

May 14th, 2026
Baldwin, Michigan 49304

Regular meeting of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Lake was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commissioner Haslock.

Present - Richard Haslock, LCRC Commissioner
Gary Truxton, LCRC Commissioner
Don Divis, LCRC Commissioner
Leroy Williams Jr, Manager
~~Austin MacDougall, Finance & HR Manager~~
Shawn MacDougall, Road Foreman
Al Dailey, Road Foreman
William Van Dyke, Shop Foreman
~~Dennis Robinson, Engineer Tech~~
~~Jessica Hanna, Finance & HR Assistant~~

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Truxton to approve April 24th, 2026, regular meeting minutes.

Supported by Divis.

Roll Call vote.

Yeas – Haslock, Truxton, Divis. Nays – 0. Absent – 0.

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Divis to approve April 24th, 2026, closed meeting minutes.

Supported by Truxton.

Roll Call vote.

Yeas – Haslock, Truxton, Divis. Nays – 0. Absent – 0.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PAYABLES:

A motion was made by Divis to approve:

Payroll Voucher	#5407	\$98,383.53
Accounts Payable Voucher	#5408	\$494,431.20
FSA Voucher	#5409	\$1,230.23
Accounts Payable Voucher	#5405C	\$27,500.00
Payroll Voucher	#5404A	\$529.29

Supported by Haslock.

Roll call vote.

Yeas – Haslock, Truxton, Divis. Nays – 0. Absent – 0.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jamie Russell talked about how they had there MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) meeting a couple weeks ago and talked about a few hot topics at that meeting and gave handouts.

Jamie Russell reminded everyone that the e-waste drop off is coming up May 30th in Baldwin located at the Library. And then the tire recycle day at Wenger's pavilion on June 25th from 3pm to 6pm.

Robert Sanders, Lake County Commissioner, Vice Chair, attended Peacock Township's last Board Meeting and at their last Board Meeting one of their biggest issue is the Wolf Lake Drain. He believes he is hearing two different stories so wanted to attend the meeting.

Howard Lodholtz, Lake County Commissioner, Board Chair, received a call from an individual who lives around the Wolf Lake. This individual wants to know how many people are effected by the water. He stated that there is only 4-5 that got effected that are complaining, this individual is happy with the work we are doing as acting Drain Commission of Lake County at the Wolf Lake Drain.

Tobi Lake, Lake County Administrator, wanted to bring a couple things to light, just to refresh everyone, this project started back in 2022. Has all emails from the Wolf Lake Riparian's from the whole process. The Riparian's only concerns then were a screen for the fish and something to handle the seagrass. And then once after it was built, they brought up their concern on maintenance. There has been no concern expressed about it not being big enough until recently.

Eric Seguin engineer with Prein and Newhoff, agreed with what Tobi stated. He also showed some charts showing how the lake levels behaves with weather events. Over historic records it shows that the lake reseeds at a much slower rate.

Shawn Coffey came and spoke with the Board. He wanted to thank them for approving his ½ Pay. Let the Board know that he doesn't have much left to go before he is all good. Then thank'd the Board for all the shirts and boots they provide the employees.

Phillip Lodholtz, Supervisor of Chase Township, wanted to talk about Brine. Had a resident come to their township meeting asking why the township has to pay a portion of the cost of Brine.

Road Foreman Al Dailey ask Phillip Lodholtz if they have received any complaints about our work on 72nd Street. Phillip stated that as of now, he has heard nothing about a complaint on that road. Then informed him of the complaint that was received here at the Road Commission.

Phillip Lodholtz stated that they are looking into seeing what all they can spend that new Marijuana money due to law change. Al Dailey stated they are able to spend that on roads, since he was given marijuana money to spend back when he was Chief of Webber Fire Department.

Phillip Lodholtz brought up that he did also have an individual of Chase Township reach out to him, the resident express some concerns about some low hanging tree limbs. 80th and 84th Street also have some low hanging limbs to look at.

Phillip Lodholtz had one last thing for the Board, 48th Street west of Frank Smith Road, if you are headed west there is a big hill and he has received a couple complaints about not being able to see other drivers over the hill. He believes they are asking for the hill to be cut.

Richard Haslock then asked Phillip Ludholtz what the status is with the Chase Township resident that has a fence located in the Lake County Road Commission's Road Right of Way. Phillip stated that he has no update. Al Dailey then informed him that a letter was sent to him informing him he has 30 days to move fence out of Right of Way.

