



White Bear Lake Conservation District

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2026, 7:00 p.m.,

White Bear Lake City Hall Council Chambers
(LUC meeting cancelled)

1. **Roll Call/Quorum** – Present: Chair Bryan DeSmet, Vice Chair Meredith Walburg, Secretary Treasurer Mike Parenteau, Brian Bonin, Mark Ganz, Shari Salzman-Hankins, and staff Alan Kantrud and Cheri Howe. Absent: Chris Churchill, Diane Longville, Mark Wisniewski and Shelley Dropkin.
2. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Bryan DeSmet.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – The Commercial Bay survey markers and 2026 Ramsey County supplemental law enforcement contract items were removed from the agenda. A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.
4. **Approval of previous Board Meeting minutes** – A motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Jan. 20, 2026 Board meeting was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.
5. **Public Comments** - none
6. **New Business**
 - o Executive Board member elections – Bryan DeSmet asked if there were any additional nominations for the Executive Board positions. With no other additions, a motion to approve the nominated slate of officers - Bryan DeSmet, chair; Meredith Walburg, vice chair; and secretary-treasurer Mike Parenteau - was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.
7. **Public Hearing**
 - o Docks of White Bear Lake – Request for Variance to extend its six (6) docks to 350 ft from the OHW – Mark Ganz presented a request for variance from Docks of White Bear Lake for review. Bryan DeSmet explained that their request to extend their docks to a maximum of 350 ft from the ordinary high mark (OHW) is due to their position in Commercial Bay and the hardship they experience due to shallow areas in their ADUA. DeSmet opened the public hearing, and with no comments, closed the hearing. A motion to approve the variance request was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.

Meredith Walburg asked Mike McGoldrick, Docks of White Bear Lake, if he was able to locate the survey markers that were installed several years ago. McGoldrick explained that the City of White Bear Lake came out last year to survey for the south ADUA line between Docks and Lion's Park and use their coordinates to place their docks, along with the Whitaker St boundary for the north ADUA line. To set the 350 ft measure from the OHW, McGoldrick stated that he takes measurements using the WBLCD survey map to justify that it is within the boundary. DeSmet stated that the WBLCD is intending to work with the survey company to re-insert more permanent survey markers to know where the starting point of the OHW. He also asked McGoldrick to work closely with Tally's to be sure the docks are aligned correctly on the north side.

8. Unfinished Business

- o Lake use study and presentation - Meredith Walburg summarized the public presentation that took place on Jan. 27, 2026 at the White Bear Lake library with Steve McComas presenting a summary of the 2024 lake use study and trends analysis. Walburg stated that there was great attendance with lots of interaction with the participants. The presentation was taped and will be posted on the website when it is available.

9. Reports/Action Items

- o **Executive Committee** – none
- o **Lake Quality Committee**
 - o Lake level – Mike Parenteau reported that the lake level today was 922.84 ft.
- o **Lake Utilization Committee** – none
- o **Lake Education Committee**
 - o Educational outreach update – Meredith Walburg reported that the 23rd annual lake cleanup will be held on March 7, from 10-12 pm with nine (9) groups participating. The WBLCD group is assigned the Memorial Beach Park area if Board members would like to participate. Should the lake become unstable or ice-out occurs before then, groups will cleanup onshore in their assigned area.
 - o Social media update – Walburg lake cleanup, still welcoming volunteers, ice houses out, and put up the . Suggestion by Bryan encourage people to sweep up leftover salt. Brian Bonin – March 3 at end of the day.

10. Treasurer Reports

- o 2026 January Treasurer's Report – A motion to approve January expenditures North Star debit payments 2026-01 through 2026-03, and checks 2502 through 2507 was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded and passed. The budget is coming up and we will talk about it next month.

11. Board Council Report

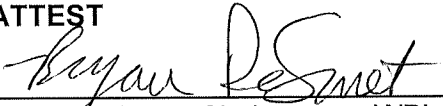
- o Closed session - Alan Kantrud explained that the Board was going into a closed session to seek advice from legal counsel regarding internet security and protocols that the District is using and would like to use and next steps. Bryan DeSmet closed the meeting at 7:21 pm.
- o Meeting opened – DeSmet closed the closed session and opened the meeting at 7:59 pm. He summarized the meeting by saying they discussed security protocols, electronic transfers, and stated that the Board will never use electronic transfers for payments of dock fees.

12. Announcements


- o Cheri Howe will follow-up with Board Directors regarding their ability to access the WBLCD email account.
- o Bryan DeSmet noted that several area residents competed in the 2026 winter Olympics including Corey Dropkin, Birchwood, and Giorgia Birkeland, Mahtomedi.
- o The next Board meeting will be held on Mar. 17, 2026.

13. Adjournment – A motion to adjourn at 8:05 pm was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.

ATTEST



 Bryan DeSmet, Chairperson, WBLCD



 Cheri Howe, Administrator, WBLCD

3-17-2026

 Date

3/17/2026

 Date