



White Bear Lake Conservation District

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2025, 7:00 p.m.,

White Bear Lake City Hall Council Chambers
(6 pm. LUC meeting)

1. **Roll Call/Quorum** – Present: Chair Bryan DeSmet, Vice Chair Meredith Walburg, Secretary-Treasurer Mike Parenteau, Diane Longville, Chris Churchill, Mark Ganz, and Brian Bonin; and staff Alan Kantrud and Cheri Howe. Absent: Shari Salzman-Hankins, and Mark Wisniewski; one director position for Birchwood Village is vacant.
2. **Call to Order** – Bryan DeSmet called the meeting to order at 7 pm.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded and passed.
4. **Approval of previous Board Meeting minutes** – A motion to approve the Aug. 19, 2025 meeting minutes was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.
5. **Public Comments** – Ken McDonald had filed a complaint in early summer regarding a neighboring dock that was not in compliance, and wanted to know the status of the investigation. Chris Churchill reported that, after observing the situation, two letters were sent to the noncompliant party, but their dock continued to be in violation. Mark Ganz stated the Ramsey County Sheriff's office was then contacted to connect with the person in the house, and was waiting to hear back if they were successful.
6. **New Business**
 - Board appointment City of White Bear Lake – Brian Bonin: Bryan DeSmet reported that the City of White Bear Lake appointed Brian Bonin to fill the open position on the WBLCD Board. Bonin stated that he was excited to be on the Board, following his father's example and explained that, having lived on the lake for 45 years, he has observed many changes in the size and types of watercraft.
 - Lake Education Committee-update chair and members: A motion to approve Meredith Walburg as chair of the Lake Education Committee was made by Bryan DeSmet, seconded and passed. Walburg replaces Scott Costello whose Board term ended in June.
7. **Unfinished Business**
 - Approval of summary publication of Ordinance 5, Part IV – A motion to approve a summary publication of amended Ordinance 5, Part IV that was approved in July, was made by Bryan DeSmet, seconded and passed.
 - Ramsey County Water Patrol marina slip count #2 – Alan Kantrud received drone pictures from Ramsey County's second survey that was taken on Sept 14. Chris Churchill stated that he wasn't sure if we're getting much from the images and that a physical check may need to be done instead. Kantrud reminded the Board that Ramsey County was asked to officially survey the marina's boat slips should enforcement be needed. Going forward, Kantrud said the Board will need to decide how to check for compliance.
 - Lake use study – Meredith Walburg reported that she was continuing to work on the study with Blue Water Science. There are only minor issues that remain, and it's possible that it will be ready for the Board to approve in October. A presentation to the public is still being considered for at a time to be determined.
8. **Reports/Action Items**
 - **Executive Committee** – Bryan DeSmet reported that the committee met and discussed the workers' compensation audit, the City phone bill, whether or not to use Quick Books or an outside firm to prepare the District's financial reports, the school well item, the phragmites

survey, the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) response plan, Starry stonewort signage, and the Lake Use Study.

- **Lake Quality Committee**

- Lake level and temperature – Mike Parenteau reported that the lake elevation was at 923.23 ft, which was 2 inches less than last month. The lake temperature was 74 °F; last month it was 78 °F.
- Phragmites update – Parenteau reported that he received a bid from Lake Management, and requested a DNR permit for treatment. The bid was over the budgeted amount of \$1,000. A motion to approve the quote of \$1,113 was made by Parenteau, seconded and passed.
- Parenteau announced that Steve McComas, Blue Water Science, would present on lake quality and AIS at the October Board meeting.

- **Lake Utilization Committee**

- Mark Ganz reported that the committee discussed the two dock complaints it received, and set back rules for docks and structures.

- **Lake Education Committee**

- Educational outreach update – Meredith Walburg reported that the third issue of *The Laker* was published and delivered around Labor Day. Copy for the final winter issue is due in November for publication in mid-December. The Lake Use Study presentation will be promoted in the issue if it is ready to go. Walburg asked to contact her or Cheri if they would like to get involved with organizing the presentation.
- Social media update – Walburg stated she would post about geese, water appropriation, Starry stonewort, and treating phragmites.

9. Treasurer Reports

- July amended Treasurer's Report – A motion to approve amended July expenses (NS debit card payments 2025-06 through 2025-08 and checks 2542 to 2546) was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded and passed.
- August Treasurer's Report – A motion to approve debit card payments 2025-09 and 2025-10, and checks 2547 through 2552, was made by Parenteau, seconded and passed.

10. Board Counsel Report – Alan Kantrud reported that things went well over the Labor Day weekend, and lake activity has been fairly quiet all summer. Mike Servatka, Ramsey County water patrol, will present their official report at the October Board meeting.

11. Announcements – Cheri Howe reported that several digital permit applications have been received, and that the office will be closed on Thurs. Oct. 9. The next Board meeting will be held on Oct. 21, 2025.

12. Adjournment – A motion to adjourn at 7:28 pm was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.

ATTEST



Bryan DeSmet, Chairperson, WBLCD



Cheri Howe, Administrator, WBLCD

10-21-2025

Date

10/21/2025

Date