Manager Leroy Williams Jr received an email from a residents from Peacock Township addressing their concerns about the Wolf Lake Drain. A copy of the letter will be included in the minutes.

REPORTS FROM MANAGEMENT:

FINANCE & HR MANAGER:

William Van Dyke reported on Austin MacDougall's behalf.

Paul Bunyan meeting on May 21st being held at Evergreen Resort in Cadillac, RSVP is in and everything is all set. Leaving from the office at 8am on the 21st.

Working on a couple things with the auditors still getting things all wrapped up. I worked with him yesterday, he was working remote out of the conference to get a few more documents for the auditor.

Provided the Commissioners with the three bids received for website updates to get the Road Commission in ADA compliance. Austin does have a recommended one that he would like to go with.

Richard Haslock made mention about updating our voicemail machine. Austin was working on getting everyone's voicemail restored, all were deleted but his. He was able to get that taken care of before having to leave for conference.

MANAGER:

The paving on Old M-63 has been started, he believes they have done the second course already from State to 5 Mile and from Twin Creek Rd to Syers Creek.

Star Lake, in Lake Township, sent a letter stating that they will be spraying in June to help control the weeds and the algae. So, if you receive any calls, that is what they are doing.

Received a refund check from CRASIF (County Road Association Self Insurance Fund) for \$19,549.77 for our 2026 Dividend Distribution.

March MTF has been received, and since last October to current, we are \$818,826.13 short of what was given as our estimated amount to receive.

From January to the end of April of this year compared to last, our fuel cost has gone up \$40,596.85 due to law change that took effect January 1st, 2026. With a total increased amount of \$163,305.06 spent on vendors in that time frame.

ROAD FOREMAN:

MACDOUGALL –

Have been doing to sweeping around the County. Trying to get intersections cleared before Blessing of the Bikes.

Guys out patching all the time. Still having them go out with UPM but we have got tar in now, so some with tar and stone have been out patching as well. Having them use the UPM on the bigger deeper potholes and then once patched with UPM gone over with tar and stone to seal the patch.

Has found a sink hole on 4th Street near M-37 right in front of the hardware store. Had Kyle with MDOT come look at it. Kyle stated to just patch the hole. Still unknown what caused the sink hole to form.

Trying to do other projects as we can. Everything on Sweetwater Hill has been taken care of. Was able to get the dirt work done on Squaw Lake Rd. Guys out blading on rainy days or chasing trees.

AL –

Have been pulling in around the county. Should be done pulling in by next week sometime.

Is planning to start Brining in the county on the 26th, is not sure exactly where the Brining will start.

Has a big culvert project coming up, one on Queens Highway that's probably going to take a couple days, the other on Sauble Lake Drive that will probably take a couple days.

Stated that he has almost all culverts on his side put in from that storm damage. Just has Queens Highway and Hawkins to due yet. Leroy Williams Jr then brought up culvert on 1 Mile east of Hawkins is another to be replaced.

Is still having issues all over the East side of the County with Beaver. Putting screens on the culverts.

VAN DYKE –

Issues with leaking roof in the shop and the red shed. Some repairs done on the shop haven't had a hard enough rain yet to see how well they hold up, but with the rain we have seems good. The Red Shed, a lot of work needs to be done there, roof is so old and needs replacing. Patching until we can get quotes for full replacement.

Have received both brooms that we have purchased. One is out running, and the other does need a little attention.

ROBINSON -

Absent.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Truxton to admit both the letter received by Leroy Williams Jr and the court ordered lake level with drawings for Wolf Lake in our meeting minutes.

Supported by Divis.

Roll Call vote.

Yeas – Haslock, Truxton, Divis. Nays – 0. Absent – 0.

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Truxton to accept ACME Branding's bid for the update to Lake County Road Commission's website to make it ADA compliant.

Supported by Divis.

Roll Call vote.

Yeas – Haslock, Truxton, Divis. Nays – 0. Absent – 0.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

COMMISSIONERS PERSONAL PRIVILEGE:

Gary Truxton stated he thinks we are doing a great job, but the back roads are looking very unkept and needs work.

Donald Divis wanted to say thank Tobi for all his help on the Wolf Lake Drain. Would like to try to find out who owns the property up at Wolf Lake. Wanted to thank everyone. Wanted to commend management on how fast they were able to get the new sweepers.

