

OKAUCHEE LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MONDAY August 11th, 2025 – 7:00 P.M.

VILLAGE OF LAC LA BELLE – UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM

W359N6812 BROWN STREET OCONOMOWOC, WI 53066

THIS MEETING WAS AVAILABLE TO ATTEND VIA REMOTE CONNECTIONS

1. Call to Order

T.Godard called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

2. Meeting Notice Announcement

The meeting notice announcement was distributed to a local newspaper, posted at the Village of Lac La Belle, Town of Merton, on the OLMD Website, the Waukesha County Website, and a web conference connection information was provided for remote attendance.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present: Tom Godard, Brian Sichi, Doug Larson, Bruce Mueller

Absent: John Foley

Also Present: Pat Furno, **Accountant for the District;** Linda Goehre, **Website Designer,** Dee Schriver (remote) **Consultant;** Stefanie Anderson **OLMD Secretary**

5. Correspondence

- a. T. Godard received correspondence regarding if we would still be running our Lake Operations with the no wake order in place.
- b. B. Sichi received correspondence from Rory Leyden regarding Moose Lake in reference to the petition that they created.
- c. D. Larson received correspondence from Linda Goehre requesting \$15 more per month for website fees.

6. Comments from the Floor

- a. Keith Granum, N53W34296 Road Q, Okauchee WI, 53069, questioned if a study was done before and after the 4th of July fireworks. D. Larson replied that yes; Tom Steinbach the director of the Oconomowoc Watershed Protection Program did take some samples but we do not have those results back yet.

- b. Keith Granum, N53W34296 Road Q, Okauchee WI, 53069, stated that he was at the Village of Lac La Belle Board Meeting and they discussed eliminating aerators in the Winter. T. Godar asked B. Mueller if he would contact the Village and inquire.

7. Comments from Committee Members

D. Larson questioned if we could cut off the flow of water from Moose Lake since we are already under a no-wake ordinance.

8. Discuss Treasurer's Report

D. Larson reported the following for ending July 31st 2025

Total Revenues: \$421,373.23

Total Expenditures: \$140,086.73

This leaves a budgeted balance of: \$233,962.64

9. Approved Checks & Vouchers

D. Larson reported that there was a large bill this month for Solitude Lake Management.

B. Mueller moved to approve payments submitted from July 15th 2025 through August 10th 2025. B. Sichi seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (07/14/25)

Approval of Minutes with amendment to state, the Village of Lac LaBelle & web conference connection information was provided for remote attendance.

B. Sichi moved to approve the amended 07/14/25 minutes. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Lake Operations Report, Brady Mullikin, Lake Operations Manager

- a. Brady stated that the season is cruising along and the crew is harvesting Monday through Thursday. They have been able to pick out any hot spots and keep up with the demand. Little Okauchee and Upper Oconomowoc were completed on the second rotation.
- b. Brady stated that for the most part people are adhering to the No Wake Order. They have 2 Barge Crews that are going around to pick things up today that may have floated away due to the storm and higher than normal lake level.

- c. Brady announced that he has added security, lighting and motion detectors at our road L property. With the increase of traffic coming down road L, more security was needed as well as light switches to avoid running long extension cords. When the machines are run in the Fall, the diesel fumes can be dangerous when the doors are closed. Brady stated that they found a switch that works to get the fumes out.
- d. T. Godar asked if we should look at ways to expand the Lake Operation Inventory. D. Larson said that we talked about daily purchases but not for future expenditures as of yet.
- e. Brady said that they are currently working with Mitch to get C1 to their facility, where it will get a new front end. D. Larson asked if there is any estimate for the total bill, and if we could receive a statement. Brady replied that the settlement will be enough to cover the full repair.

