

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors Lake Washington Improvement Association

Tuesday, 05/19/2026

The monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lake Washington Improvement Association was held at the Lake Washington Park community center. The following board members were present: Chad Fowlds (Area 1), Karen Wright (at-Large-Area 2), Joel Prybylla (Area 3), Jim Folden – Secretary (Area 1), Chuck Brandel – Pres (Area 4), Greg Germscheid (Area 5), Wade Baumberger (Area 6), Harlan Mehlhop (At-Large), Kent Reeves (At-Large), Jason Femrite. Also guest Becky Beyer

President Brandel called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

A motion to approve the agenda with was made by HM and seconded byJP and unanimously approved.

Minutes from the April 21st meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve was made by JP and seconded by KW and unanimously approved.

Kent Reeves introduced us to his new assistant, and potential new gambling manager, Becky Beyer; and board members went around and introduced themselves. He then presented the Gambling Report.

Net gain for the month from the 4 sites was \$6322.88. LWIA's share of the net gain was \$3529.76. Cash over/short amounts were reported and inventories on hand were reported. Cash on hand in the gambling checking account at month's end is \$117129.47, and vouchers for the month totaled \$54493.44.

- 1) The gambling funds need pre-approval for all checks on LG1004
 - 2) Vouchers numbered 8510 thru 8535 were presented for approval
 - 3) Approval to pay bills that come due before our meeting date is needed
- There were no other additional lawful expenses

There was a significant shortage of \$936.00 at South Street, and Kent is working with the manager there, and the Gambling Control Board to address this shortage.

All supporting documentation was present for the review of the Board. A motion was made by Jim Folden to approve the 3 items and the gambling report, and seconded by Jason Femrite and unanimously approved. (Kent Reeves abstained)

General Business: Committee Reports

Gambling Committee: Did not meet. Kent filled us in on Becky's progress in training. Also had a discussion on paying for the Gambling Manager training and testing. A motion was made and passed that the Lake Association approves up to \$120 to be used for this, and mileage as well, if necessary. Karen Wright/Kent Reeves moved/seconded. Unanimously approved, Kent abstained.

Treasurer's Report/Investment & Finance Chuck presented in Spenser's absence. Jim made the Board aware that Scott Lassiter invoiced us for \$500 for website work. Also our tax documents and 501c3 renewal have been taken care of by Barb.

Communication/Website/Social Media: Jim reviewed the timeline he is keeping about website progress. Extensive fees seem to be in this new website, and possibly "Givebutter" may improve that. Chuck will ask someone he knows at ISG, and Jim will reach out to Madison Lake Association. Also brought up the issue of negative responses when notifying about spraying via Facebook. Per Lake Restoration (or DNR, unsure) the Facebook notification is "above and beyond" what is necessary.

Fundraising: No report, but Chairperson Nicki is stepping down from the position, so a new Chairperson is being requested. The comment was made (again) that if membership was higher, we would not need fundraising. A brief discussion started about a mass email or Facebook post for this position. Chuck will send Karen the flyer we had sent door to door with info that might be useful for this. Golf tournament was briefly mentioned. Wade had checked out LeSueur Country Club, and found that of the entry fee per golfer, a portion comes back in prize money. (\$15 of each \$85 fee?) Also Janesville has a golf course.

Water Quality-Chuck: Water quality monitoring program has started.

Aquatic Invasive Species-Chuck: Brought up the back story on the recent vote to pay the \$1700 for a survey prior to the weed harvesting. Of note, this is harvesting, not cutting. So there should be less mess and less drop-off of turions which would sprout the next year. This should be occurring as soon as this Friday, if weather is good, and if the boat is available.

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Lake Improvement District (LID)-Chuck: Met with the DNR, and minutes will be sent to Board members. LID's are very specific to a specific purpose. A distinction is made between "in-lake" vs "in watershed" treatments which will make it a challenge to get everything done that we would like.

Membership: No report, but we are all on that committee. Jason and Wade have pushed hard on Connor's point. But we need to up membership, and it is hoped that the new website and outreach prior to the annual meeting will do that.

Old Business-Chuck: 3 members are unpaid. Also 1 of them has not been to meetings in a long while. He will reach out to him, and Jim will contact the other two.

New Business: There is a beaver dam blocking the outlet. Also the beaver house at the county park in Baker Bay is active again. There is discussion between Chuck, Tyler at the County Park Dept, and the DNR about responsibility. Chuck thought that there was an agreement between the LWIA and the county, and Jim will try to find that. As of now the county will be getting back to Chuck.

Jim brought up a possible donation from LWIA and gambling partners to Camp Patterson (501c3) and LeSueur County Parks Dept. Both of these groups allow us to use their facilities at no charge. A motion was made and seconded (CB/Jason F) and 9 approved, and one nay vote; to donate \$300 to the county park, and \$500 to Camp Patterson.

Greg brought up the fact there appear to be carp in the Unimin wetland now. What steps can be taken to remove them, or keep them out of Lake Washington. Could they get around the 5-7 ft weir? That is a DNR question.

Harlan: He has been in contact with Scott Mackenthun, the new DNR fisheries head in Waterville. He would like to speak at our annual meeting, or at one of our Board meetings.

Also at the next meeting we need to have a discussion about the annual meeting and tiered membership levels.

Meeting Wrap-up: Next meeting is June 16, 2026

Meeting was made to adjourn at 7:15. Jason F/KW

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