



WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

P.O. Box 301
Whitewater, WI 53190



MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of the Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District was held at the Whitewater Town Hall on Thursday May 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING:

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present: Carol Ducommun, Chuck Chamberlain, Dan Berg, Bob Szcinski, Jake Hintz, Jerry Grant; and Mike Lindenmuth - called in

Others Present: Donna Sherman, Steve Ducommun (pro bono counsel)

Carol requested a motion to amend the agenda to move the new business item "2: Update on Enhanced Wakes Ordinance; motion to support" prior to "Approval of the April Open Session minutes" so we can include Mike Lindenmuth in the discussion. Dan moved to approve the agenda as amended seconded by Bob; all in favor, none opposed; the motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Update on Enhanced Wakes Ordinance; motion to support was moved up in the Agenda to accommodate Mike having to leave early.

Carol provided an update on the proposed town ordinance, which has been submitted by the Town of Whitewater to the DNR for an advisory review, as the process requires. The township has scheduled a public hearing as required, for May 22, 2025, at least 30 days after the DNR submission.

Carol read the Lake Management Districts mission statement, which is to maintain, protect and improve the quality of lake conditions, including enhancement of the recreational use of the lake and conservation projects within its watershed for the mutual good of our property owners and the lake environment.

The Lake Management District has seven members, five who are elected members, Jerry Grant who is appointed and represents county government, and Jake Hintz who represents the township; Jake will abstain from voting because he is a Town commissioner. Carol and Bob discussed what they had learned at the Wisconsin Water Week in April about the damage done by wake surfing on small, shallow lakes like ours.

Bob moved to adopt the resolution as circulated; Chuck seconded; voice vote taken: Carol Ducommun-yes, Chuck Chamberlain-yes, Dan Berg-yes, Bob Szcinski-yes, Mike Lindenmuth-yes, Jerry Grant-yes. Jake Hintz abstained. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Input:

Keith Hochhalter (N7351 Chapel Dr.) He is trying to understand, in that we had a meeting on January 8th and the minutes mentioned we were waiting on the state – then the middle of March the newsletter presented info on Own Your Wake. Now you are voting here in the May meeting; what happened in between and who attended the WI Lakes and Rivers Convention?

Carol said two of them attended the meeting, Dan Berg did not attend. Jake added that the May 22 public meeting would be the time for members of the public to openly address the issue.

Brandon Schlicher W7980 Townline Rd -owner of Surf and Turf. He is aware of several families who use these types of boats and don't fill the ballast. Clarity was given to enhanced wakes. He stated Lake Beulah mentioned 80 spots with a lot more people coming in; he can count 5 – 10 boats that can cause problems even if they are not a wake boat.

Carl Dorn N7558 Ridge Rd. Outcome of the fishing tournament scientific data has variable data is it about fishing versus catching; felt it was not a real measure of the effects of the boat. He has been on the lake for 30 years and he has a ski boat. If you run with the bow up at low speed those waves do not affect; it is the leisure boats that create the waves – but you need to have real data to support. The most invasive are the tournaments who is bring in a variety of boats and what are they carrying in.

Amy Kaszuba- N7415 Ridge Rd. Property owner since 2013; has a ski boat and fishing boat as well as paddle boat. Asks the board to reconsider this ban on artificially enhanced wakes and requests a reasonable ban against the lake. January minutes indicate that Jon Tanis would wait to see what the state would do. What has changed since? This ordinance will not stop large waves. This ordinance will divide the community, decrease property values, and lead to legal challenges against the district and the township.

Approval of April Open Session minutes:

Carol asked for a motion to approve the April meeting minutes; Bob moved to approve the April open session minutes, seconded by Dan, all in favor; no one opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Mike Lindenmuth left the meeting.

Reports of commissioners:

Chair: Carol mentioned summer newsletter needs to be in homes by July 23, and she would need articles by June 10. There is a Clean Boat Clean Water meeting from 10-noon on Friday May 16th, 2025, in Elkhorn at the government center if anyone is able to attend.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence: No Report

Finance: Dan presented and asked for a motion to approve April's expenses in the amount of \$2,971.25. Motioned by Bob seconded by Jerry; all in favor; no one opposed, motion passed unanimously.

Looking ahead we have extra funds depending on weed control, and the barley straw project. A check was received from the WI lottery in the amount of \$5,200, which was split between the two townships Whitewater and Richmond.

