



## White Bear Lake Conservation District

### Regular Board Meeting

June 17, 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, Mark Ganz, Susie Mahoney, Mark Wisniewski and Alan Kantrud. Absent: Diane Longville, Chris Churchill, Scott Costello, and Shari Salzman-Hankins. A quorum was present.
2. **Call to Order** – Bryan DeSmet called the meeting to order at 7 pm.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – A slip change request from Docks of White Bear Lake was added to the Lake Education Committee (LUC) report. A motion to approve the amended agenda was made by Susie Mahoney, seconded and passed.
4. **Approval of previous Board Meeting minutes** – A motion to approve the May Board meeting minutes was made by Susie Mahoney, seconded and passed.
5. **Public Comments** – Larry Mahoney, 479 Lake Ave., Birchwood, stated that a neighboring property, with whom they have had a previous dispute, has acquired additional lakeshore property from the City of Birchwood and he would like them to place their dock in accordance to a 2017 order. Mahoney was directed to complete and submit a complaint form so the LUC could investigate.
6. **New Business**
  - 2025 annual designations (updated) – A motion to approve the updated annual designations was made by Bryan DeSmet, seconded and passed.
  - RCSO – Commercial Bay compliance check – Alan Kantrud stated that Ramsey County Sgt. Mike Servatka took the drone photos of Commercial Bay on the morning of June 10. He was unable to attend the Board meeting as he was working on White Bear Lake at the time, but will be here next month.
  - Classic and Vintage Boat Show request to use Commercial Bay docks – A motion to approve the request to park the classic and vintage boats at the Commercial Bay docks was made by Bryan Desmet, seconded and passed.
  - Proposed Ordinance 5, Part IV update (First Reading) – Bryan DeSmet introduced the Ordinance updates in the packet. A motion to approve the first reading of the revisions was made by Bryan DeSmet, seconded and passed. The final reading will be next month. Send any edits to Cheri in the next couple of weeks.
7. **Unfinished Business**
  - 2024 Lake Use Study Reports update - Meredith Walburg shared that the Board's edits were sent to Steve McComas. He should be done with the final draft by next month and plans will be made to present the information to the public.
  - Starry Stonewort signage – Cheri Howe reported that two signs were printed, paid for and delivered. They were printed by Advanced Graphics at a cost of \$109.90, and the aluminum signs, with UV cast laminate, are outdoor rated for 7 years. One sign will be installed by Ramsey County at the public launch, and the other sign will be installed at Matoska Park pending discussions with the City of White Bear Lake.
8. **Reports/Action Items**
  - **Executive Committee** – Bryan DeSmet reported that the Executive Committee met and discussed administrative items, White Bear Township swimmer's itch treatment, boat/dock rental by lake residents, and AIS and invasive yellow iris. DeSmet contacted Dan Scollan about the Liberty Classical school well item, and comments on the Lake Use Study were sent to Steve McComas.

- **Lake Quality Committee – Mike Parenteau**
  - Lake level and temperature – The lake level today is 922.95 ft, last month it was 922.77 ft, and one year ago it was 922.70 ft. The lake temperature is 65 °F today and one year ago it was 70 °F.
  - AIS survey update - Mike Parenteau reported that weed growth hasn't taken off yet due to cold and rain and a survey will be scheduled at the end of June. There is \$27,000 in the budget to treat Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM). A motion to approve an additional \$10,000 for EWM control, if needed, was made by Parenteau, seconded and passed.
- **Lake Utilization Committee**
  - Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) Water Structure Permit application – Mark Ganz noted that the RCWD is part of the Metropolitan Council's WBL Area Comprehensive Plan Work Group and they would like to install a temporary buoy connected to a thermometer to monitor water temperature. A motion to approve the application, and waive the fee, was made by Ganz, seconded and passed. Cheri will check to see if the temperature information will be publically available.
  - Mike Parenteau asked if anyone on the Board is monitoring the Metropolitan Council's plans regarding supplementing White Bear Lake (WBL) to increase lake level with other water resources. Bryan DeSmet stated that he reviewed some of their documents and one option is to use storm water from ponds within two miles of WBL. However, they noted it would be difficult to make that happen, and a second investigation for that option may take place. Another option is to supplement with water from Sucker Lake, and other lakes that provide water to St. Paul, which would have to be treated further. DeSmet said that the District needs to stay on top of this to see what our options are to prevent the degradation of White Bear Lake. Right now, DeSmet said the best thing to do is to monitor the discussions and raise concerns when they arise.

Meredith Walburg asked if we could get a Board Director in the work group. DeSmet said the City of WBL is in the work group and meetings are open to the public. Alan Kantrud will check on the possibility of getting a WBLCD director into the work group.

  - Updated commercial and non-commercial permit application-draft forms – Ganz presented the updated permit applications. The Board reviewed the application and suggested defining 'Public Mooring' a new term replacing 'transient.' A motion to approve the revisions on the commercial and non-commercial permit application forms was made by Ganz, seconded and passed.
  - Docks of White Bear Lake slip change request – Ganz reported that Mike McGoldrick had a client whose watercraft's draft was too deep for a slip they were assigned. The watercraft moved to a new slip that was created, and the previous slip (#173) was put out of commission. Cheri will send a letter stating that the Board was okay with this as long as slip 173 goes unused for the remainder of the season.- **Lake Education Committee**
  - Educational outreach update – Meredith Walburg reported that the Starry stonewort signs were completed, and content for the second issue of *The Laker* was submitted. The issue, which should be delivered by July 4, includes information on changes in boating laws, salt, Starry stonewort, invasive yellow iris, the water appropriation ordinance, and the new WBLCD YouTube channel.
  - Social media update – Walburg will post information on the RCWD buoy, AIS survey treatment dates, Manitou Day's cleanup, and the online *Laker* issue. DeSmet asked to post about the water appropriation ordinance again. Walburg asked if anyone has a photo of the RCWD buoy to send it to her to post.

For the Manitou Day's cleanup, the WBLCD will meet to do a shore cleanup at Ramsey County Park, 10 am, Sat. June 28.

**9. Treasurer Reports**

- 2025 May Treasurer's Report – A motion to approve North Star debit 2025-01 and 2025-02, and checks #2528 through #2534 was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded and passed. During May several Board-approved changes occurred: the money market fund at Royal Credit Union was converted into a certificate of deposit; the US Bank account was closed and \$50,000 was invested into the 4M account; and the remaining US Bank funds were transferred to North Star Bank.
- 2026 Budget final – A motion to approve the 2026 Budget and community apportionments was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded and passed.

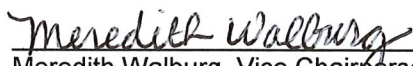
**10. Board Council Report** – Alan Kantrud noted that if the Commercial Bay drone compliance check completed by Ramsey County works for the Board, then it will be continued this way going forward. Kantrud will check in with the Metropolitan Council regarding a seat in the WBL working group.

**11. Announcements**

- Mike Parenteau reminded the Board of the upcoming boat show on Saturday, June 28, 10 am to 3 pm.
- The next meeting of the WBLCD Board will be on July 15, 2025.

**12. Adjournment** - A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.

**Attest:**



Meredith Walburg, Vice Chairperson, WBLCD

7/15/25  
Date



Cheri Howe, Administrator, WBLCD

7/15/25  
Date