

OKAUCHEE LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MONDAY Aug 10th 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 7:03 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 Godar, John Foley, Bruce Mueller, Brian Sichi

Absent: N/A

Also Present: Pat Furno, **Accountant for the District** Brady Mullikin, **Lake Operations Manager**, Stefanie Anderson **OLMD Secretary**

Absent: : Linda Goehre, **Website Designer**

5. Correspondence

- a. T. Godar received correspondence from the USGS for the balance due, however we are waiting for a physical report. T. Godar has been in contact with Justin Smerud for an update.
- b. T. Godar received correspondence from Mr. Schimmel's Council in regards to Tweeden Lane Access.

6. Comments from the Floor

- a. Tom Mott, N64W350 Road J Oconomowoc, WI 53066, stated that he has observed a bright blue crayfish and is wondering if it is a possible mutation, or if it was brought in by a boat as it is an invasive species.
- b. B. Sichi questioned if Tom was able to get any photos, and if so he could reach out to Ben Heussner DNR Biologist that we are currently working with.
- c. Brady stated that he has only seen one fish of this nature in all of his time spent on the lake in the past 8 years.
- d. Keith Granum, N53W34296 Road Q, Okauchee WI 53069, questioned how far they were able to extend their pier. Currently, with the low water level, they have zero depth and they aren't able to get their pontoon on and off of the lift. B. Sichi replied that the DNR regulates the boat lift mooring. As long as you follow the guidelines set by the DNR then it is allowed.
- e. T. Godar stated that we can ask the Village what lake level elevation the dam is currently set for.

7. Comments from Commissioners

N/A

8. Discuss Treasurer's Report

J. Foley reported the following for ending July 31st 2026:

Total Revenues: \$394,959.48

Total Expenditures: \$273,101.41

This leaves a budgeted balance of: \$121,858.07

9. Approved Checks & Vouchers

J. Foley moved to approve the checks and vouchers that were submitted from July 13th 2026 through August 9th 2026. B. Sichi seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (07/13/26)

J. Foley moved to approve the 07/13/26 meeting minutes. B. Mueller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Animal Control Specialist Report, Arnold Groehler

a. Arnold stated that there was a report of a badger that had been camped out in a dog kennel on the North part of the lake. This is unusual as badgers are not usually seen in this area. He also received a call about a wounded goose on an owner's property in which he directed them to reach out to the DNR.

b. Arnold announced that there are only 5 muskrat traps out at this time as the numbers are currently very low. The second litter of the season will be venturing out on their own in a couple of weeks, and we may see the number increase. If so, call him and they will set out more traps accordingly.

c. Arnold also stated that last year we had a record number of chipmunks in the area. This has resulted in an increased number of hornet nests. They will use the chipmunks' home from the previous season. There is a note of caution to report as if you come across a swarm of them, they will chase you. Check your property and make sure that there are no holes that are being used as nests.

12. Discuss & Act on Tweeden Lane Regarding Access to Okauchee Lake

a. T. Godar stated that he appreciated William's persistence and apologized for not being able to address the issue last month as they were not formally on the agenda. The request presented is that Schimmel's are taxed accordingly for their lake access rights.

b. William Schimmels, N55W34511 Tweeden Lane Oconomowoc, WI 53066, stated that when he first reached out in June, he was sent the document of the Formation of the OLMD. The verbiage included that the OLMD would cover all riparian property owners as well as the deeded access of land.

c. T. Godar announced that this type of question is usually referred to the County. He has a call in, but he has yet to hear back. In the meantime, he has had Kay & Kay Law Firm look over the documents as the Schimmels have been referred to the OLMD for clarification.

d. B. Sichi stated that having deeded access is unusual to have in a district, but it is not unusual to have on a lake.

e. William Schimmels, N55W34511 Tweeden Lane Oconomowoc, WI 53066, asked if they can get a written decision regarding the lake access and taxes. T. Godar replied, not yet, but if you do not receive one from the county then you will get one from us once the determination is made.

f. B. Sichi stated that we are limited to statute Ch 33 and we cannot define without County administration ruling.

g. T. Godar stated that this will be added as a future agenda item.