Whitewater-Rice Lakes Management District

May 05, 2025

Starting Cash Book Balance	12/31/24	9,077.73			Variance should be "0"	
Expense Distributions to date:		\$(8,730.65)	YTD Disbursements Verification Check >>>>>>>>	9,225	494.47	May checks
Cash Receipts to date:		\$209,360.16				
Capital Fund reimbursements		\$500.00				
Cash Book Balance FWD to date:	04/30/25	\$210,207.24	Capital Fund Cash Balance	21,563		

Transaction Date	Vendor	Check #	Amount	Description	GL #	Notes / GL Reference Account	Invoice Number
4/10/2025	Donna Sherman	x 3576	\$210.00	April retainer	6020	Clerical Services	
4/10/2025	Carol Ducommun	x 3577	\$247.98	Hotel for WLRC reimbursement	6910	Conventions & Meetings	
4/10/2025	Dan Berg	x 3578	\$247.98	Hotel for WLRC reimbursement	6910	Conventions & Meetings	
4/10/2025	Chuck Chamberlain	x 3579	\$500.00	Reimbursement for envelope box at S. Townline Rar	CAPITAL	Capital	
4/10/2025	US Postal Service	3580	\$84.00	Annual post office box rental	7150	Postage	
4/10/2025	Marlin Printing	3581	\$1,355.39	Printing and mailing the spring newsletter	7050	Printing	
4/12/2025	D&D Products/Aquarius	x 3582	\$300.00	Training on harvesting equipment for 4@\$75/person	6850	Maintenance Aquatics	
4/12/2025	Scott Center	x 3583	\$25.90	37 miles at \$.70/mi reimb for taking conveyor to D&C	7340	Weed Harvesting fuel	
			\$2,971.25				

5/5/2025

WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2025 Capital Reserve Fund Activity

	Opening Balance	
12/31/2024	Capital Reserve Bank Balance	22,052.22

	Contributions:	
Aug-24	DNR capital grant	
Sep-24	Transfer from Operating--Repayment of Loan	
Sep-24	Annual Transfer from Operating	
Nov-24	Donation GWRLPOA	

	Total Contributions	\$-
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Jan-24	Interest	\$2.81
Feb-24	Interest	\$2.54
Mar-24	Interest	\$2.81
Apr-24	Interest	\$2.72
May-24	Interest	
Jun-24	Interest	
Jul-24	interest	
Aug-24	Interest	
Sep-24	Interest	
Oct-24	Interest	
Nov-24	Interest	
Dec-24	Interest	
	Total Interest	\$10.88

	Disbursements:	
4/10/25	Replacement envelope holder for S Townline ramp Transferred 5/5/25	\$500.00

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Total Disbursements		<u>500.00</u>
1/31/24	Ending Cash Balance Capital Fund	<u>21,563.10</u>
Reconciliation to Bank Statement:		
Outstanding transactions:		
Balance Per Bank Statement March 31, 2025		<u>22,063.10</u>
CD due 6/4/25 at 2.05%		152,287.40
		174,350.50

Dan looked into the Government investment pool which he will put together a resolution for the June 2025 meeting and recommendation for that. He was also looking into loans and is reviewing options for when that time comes.

Bob mentioned he was looking into additional ways to collect launch fees via the use of a QR code he will come back to the June meeting with a couple of options. Dan asked about future equipment needs, Chuck mentioned it would be 2027 for the 10-footer but it would need to be approved first at the annual meeting.

Weed Harvesting: Scott mentioned a new employee started but would be open to hiring another. He mentioned that on Isabella Bay is showing curly leaf pond weeds along the shoreline. We will have six attending the Aquarius safety training. We will be hauling out equipment within the next two weeks. Bob mentioned the age requirement for harvesters would be 18 and up. Carol said she got permission from Heidi Bunk to start harvesting earlier on Rice Lake. Heidi amended our harvesting permit for harvesting on Rice Lake beginning May 1 including two people on the harvester though spawning season. We would like help with Monday morning pickups, and Jake mentioned he can liaison with the high school for some summer help.

Chemical/Herbicide: Carol relayed from Mike that Lake and Ponds Solutions will survey the lakes on May 23rd. The current intention is not to spray this year since we are still in the second year of the three-year ProcellaCor application.

Bog Removal: Bob will work on an RFP for September bog removal. Last year's parameters were 12-15 days not to exceed \$34,800; additionally bog labor of \$8,390 and fuel of \$1,000, for a total of \$2950 per day. Bob has a new point of contact at the DNR for bogs.

Equipment: Chuck – We can start to pull equipment as determined by weed growth. The trailer gate repair is complete; we do not have a cost yet. Chuck mentioned that six people are going to the annual safety seminar.

Old Business: Barley Straw Project - Carol provided an update from Mike; based on the past results and discussion from our last meeting, we will forgo the project for the third year.

New Business:

Jake mentioned the buoys will be going in on May 17th at the 200 ft mark. Someone asked about damaged buoys; Jake said they are not so much damaged but over time can become brittle.

Next meeting Date: June 12, 2025

Adjournment: Chuck moved to adjourn at 6:58 PM; Dan seconded; all in favor motioned carried unanimously; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Donna Sherman, Clerk