12. Discuss & Act on Goose Egg Oiling

- a. Arnold Groehler announced that in the Springtime geese are very territorial. The mother goose will set on the eggs for 20+ days. The process of Goose Egg Oiling includes spraying the eggs with corn oil so that it will not let oxygen get inside the eggshell. This will prevent the embryo from hatching. The mother goose will not have time to relay a new nest of eggs and after a few years of having their nests oiled they should stop returning to the area.
- b. Another benefit of conducting Goose Egg Oiling is that it is less controversial than that of a Goose Round-Up. Most owners will be able to easily determine if they have a Goose Egg nest on their property. The mother goose may flap her wings and try to bite if you approach the nest.
- c. Arnold announced that the OLMD must request a Federal Permit for a fee of \$50. He would then become the authorized agent once the permit was granted. The agent must be timely with the reporting of how many eggs & nests are oiled.
- d. Arnold suggested that most lakes are moving towards Egg Oiling and that Lower Genessee Lake is the only local lake this year that conducted the round up. For the first year we can guess that it would cost around \$1000, which is also much more economical than doing a Goose Round Up.
- e. If a Riparian Owner would like to request a nest on their property to be oiled, they will need to contact Arnold for Goose Control. B. Mueller suggested that geese also nest on Fireman's Bay, the small peninsula as well as both small islands.

B. Sichi made a motion to conduct Goose Egg Oiling in 2026. B. Mueller seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried without exception.

13. Discuss & Act on Alternate Lake Operation Drop Sites

- a. Brady stated that John Gayle's property has been where we have been disposing the weeds for the last 5 years. His farm is located across from our Stonebank location. We are looking for an alternate drop site for when the ground is wet. If the ground gets too wet the dump trucks can get stuck with 20,000 lbs of weeds and it is hard to maneuver out of the drop site. B. Sichi suggested the area off of Hwy C on Pheasant Dr. has enough room where we could drop as a wet weather location.
- b. B. Sichi stated that Tall Pines Conservatory owns the land. They are excited to work with us and feel that the weeds would benefit them as an asset. The life – cycle of the weeds when we drop them would first benefit the wildlife in the area, the 2nd year it would break down unrecognizably, and the 3rd year it would serve as a compost. Brian stated that the Town of Merton also has a site available that we could look at.
- c. D. Larson questioned if we would have to purchase the property from Tall Pines or if they would allow us to use it as a partner. B. Sichi replied that since they see it as an asset, and not a waste, we would not have purchase. They are excited to partner with us and offered to help us work with Merton.
- d. B. Sichi and Brady Mullikin will follow up with Tall Pines Conservatory

14. Discuss & Act on Grant Strategy

- a. J. Foley and B. Sichi met with Heidi Bunk last Wednesday and agreed that it was a very helpful and exciting conversation. Heidi helped them to navigate where to start when it comes to preparing a Grant Strategy. The next deadline is September 15th 2025 for the pre-applications and the preliminary paperwork. The final application will be due November 15th.
- b. T. Godar questioned if the easiest grant to apply to was the Clean Boats/Clean Waters. B. Sichi replied that yes; that is one that is the easiest to execute.
- c. B. Sichi stated that Heidi suggested to start by researching where the water run-off is going, how many boats are on the lake and the data around the lake from h2o samples. Heidi is looking to partner with us involving the Grant process and would like to have a meeting this Winter.

15. Discuss the Website

- a. Goose Egg Oiling Description and Process
- b. Suggestions on where to surf and where not to surf for wake enhanced boats; T. Godar suggested possibly using a color coded map.

16. Future Agenda Items

- a. Discuss & Act on Goose Egg Oiling
- b. Discuss & Act on Grant Strategy
- c. Discuss & Act on Aerators in the Winter

17. Set Future Meeting Dates

The Annual Meeting/Organizational Meeting is Aug 25th @ 7pm.

The Next Meeting is September 8th 2025 @ 7pm.

18. Adjournment

B. Sichi moved to adjourn the August 11th 2025 Okauchee Lake Management District meeting. D. Larson seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried without exception. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.