lot of work into this. Note that there are two QR codes. The one for donations is working. However, the code for paying dues is not.

Amy Kohlhepp and Pam Carter will be attending the Michigan Audubon Conference in Okemos on September 20th.

On October 11, a Saturday, a World Migratory Bird Day celebration will be held by AVA, Huron Pines and Iosco Conservation District. Activities include a bird walk at Tawas Point, presentations on Piping Plovers and Making Your Home Safe for Feathered Friends at the Tawas Senior Center and an invasive species clean up at Riverwalk Park in Oscoda. A flyer will soon be out with all the details. Watch Your Email.

Peggy Ridgeway is presenting “Piping Plovers” on Thursday, September 25 from 4:30 to 5:30 as part of a education series the AVA has done at the Robert J. Parks Library in Oscoda.

6010 Skeel Ave. Oscoda.

MDOT Highway Pickup on M55 will be coming up soon. Watch your emails for the dates and times. Please let Bill know if you can attend. Plan for a couple of hours in the morning and then lunch

Monarch Butterflies are migrating and gathering at Tawas Point. Discussion about when it is the best time to see them.

Iosco County is updating its Master Plan which included land use items.

The county is requesting input using an online survey.

The survey needs to be completed by October 1, 2025. It can be found at the website below.

<https://iosco.net/master-plan-survey/>

The next AVA meeting will be held on October 13, at the Tawas Senior Center 312 Newman St. East Tawas. Amy Kohlhepp will be presenting on The Birds of Texas.

A reminder to please recycle.

Motion to adjourn made by Larry Mason and seconded by MaryAnn Wojan.