



White Bear Lake Conservation District

Regular Board Meeting Agenda

July 21, 2026, 7 pm

White Bear Lake City Hall Council Chambers
(6PM 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, Shari Salzman-Hankins; and Alan Kantrud and Jody Savage. Absent: Shelley Dropkin. 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 Mark Ganz, seconded and passed.
4. **Approval of previous Board Meeting minutes** – A motion to approve the June meeting minutes was made by Mark Ganz, seconded and passed
5. **Public Comments** - none
6. **New Business**
 - None
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 still hasn't gotten a response as of July 21st, so for next steps he will call them. DeSmet is still looking for 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.
 - Commercial Bay drone compliance check –Alan Kantrud said it was one of the nicest sets of drone images he's seen and everyone seems to be in compliance. LUC is in agreement. Board doesn't believe there is a need to send up drones again, however the board is leaving it up to Alan if he wants to take more pictures and bring to August board meeting.
 - Strategic Planning session update -Meredith Walburg updated the Board about plans to hold a Strategic Planning session at 6PM before the August board meeting on August 18th as there will be no LUC meeting. After strategic meeting we will then go into our regular board meeting no earlier than 7PM.

Walburg will be sending documents including Mission Statement, Purpose and bylaws, current Organization chart as well as the 1999 plan after this board meeting and get questions to Board for strategic planning meeting within the week. They will be asked to answer these questions prior to the session from which an agenda will be prepared. Walburg also highly encouraged Board members to read through the 1999 management plan. There will be a zoom link provided that Jody Savage can get to anyone who would like it for the Strategic Planning Meeting.

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.

- Wakeboat discussion –DeSmet stated back in June there was a webinar regarding wake boating and its impact on lakes put on by Washington County. A number of lake's are starting to set restrictions on wakeboats. Washington County has created a map of recommended wake surfing areas for White Bear Lake as well as information regarding possible actions lake associations may use to educate, place signage and possibly restrict wakeboats. The current map shows suitable areas for wake boating to be at least 500 feet from shoreline, 20 feet deep and at 50 contiguous acres in size. DeSmet will send out map to the Board but looks like the two Eastern lobes fit these criteria. Map is intended to be able to distribute. The ask of Board is to be aware of conversation regarding wake boats and stay informed. Even though U of M sets ordinance at 500 feet suggestion is maybe set ours at 650 feet which is what Comfort Lake, Forest Lake has set.

Washington County is currently working on an info package for our area lake associations that will include maps + a simple handout about wake boating and its impacts, and possible actions lake associations may be considering (i.e. education, signage, local restrictions), however only the map has been distributed thus far.

This is coming up due to concerns of wakes being too close to shoreline or if depth is less than 20 feet it stirs up the sediment on the bottom and can leave material suspended for long time, reducing sunlight temporarily and phosphorus stored in sediment will be released into water column.

DeSmet will again send links out to Board to review with map included. WBLCD has not yet taken a position on this issue but would like to put out best practices, especially since a big focus on WBLCD is water quality. Board believes first step is to launch a public information campaign by perhaps putting information and map on socials, boat launch etc. and frame it as best practices to preserve water quality. Board at some point will likely have to take a position on wakeboats and where we feel it's permissible to operate on White Bear Lake. After deciding on a position include the DNR, and Ramsey County sheriff's office to ask for their support in enforcing. DeSmet said at this time the act of passing along of information does not signify the WBLCD's endorsement. Chris Churchill asked to pause on passing along information until we have the science to back it up and the Board has had the ability to look through all published material and study the map and will revisit in the August Board meeting, which was agreed upon.

DeSmet will send out links to U of M wakeboat studies and map Washington County provided and revisit in August board meeting. Alan also sending out ordinance that was created in Cook County for Board to review. Issues are lake quality and damage to the shorelines.

8. Reports/Action Items

- **Executive Committee** – Bryan DeSme stated that we met July 2nd and discussed getting new office desktop computer and that Cheri was expressing she was having difficulty narrowing down best computer but did purchase a new laptop so that issue has been resolved. Work is currently in progress on getting Jody authorized on new computer and getting QuickBooks added to the new computer.