Richard Haslock thank'd everyone for the Wolf Lake accomplishments.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE 51st CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF LAKE

**IN RE WOLF LAKE, LOCATED IN LAKE
COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

HON. Mark S. Wickens

Case No. 22-10353-CZ

Stacy L. Hissong (P55922)
Kyle A. O'Meara (P83075)
FAHEY SCHULTZ BURZYCH RHODES PLC
Attorneys for Lake County Road Commission
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David C. Gerling (P37459)
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Attorney for David and Sheryl Gerling Trust
PO Box 150
Spring Lake, Michigan 49456
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ORDER AMENDING LAKE LEVEL ORDER

LAKE COUNTY

At a session of said Court, held in the Lake County
Circuit Court, State of Michigan, this 19 day of
August 2022.

AUG 19 2022

PRESENT: Honorable Mark S. Wickens, Circuit Judge

TRIAL COURT

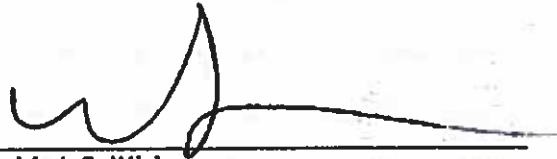
On reading of the filed Petition to Amend Lake Level Order, after full hearing of the
allegations and proofs with respect to the matters set forth:

IT IS ORDERED that pursuant to this Court's continuing jurisdiction under MCL
324.30707(5), the normal level of Wolf Lake is ordered to be a range of 935.7 to 934.2 feet North
American Vertical Datum of 1988 ("NAVD88"), with a target elevation of 934.7 feet NAVD88.
The normal level shall be subject to additional reasonable variations due to reasons such as
approved and permitted construction work, weather or natural conditions, and reasonable

management of lake level infrastructure intended to result in maintaining the ordered lake level range.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that an amended Wolf Lake – Lake Level Special Assessment District boundary be established to finance lake level improvements and activities necessary to maintain the lake level as permissible under Part 307. MCL 324.30707(5). A map depicting the boundaries of the Wolf Lake – Lake Level Special Assessment District as well as the parcels included in the Special Assessment District is attached to this Order as *Exhibit 1* and is incorporated herein. *Exhibit 1* shall serve as the Wolf Lake – Lake Level Special Assessment District boundary and supersede any prior special assessment district boundaries in previous court orders.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all permits required by law shall be obtained prior to performing work to achieve or maintain the ordered normal level for Wolf Lake. This includes, but is not limited to, permits related to lake level fluctuations under Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, MCL 324.30101 *et seq.* All provisions in valid previous lake level orders for Wolf Lake that do not conflict with this Order shall remain in full force and effect.



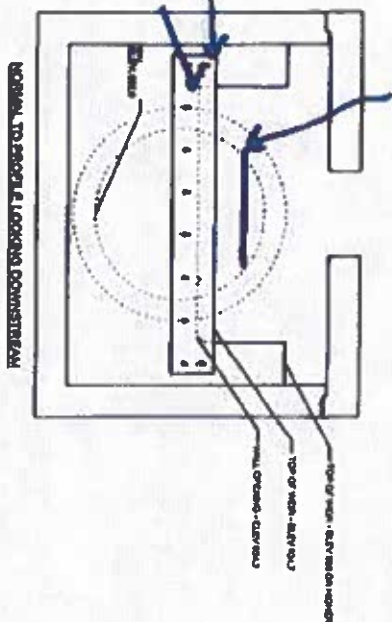
Hon. Mark S. Wickens
Circuit Court Judge

Order prepared by:
Kyle A. O'Meara (P83075)
FAHEY SCHULTZ BURZYCH RHODES PLC
4151 Okemos Road
Okemos, MI 48864
Tel: (517) 381-0100

