

OKAUCHEE LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MONDAY May 11th, 2026 – 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.Godar called the meeting to order at 7:04 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 Godar, Brian Sichi, Doug Larson, Bruce Mueller, John Foley

Absent: N/A

Also Present: Linda Goehre, **Website** Stefanie Anderson **OLMD Secretary** , Pat Furno, **Accountant for the District**

Absent: N/A

5. Correspondence

- a. B. Sichi received correspondence from the Town of Merton regarding the tax exemption. He will drop off the form and the payment accordingly.
- b. T. Godar received correspondence from USGS.
- c. J. Foley received correspondence from Charlie Harkins, Commissioner for Moose Lake, and he will help answer questions as needed. B. Sichi stated that he is also in conversation with Rory Leyden the President of Moose Lake.

6. Comments from the Floor

N/A

7. Comments from Committee Members

- a. D. Larson stated that there are some trees down in Tierney Bay from the recent storms.
T. Godar announced that there was a message sent to the owners to be proactive.

8. Discuss Treasurer's Report

D. Larson reported the following for ending April 30th 2026:

Total Revenues: \$399,901.41

Total Expenditures: \$55,884.88

This leaves a budgeted balance of: \$344,016.53

9. Approved Checks & Vouchers

B. Sichi moved to approve payments submitted from April 14th 2026 through May 11th 2026. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (04/13/26)

B. Sichi moved to approve the 04/13/26 meeting minutes. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Animal Control Specialist Report / Update on Goose Egg Oiling, Arnold Groehler

- a. Arnold announced that the Spring weather will greatly affect the animal activity. As the water level lowers it has triggered unusual animal behavior. If it's cold they will stay put and wait until it warms up to relocate. Arnold stated that the muskrats are slowly starting to move as well as beavers. It may look as if you have new muskrats moving in; but it is their current burrows that are collapsing as changes are made to the shoreline.
- b. Arnold stated that the Canadian Goose nesting is down 95% from the previous year at this time. To date Arnold has oiled 1 nest. He will be keeping an eye on Whittaker Bay, Crazy Man's Island, Pan Fish Bay and Park Bay to name a few. The islands were flooded in April so that affected quite a bit of the Goose Activity during the wet and rainy weather. If it warms up next week we may see more nests pop up quickly and our permit to oil nests continues until June 30th. If you see two geese together you can contact Arnold directly to keep an eye on them. The feedback that he has received is that everyone is happy with introducing the Goose Egg Oiling vs. the Goose Round-Up that was conducted in previous years.

12. Lake Operations Report Brady Mulikin, Lake Operations Manager

- a. Brady stated that they will start Lake Operations very lightly after Memorial Day weekend. Two of the veteran employees will return and then they will keep adding additional employees as needed until the operation is in full force mid-June.
- b. Brady announced that updates to the machinery include: New paddle wheel motors for the Skimmer, and C3. C1's parts are being painted and re-assembled. D. Larson asked when we will find out the exact repair amount for C1.
- c. Brady stated that last year they completed 80 feet of seawall and this year they are working on the other end. It is currently 25-30 years old and the crew will use any down-time to work on repairing the seawall.
- d. D. Larson stated that Curly Leaf Pondweed is usually the first thing to pop up. The last thing to stick around until the end of the season will be the Eel Grass. D. Larson mentioned that in Tierney Bay the ProcellaCOR treatments have done very well. Brady agreed that keeping the cutters out of Tierney Bay is the best option. The main goal is to reduce possible damage to the motors as it is very hard to get the paddle wheels through the bay.
- e. J. Foley asked if our partnerships are still good with the farms/farmers that we have used for weed disposal in which Brady answered; Yes.
- f. B. Sichi stated that Ben has been hired for the internship with the DNR and will be in contact with him personally. He will be helping to educate people on the weekends regarding proper cleaning of the boats entering and leaving the public launch. B. Sichi will also be in touch with Heidi Bunk to see how we will get the proper signage posted.
- e. The Clean Boats / Clean Waters Monitor (Ben) will be providing boaters with educational materials and advice on how to check their boats and trailers for invasive species as well as collect Data for the DNR about boating patterns on Okauchee Lake.

13. North Lake Carp Assessment 2026/2027

- a. D. Larson suggested that it seems like investing into the Carp Assessment project with North Lake may be a good use of funds that we have allocated towards environmental land usage. If it would benefit Okauchee Lake, this is something to consider. T. Godar asked if we feel confident that we did our due diligence to make sure that we would benefit from moving forward with this partnership?
- b. B. Sichi suggested that we take some time to think about it closer to the Annual Meeting.
- c. D. Larson stated that phase #2 will determine if there is an existing problem in Okauchee and if so; would we then commit to phase #3.

d. B. Sichi stated that we have only seen 1-2 this year that it has been too cold. Carp are bottom feeders that stir up the phosphorus and tend to migrate.

14. Commissioner Transition and Appreciation

- a. T. Godar received a call from D. Larson that Doug will be moving to Iowa at the end of May. D. Larson contacted Alan at Waukesha County as well to notify him of his upcoming move. When D. Schriver resigned D. Larson assumed her position.
- b. D. Larson stated that he has enjoyed his time in the 1.5 years that he was able to serve on the OLMD Board and that he feels they were able to accomplish some positive things during this time. B. Mueller stated that with D. Larson's help they have accomplished a lot in the last year.
- c. T. Godar thanked D. Larson for his time and commitment and stated that we have been fortunate enough to have him help with financial, banking and insurance guidance.
- d. J. Foley also thanked D. Larson and assisted him to the bank to get the necessary signatures to make a transition.

B. Sichi made a motion to appoint J. Foley as the Interim treasurer until the June 8th OLMD Meeting. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Future Agenda Items

- a. Act and Discuss on the North Lake Carp Assessment 2026/2027 (closer to the Annual Meeting)
- b. Discuss & Act on Expense Reimbursement
- c. Town of Merton Enhanced Wake Regulations

16. Set Future Meeting Dates

The Next Meeting is June 8th 2026 @ 7pm.

17. Adjournment

D. Larson moved to adjourn the May 11th 2026 Okauchee Lake Management District meeting. B. Mueller seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried without exception. The meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.