13. Discuss & Act on Expense Reimbursement Policy

Expense Reimbursement Policy Draft is Attached

- a. T. Godar stated that he and J. Foley drafted an Expense Reimbursement Policy and that it can be amended as needed.
- b. B. Sichi agreed that it can be passed to include future edits. The state standard rate reimbursement will be added for mileage expenses.
- c. J. Foley is going to include a sample expense report in the policy.

B. Sichi made a motion to accept the Expense Reimbursement Policy with the condition of adopting typographical edits as needed. B. Muller seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Lake Operations Report Brady Mullikin, Lake Operations Manager

a. Brady stated that they have faced some extreme weather with the recent storms that ripped through the area. The ultimate goal of the Lake Operations Crew is to achieve a working balance. With the weather, owner requests, cutting schedule, machine functionality and other variables all contributing factors to be consider. The crew has still been able to maintain a very good balance this season. Even though C1 has been out of commission and that resulted in them operating without two crew members.

b. Brady was pleased to announce that they went almost 4 days without a single phone call, the whole crew is working very well as a communicative entity. This season they have been focusing also on using all the machine capabilities vs. man power and what is being taken by the barges vs. what is being taken from the piers.

c. Brady stated that they just experienced a major outage from one of the pumps and it will need to be taken out for about a week or so. He has pre-stocked an extra pump as well as Hydraulic Fluid and there will be no additional cost at this time. Currently C1 is in the assembly process, and it should be ready to go around Labor Day weekend

d. Brady paid honors to the crew members this season and acknowledged that they enjoyed having the option this Summer for a few days off. The crew has remained very flexible and accommodating to the changing needs of the Lake Operations.

e. Rick Aide, N64W33715 Lakeview Dr. Oconomowoc, WI 53066, stated that this is his first time at a meeting. He is concerned with the number of weeds that are around their property and questioning what can be done. Rick stated that the crew comes around 8:30 am to pick up the piles and it takes a few hours during the day for the rest of the weeds to float in. Rick was requesting if their frontage could be cleaned up later in the day vs. the usual 8:30 am timeframe. Rick also questioned Brady if the crew regularly cuts on Fridays as many weeds will collect over the weekend. Brady replied that he is aware of the area and the issue at hand. On Friday's the crew will conduct surface Fridays and

99% of the time avoid cutting. They will fill an entire dump truck with floaters alone and do not want to stir up more weeds to collect on the shoreline over the weekend. Brady also stated that Rick is in a spot that the winds will always bring weeds directly too. The crew could spend the entire day collecting weeds and they do their best to collect as much as they can daily with the time they have.

Brady also made note that the skimmer has about a ½ hour time span while it is available awaiting the next project and he will send it towards him whenever he can.

f. Rick stated that when the crew backs out with the paddles the water disperses the weeds again since they can't get in and out of their area easily. On Saturday and Sunday they will have several piles of Eel Grass stacked up on the pier. Brady also made note that the Eel Grass uprooted about a month earlier this season due to storms and the amount of boat traffic. Eel grass has a very shallow root structure and it will uproot in mats. Rick would like to know if the crew can come by later on Friday's to clear the weeds that have floated back in before the weekend starts.

g. T. Godar stated that it is tough to change the Lake Operations with so many variable factors and acreage to cover but they can take his request into account.

15. Discuss the Website

- a. Arnold will be making a Critter Worksheet PDF to be used to post to the OLMD Website

16. Discuss & Act o the OLMD Annual Meeting / Organizational Meeting

- a. An open Spot on the OLMD Board will be up for election at the Annual Meeting on August 24th, 2026.
- B. Sichi will be bringing the appropriate ballots and counting the votes.

17. Future Agenda Items

- a. Eric Jost OWWP Presentation Reschedule for Annual Meeting
- b. Tweeden Lane Access to Okauchee Lake

18. Set Future Meeting Dates

The Next Meeting is the **Annual Meeting** on Aug 24th, 2026 @ 7pm / Organizational Meeting directly following the Annual Meeting.

19. Adjournment

B. Mueller moved to adjourn the August 10th, 2026, Okauchee Lake Management District meeting. B. Sichi seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried without exception. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