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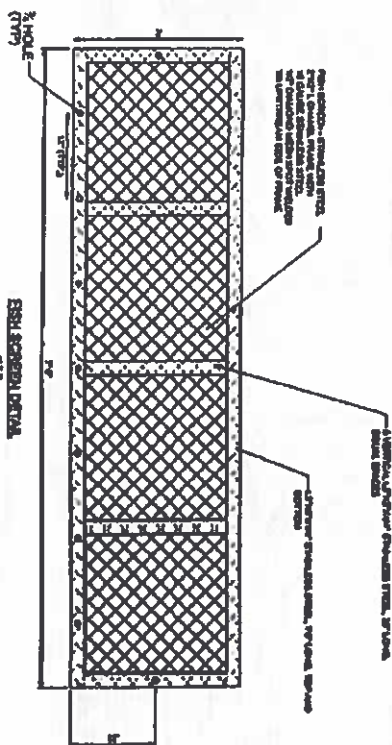
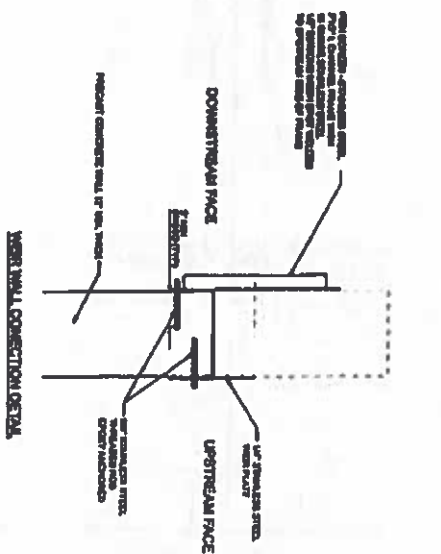
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~~1094~~
MM.
934.2



WILLIAMS, JR. HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE U.S. STEEL CORP. SINCE 1964 AND HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE U.S. STEEL CORP. SINCE 1964.

WEBLATE DETAIL



REGISTRATION DETAILS

SECRET
TOP SECRET

Friedman & Newhof 10000 10th Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11219 Tel: 718/338-1100		DATE 3/7/92 ORDER # 157191 PO# 42-1100	VENDOR NAME WHEELABRATOR 10000 10th Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11219	ORDER # 157191
NTS	DATE 3/7/92 ORDER # 157191 PO# 42-1100	VENDOR NAME WHEELABRATOR 10000 10th Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11219	ORDER # 157191	ORDER # 157191

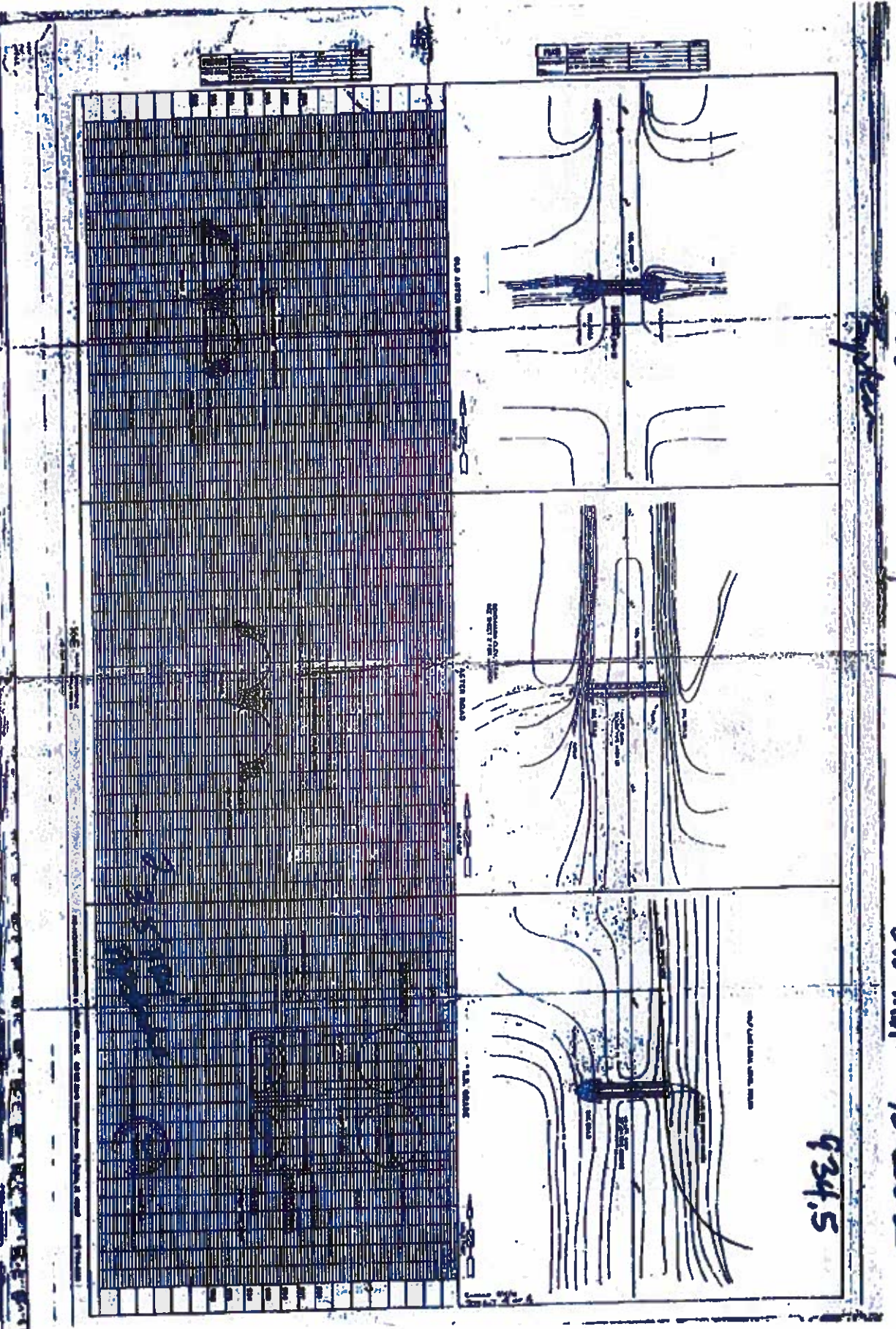
Board lines
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935.5 / 935.8 / 936.25

