



White Bear Lake Conservation District

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2026, 7 pm

White Bear Lake City Hall Council Chambers

(CANCELLED - 6 pm LUC meeting)

1. **Roll Call/Quorum** – Present: Chair Bryan DeSmet, Vice Chair Meredith Walburg, Secretary Treasurer Mike Parenteau, Brian Bonin, Chris Churchill, Diane Longville, Mark Ganz, Mark Wisniewski, Shelley Dropkin; and Alan Kantrud and Cheri Howe. Absent: Shari Salzman-Hankins. A quorum was present.
2. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Bryan DeSmet.
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 May meeting minutes was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.
5. **Public Comments** - none
6. **New Business**
 - WBLCD Administrator position – Meredith Walburg introduced Jody Savage as the newly hired administrator who is highly qualified and passionate about White Bear Lake in the community. Walburg and Bryan DeSmet thanked the Hiring Task Force for their work.
 - Board Term update – Bryan DeSmet announced that Mark Ganz, Mahtomedi, was reappointed for another three-year term and will serve through May 31, 2029.
 - Commercial Bay drone compliance check – Alan Kantrud presented the drone images that he took on the morning of June 2 as part of the Commercial Bay compliance check. DeSmet said the LUC will review the images, and report back any discrepancies at the July Board meeting.
 - Classic and Vintage Boat Show request to use Commercial Bay docks – A motion to approve the request to park local classic and vintage boats at Commercial Bay docks as part of the annual Manitou Days boat show on June 20 was made by Bryan DeSmet, seconded and passed.
 - Strategic Planning session update – Meredith Walburg updated the Board about plans to hold a strategic planning session as part of the upcoming lake management plan. Walburg proposed that it would take place on the same night as the August Board meeting and last about 1.5 hours. The goal of the session is to narrow down a large scope for the lake management plan, and to make sure that the District is defining purpose and roles in the organization to align with the lake management plan. From that, a scope of work will be developed to hire a professional firm to assist in developing the management plan.

Depending on the need for a Lake Utilization Committee (LUC) meeting in August, the meeting could start at 6 pm or later. Walburg stated that the Board would receive questions to answer prior to the session and an agenda will be prepared. In the meantime, Walburg encouraged Board members to read through the 1999

management plan and she will get back to them in early August regarding the meeting time.

7. Unfinished Business

- Commercial Bay survey markers - scope and sequence/quote – Bryan DeSmet stated that he emailed E.G. Rud and Sons regarding the survey markers in Commercial Bay and asked for their suggestions on: getting better permanent markers for the ordinary high water level (OHWL); how to best read the coordinates at the end of the docks to verify that they are within 300 ft of the OHWL; and how to note the angles of the docks going out into the lake. DeSmet will report back their response at the July Board meeting.

Chris Churchill asked if it would be worth it to work with marina owners to memorialize the markers, and DeSmet stated that their support would be important for this project.

8. Reports/Action Items

- **Executive Committee** – There was no meeting this month.
- **Lake Quality Committee**
 - Lake level and temperature – Mike Parenteau reported that the lake level today was 922.99 ft, which is 3 inches lower than last month, and about the same as last year. The lake temperature was 66 °F; last month it was 58 °F.
 - EWM treatment – Parenteau stated that while the survey and applicator were approved last month, approval was still needed for expenditures. There is a budget for Eurasian Watermilfoil treatment, but Parenteau was concerned that more funds may be needed. Parenteau stated that the treatment will take place in July.

A motion to spend up to the budgeted amount of \$32,000 to treat EWM was made by Parenteau, seconded and passed. A separate motion to approve spending up to an additional \$10,000 for EWM treatment, should it be necessary, was made by Parenteau, seconded and passed.
- **Lake Utilization Committee** – There was no LUC meeting this month. All dock issues have been resolved.
- **Lake Education Committee** –
 - Educational outreach update
 - Manitou Day's summer lake cleanup – Meredith Walburg reminded the Board that on Sat. June 27, the WBLCD's Manitou Days summer lake cleanup event will take place between 8 am and 12 pm. The WBLCD will have a group cleanup at Matoska Park, 10 am, and Board members are welcome to come join. If you are doing your own cleanup, email Walburg photos of your cleanup or trash that you've picked up.
 - The Laker –Walburg stated that the next issue of *The Laker* should be out around July 4.
 - Social media update – Walburg will post about Starry Stonewort, the lake level and temperature, the Manitou days lake cleanup event, EWM treatment dates, and publish *The Laker* link.

9. Treasurer Reports

- 2026 May Treasurer's Report – A motion to approve North Star debit expenses 2026-15 through 2026-19, and checks #2586 through #2592 was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded and passed.
- Audit – Parenteau is getting quotes from firms for the 2025 audit to comply with our

bylaws and the Office of the State Auditor.

- Rolyan Buoys sales order – Brian Bonin stated that even though the usual buoys have been placed around the Ordway rock pile, several boaters have been observed going through them, and at least three watercraft have damaged their props. Mike Servatka, Ramsey County water patrol also observed this and placed some temporary buoys there, and recommended putting in possibly eight (8) more. Servatka recommended placing eight (8) more buoys, and Bonin explained that for now he ordered six (6) shallow hazard buoys that should be arriving soon. The temporary buoys will be removed and the new buoys placed, which will total 14 buoys in that location.

A motion to approve a payment of \$1,333.82 to Rolyan Buoys for the purchase of six (6) spar buoys was made by Bonin, seconded and passed. Bonin said he will talk with Chris Wiberg at the end of the season about buoy placement and the number of buoys for next year.

10. **Board Counsel Report** – Alan Kantrud reported that Mike Servatka had called him about the buoy issue after a person damaged their boat and complained to the county about the Ordway rock pile markings, and put out the temporary buoys. Hopefully, the issue will be resolved with more buoys. There's nothing to report from the conservation officer.

Kantrud also stated that the water patrol gave out their first boating while intoxicated (BWI) citation last month to an unregistered boater, and it's good to know the water patrol is out there keeping lake users safe.

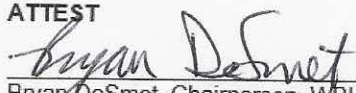
Chris Churchill mentioned that he is hearing more complaints about unpermitted personal watercraft rentals where the water patrol was involved in an incident. The rental companies operate online and in parking lots. There have been some follow-ups and the water patrol and the City have put the issue on us. Churchill stated that they will discuss this at the LUC and make a recommendation. Kantrud said he could have Mike Servatka come to a meeting and talk to them about what they see happening on the lake.

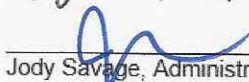
11. Announcements

- Cheri Howe welcomed Jody to the WBLCD and stated that she will start taking minutes at the next Board meeting which will be held on Tues., July 21, 2026.
- On behalf of the Board, Bryan DeSmet thanked Howe for her work with the WBLCD and presented her with a token of their appreciation.

12. **Adjournment** – A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.

ATTEST


Bryan DeSmet, Chairperson, WBLCD


Jody Savage, Administrator, WBLCD

7-21-2026
Date

7-21-2026
Date