



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 April 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Board Members Present: Carol Ducommun, Chuck Chamberlain, Mike Lindenmuth Dan Berg, Bob Szczinski Jake Hintz and Jerry Grant,

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

Carol asked for a motion to approve the agenda as published, Jerry motioned to approve the agenda seconded by Bob; all in favor, none opposed; the motion passed unanimously.

Carol asked for a motion to approve the January meeting minutes for both regular and closed sessions, Jerry motioned to approve the January minutes for both regular and closed session seconded by Chuck, all in favor; none opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Public Input: N/A

Reports of commissioners:

Chair: Carol welcomed Jake Hintz and Jon Tanis as newly elected members to the Whitewater Town Board; Jake will replace Jon as the Town Representative on our Lake Management District; our Spring Newsletter was sent out to all district property owners of record before the end of April; Carol confirmed we only need to post our meeting agenda in two public sites including our website; we post our agendas at Whitewater Townhall and on the Whitewater Rice Lake Management District website.

Secretary's Report/Correspondence: No Report

Finance: Dan presented and asked for a motion to approve January expenses of \$210.00 February Expenses \$1,310.08 and March Expenses \$4,102.90. Motioned by Bob seconded by Mike; all in favor; none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

Dan provided the following financial update:

For the Capital Fund, he renewed the Capital CD now at \$152,287.40 thru 6/4/25 at 2.05%. We have \$22,060.38 in Capital savings as well bringing the total Capital to \$174,347.78

Dan moved \$100,000 from Operating checking to a CD to combine with the Capital bringing the total CD to \$252,287.40 at 2.05%. It will mature the week before the June meeting. We still have \$107,420.94 in cash in Operating, so we have plenty of money on hand should we need it.

Dan mentioned using a Government Investment Pool which is a mutual fund run by the state and the interest rate can be higher than a traditional CD or savings account. He will investigate this option for future consideration

Transaction Date	Vendor	Check #	Disbursements		Description	GL #	Notes / GL Reference Account	Invoice Number
			Amount					
1/9/25	Donna Sherman	x 3565	\$210.00		January retainer	6020	Clerical Services	
				\$210.00				
2/15/2025	Donna Sherman	x 3566	\$210.00		February retainer	6020	Clerical Services	
2/15/2025	Walworth County Treasurer	x 3567	\$10.00		Tax rolls fee	6950	Office expenditures	
2/15/2025	Southern Lakes Newspapers	x 3568	\$40.08		January meeting posting	6010	Association and Notices	
2/15/2025	WI State Laboratory of Hygiene	x 3569	\$1,050.00		Water testing 7/26-8/15/24	7600	Barley Straw Project	
				\$1,310.08				
3/13/2025	Donna Sherman	x 3570	\$210.00		March retainer	6020	Clerical Services	
3/13/2025	Mike Lindenmuth	x 3571	\$61.50		Barley permit	7450	Permits and Surveys	
3/13/2025	Lake and Pond Solutions	x 3572	\$1,965.00		DNR permit for chemical spraying	7450	Permits and Surveys	
3/13/2025	Duick & Company	x 3573	\$785.00		Accounting services	6750	Legal & Professional Svcs	
3/13/2025	WI State Laboratory of Hygiene	x 3574	\$1,050.00		Water testing 7/26-8/15/24	7600	Barley Straw Project	
3/13/2025	Southern Lakes Newspapers	x 3575	\$31.40		March meeting posting	6010	Association and Notices	
				\$4,102.90				
4/10/2025	Donna Sherman	3576	\$210.00		April retainer	6020	Clerical Services	
4/10/2025	Carol Ducommun	3577	\$247.98		Hotel for WLRC reimbursement	6910	Conventions & Meetings	
4/10/2025	Dan Berg	3578	\$247.98		Hotel for WLRC reimbursement	6911	Conventions & Meetings	
4/10/2025	Chuck Chamberlain	3579	\$500.00		Reimbursement for envelope box at S. Townline Rar	CAPITAL	Capital	
				\$1,205.96				
Total YTD disbursements								\$6,828.94

2025 Capital Reserve Fund Activity Report

4/7/2025

WHITEWATER-RICE LAKES MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
2025 Capital Reserve Fund Activity

Opening Balance		
12/31/2024	Capital Reserve Bank Balance	<u>22,052.22</u>
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		<u>\$-</u>
Jan-24	Interest	\$2.81
Feb-24	Interest	\$2.54
Mar-24	Interest	\$2.81
Apr-24	Interest	
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		\$8.16
Disbursements:		
4/10/25	Replacement envelope holder for S Townline ramp	\$500.00

	Total Disbursements	<u>500.00</u>
1/31/24	Ending Cash Balance Capital Fund	<u>21,560.38</u>
	Reconciliation to Bank Statement:	
	Outstanding transactions:	
	Balance Per Bank Statement March 31, 2025	<u>22,060.38</u>
	CD due 6/4/25 at 2.05%	152,287.40
		174,347.78

Weed Harvesting: Carol introduced Scott who mentioned the returning crew would be Paul, Jaden and Jim Peters, plus Larry Jacobs one day a week; Scott would like to hire at least 3 more people since our harvest operation requires two people on the harvesters in environmentally sensitive areas, including Rice Lake, in May as well as training time. Bob has someone in mind and would follow up.