019 mm. 190 Boards

System

934.5



Dear Board:

As Concerned Citizens' of Lake County we would like to address a few things that affect Lake County and citizens of Lake County.

1. Wolf Lake in Peacock Township has an assessment for the Court Ordered Drain that is to keep the lake at a set level according to Court order. As you know the Drain is maintained by the Road Commission in absents of a Lake County Drain Commission. With the State of Michigan water levels at a record high Wolf Lake has also been affected by the high water levels along with many other lakes, ponds and rivers in the state of Michigan. We THANK YOU for all your effort and time to help the drain catch up safely to the Court Ordered level. The entire state of Michigan has been affected by the high water levels, not just Wolf Lake.

It has been evident that there are people who feel they have the right to tamper with the operation of the Drain in an attempt to lower the levels faster. They are not employees of the County, not licensed, insured, or hold engineering degrees. A Wolf Lake Riparian's face book post that was shared by many is concerning. It is believed that these people associated with the Wolf Lake Riparian's have an ulterior motive for continuous lowering of the Lake level. I have attached a copy of the post, page 2 indicates that they will "remain engaged at the state level regarding WLR's efforts to closing Wolf Lake to ALL wake sports."

Their goal of stopping Skiers, tubers, knee boards etc. on Wolf Lake would be detrimental to property owners that have invested in an all sports lake. It would be detrimental to the citizens of Lake County that enjoy many years of access to the public lake for family time on the water.

One of the factors in turning a public lake private and stopping ALL wake sports is lake levels, the depth of the lake. Continuously lowering the lake levels faster than the health of the water accumulation of the lake could help them reach the levels required to meet the criteria.

We as Citizens of Lake County ask you to take this face book post seriously and not to allow the members of this association access to the drain, stop them from tampering with the levels or design that is in place by licensed engineers. **This association does not speak for ALL of the Citizens of Lake County, Peacock Township.** They are a paid membership association that is select for Wolf Lake waterfront property owners and should not have any final say into the use of the maintenance fund of the Drain Assessment.

#2 The Wolf Lake Drain is designed to flow into a water retention pond that is constructed on County Property. This retention pond should only be accessed by

County employees. It is believed that the Wolf Lake Riparian Association holds keys to the retention pond allowing access that is ONLY for the paid association members to dump their leaves, seagrass and yard clippings a few times a year. This dump site is believed to be on County owned property that the retention pond is on. It is not private property. Parcel 43-06-066-024-00 is owned by Lake County. Please consider ALL citizens of Lake County not just a select paid association when it comes to the use of this dumping site or lock the site to ALL. The liabilities to the County with the retention pond on this site should be considered.

Thank you

Concerned Citizens of Lake County

With the constant onslaught of rain system after rain system our lake is at a peak and in many areas overflowing impacting waste systems and homes. Those in lower levels around our lake are being impacted. I received a call this morning regarding a home that has a few inches of standing water. Words are easy to type and often seem meaningless, however, board members have empathy for what you are experiencing and are trying to help as much as we can to lessen the impact of high water.

A short review of the WLR association and side notes

First - the board and our association have zero legal standing in the community. We have shared this countless times. Our impact in the community solely comes as an association of property owners that have impact only in sheer NUMBERS! Basically we can express and protect shared Riparian principles/ values by strength in numbers. I and another person have contacted Lake County Road Commission regarding our lake level.