Aquarius will hold its annual safety training in North Prairie on May 16th. The cost is \$75.00 per person to attend. Carol asked for a motion to pay expenses, time to attend and mileage rate for travel. Bob made the motion second by Dan; all in favor; none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

Carol suggested inviting Heidi Bunk DNR Representative out in June.

Chemical/Herbicide: Mike reported on the Barley Straw Report regarding second year results, which provided no measurable difference. For this coming summer, some residents who previously placed bags on their piers declined to do so this year. Mike is also looking for assistance in further interpreting the results; Steve agreed to help find someone. Considering the cost versus the outcome, Mike proposed abandoning the project for the third year since there has been no significant change throughout the first two summers.

Bog Removal: Bob will work on an RFP for September.

Equipment: Chuck provided launch envelopes for Dan for each of the boxes. He will arrange for a port-a-potty for the harvest season. Scott took a trailer to Aquarius to upgrade the hydraulic tailgate. Chuck suggested we look ahead at what equipment will be needed in the future so he can present a plan to the members for approval at the annual meeting. Chuck will also begin looking into grants.

Reports of Standing Teams: Carol

Fish: no update

Wakes and Shoreline Erosion: We sent letters to select members of the legislature earlier this year with the results of our Fall survey.

Safety: no update

Old Business:

Clean Boat Clean Waters Program: Bob spoke about signage and the importance of the clean boat clean water program; heard about the process of how to get the community involved at the Stevens Point Convention. Bob is going to work on a process to communicate why this program is beneficial and implementing portions of it.

Approval for Lake and Solutions contract Mike said we have a proposal from Lake & Pond Solutions for the 2025 spring pre-treatment survey and made a motion to approve \$2,625 for 8 hours of work per based on the initial RFP response. Mike indicated, however, that he feels it might take as much as 9 hours and amended his motion to accommodate that for a total of \$3,105. Seconded by Chuck; all in favor; none opposed, motion passed unanimously.

Approval to commence working with Onterra Mike said our next Aquatic Plant Management Plan, for which we sent out an RFP in January, is due in five years from the 2023 SEWRPC plan, hence spring of 2028. We are seeking Board approval to commence working with Onterra leading up to the 2028 Aquatic Plant Management Plan. We sent our RFP to contractors and had responses as follows: Lake and Ponds responded that it was too early for them to quote; Solitude submitted a bid of \$15K minus a potential \$10K DNR grant, for a net cost of \$5K.

Onterra submitted a bid including completing the standard DNR requirements but also delineating a process that includes a planning committee of 6-12 people and a kickoff meeting with district members. Their bid was \$42,280 less \$20K of potential DNR grants (one for each lake), with a net price of \$22,280. Onterra will help us with a fall 2025 survey for an out-of-pocket cost of approximately \$3K, which they will repeat in fall of 2026. This will help familiarize Onterra with our lakes and assist our decisions about spraying for the summers of 2026 and 2027. For decisions regarding spraying this summer (2025), Mike and Carol have been working with Heidi Bunk of the DNR. Onterra's bid includes an escalation of 2-4% from the current bid pricing for inflation.

Bob made a motion to approve the Onterra proposal of January 2025 as presented; seconded by Chuck; all in favor; none opposed, motion passed unanimously

New Business: Updates from the WI Lakes & Rivers Convention attended by Carol, Dan and Bob.

Dan went a day early and attended new commissioner, and new treasurer training. Among the items they discussed were moving surplus operating funds into the capital account with approval of the members and using the Government Investment Pool.

Bob reported on meetings he attended including some on lake technology and others on lake communications, including one related to the Clean Boat Clean Water effort.

Carol attended several meetings, including a Chair/Secretary session; one on measuring near shore fish populations over time; and one responding to blue-green algae blooms. Mike also attended a seminar in Walworth County this spring that emphasized the importance of the district having clear guidelines on reporting and communication for responding to blue green algae. Carol also attended a DNR program on writing effective surface water grants, and both Steve and Carol attended sessions on the state's legislative process as well as sessions on enhanced wakes. The WI legislature will likely not be addressing enhanced wakes in the current session, but individual towns can implement their own ordinances and are encouraged by the DNR to protect their lakes as they best determine

Other Business: N/A

Next meeting Date: May 8, 2025

Adjournment: Mike made a motion to adjourn 8:08 PM; Chuck seconded; all in favor motioned carried unanimously; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Donna Sherman, Clerk