Second - does you membership have impact; unquestionably YES. A GROUP OF FIVE HAS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS / A GROUP OF 200 HAVE MIGHT.

Third - What is the value you give to being a member of Wolf Lake Riparians? Is it the ability to use the drop area only?

Here's why I listed these three points

Reason of my first point - our board has been very active behind the store decades fighting battles for our community relating to countless challenges. Point of fact, most recently Dirk has been going to the lake level system, cleaning and pulled the screen in the attempt to lower the lake level and prevent property damage and loss. Why does he do this; because the county only sends a person there once a quarter. When the county manager learned this, he said "he could be subject to fines and other legal action". County has little concern for the drain functioning or not and has resumed the same level of attention to our new \$500k system that that provided to our past system despite their commitment's. What's even more disturbing is a person near the drain system told the county manager that "the system is working fine" just a couple days ago. That person obviously is not aware of what others are experiencing.

My second point - in my opinion, if your sole interest and reason for joining WLR is for access to the drop area, you are falling short of fulfilling your commitments to being a true Riparian. Members of the board invest financially, time, and their personal talents to keep the association thriving. They share a passion to keep our lake and our community healthy for the next generations that follow our short term here on earth. I said strength in numbers, however, those numbers need to be active and not just rely on others to protect what you value. Ask yourself, what did you do when the callout was made to defend our position regarding the new drain. Ask yourself, how many times have you offered to simply open and close the drop area, or assist with setup and take down of the annual mtg in the park, or send letters and emails to township, county and state officials regarding Riparian interests.

My last point - what is the value you give today to being a member of WLR's, and in doing so ^{Pa} consider what personal gifts, time, and passion you have that you can give to WLR's that make ² longterm positive impact for our lake community.

It's been my honor to serve as president of WLR's for the past several years. Members of the board are examples of what dedication is and how passion can fuel you through challenges. I have given my resignation and not seeking reelection to the board effective at the time of our summer mtg. I thank the board for their continued involvement and leadership and those WLR members who have answered the call for assistance and involvement over the past years. As I shared with Dirk, I'm stepping down but not away from WLR's. I am currently working diligently behind the scenes regarding a possible issue that I think will display how interested and willing WLR members will be in sustaining the Riparian mission for our community. I also will remain engaged at the state level regarding WLR's efforts to closing Wolf Lake to ALL wake sports. This challenge, I think has the most impact on our lake's health and fragile ECO balance.

I remain dedicated to supporting a WLR association that has the best interests of ALL in the true definition of what Riparian means and not that of those seeking financial gain at the cost of other Riparians.

Copied from WLR fb page David Swanson post 4/14/2026

New post by Swanson 4/15/26

Notification

As of April 14th, 2026 Lake County Road Commission, Mr. Leroy Williams, and the manager of Lake County Mr. Toby Lake locked the WLR's out of being able to maintain the drain. Lake County Road, Mr. Williams, who personally told me the drain was not his responsibility yet Mr. Toby Lake says it is, have a policy of visiting the drain once a quarter.

If you think this is efficient then good for you and good luck with your property. If you disagree and have empathy for the amount of work Dirk has done for the past 40 years relating to maintaining the drain then you may have concern.

Lake County has failed in being responsible for our drain in the past and after conversations with them this week, showing they have no clue who responsible for the drain, I'm thinking we are not in a good position.

ADJOURNMENT:

Next Meeting Date: May 28th, 2026, Time: 9:00 a.m.

Motion made by Divis to adjourn.

Supported by Haslock.

Roll Call vote.

Yeas – Haslock, Truxton, Divis. Nays – 0. Absent – 0.

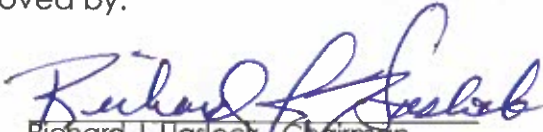
Motion carried.

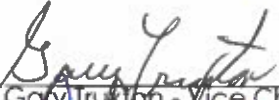
Meeting adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

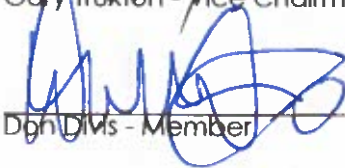
Respectfully submitted by:


Austin MacDougall - Secretary

Approved by:


Richard J. Haslock - Chairman


Gary Truxton - Vice Chairman


Don Divis - Member