Another topic discussed as was unlawful Jet Ski rentals – City of WBL has been discussing providing permits to rent jet skis on the lake and the WBLCD has responded that if the transaction takes place on land and the city has no permitting process for this transaction it's not allowed. The suggestion is we get a group together and schedule a meeting coordinated by Jody Savage, that would include the city of White Bear Lake, WBLCD, DNR, and Lakes Utilization Committee (LUC) to discuss how best to proceed with this issue, better monitor and perhaps create or modify a current ordinance. Alan Kantrud has agreed to be legal counsel and Mark Ganz volunteered to be LUC representative. Kantrud forwarding email to board from Rick Juba following the

meeting. Also discussed strategic meeting planned to be held during LUC meeting before August Board Meeting and Audit for 2025.

○ **Lake Quality Committee**

- Lake level and temperature Mike Parenteau reported that the lake level today was 922.83 ft, which is down a couple inches from last month, however lake is still in great shape, and about the same as last year. The lake temperature was 80°F; last month it was 66°F which was a significant increase. Practice is that the temperature is taken 2 feet down – not at the surface.
- EWM treatment – Parenteau stated they did a survey of 545 sites and found EWM at 88 sites. 28.56 treatable acres were also found. Parenteau wasn't able to get the 2-4-D so switched to triclopyr and treatment is expected to happen Thursday pending weather July 23rd. If inclement weather treatment will be moved to Friday. The cost of treatment of EWM will come in at \$17,000-\$18,000 – well under budget.

○ **Lake Utilization Committee**

- Mark Ganz discussed the one application they have received from RES Pyro Fireworks for a Private Event July 31st at 10PM at 16 Neptune Street Mahtomedi, MN. LUC approved with caveats that the Pyro Fireworks has contacted the City of Mahtomedi Fire department and has notified the neighbors. Ganz to follow up with Pyro Fireworks on these caveats. A motion to approve the application was made by Ganz and it was seconded and has passed. LUC will also be reviewing the event ordinance to add in how far from shore the barge needs to be set. Currently they do have to get approvals from city fire marshal but LUC going to look into further.

○ **Lake Education Committee**

- Educational outreach update – Meredith Walburg stated Manitou days lake cleanup went well. The July 4th Laker came out and Labor Day Laker will be next which will include an article regarding the Manitou Days cleanup, the Eurasian water milfoil treatment and map, Starry Stonewart's threat to White Bear Lake and an article regarding how to discourage ducks and geese from congregating on your property. Walburg to send out documents to review.
- Social media update - Walburg will post about Starry Stonewart, the lake level and temperature, the Manitou days lake cleanup event, EWM treatment dates, and publish The Laker link.

9. Treasurer Reports

- 2026 June Treasurer's Report – A motion to approve USPS and Microsoft debit as well checks #2593- #2600 was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded and passed. Intention is to update this into QuickBooks in future to get them sooner.
- 2025 Audit Quote- Parenteau is getting quotes from firms for the 2025 audit to comply with our bylaws and the Office of the State Auditor – First company that sent request to do a complete audit quote came back at \$15,000 – Parenteau asked to scale back and that company came back with best case scenario \$7,500. Next companies quote came back to do agreed upon procedure for \$9,500. Parenteau sought a third bid from company Abdo. They committed to do agreed upon procedures and waive new client fee due to us being a smaller company. Their quote came in at \$7,000. Parenteau made motion to go with bid of \$7,000 from Abdo. Budget for audit was set at \$5,000 so extra \$2,000 will come out as general expense. For reference, the last time we did the audit it cost us \$4,500 but bid came in at \$9,000, however it was decided to do less than what was originally audited.
- Approval of adding Jody Savage to North Star bank accounts – Parenteau made a motion to approve Jody Savage through board of directors to be put on North Star Bank accounts. It was seconded and passed.
- Approval of MN Lakes & Rivers 2026 membership renewal - \$125 - Parenteau made a

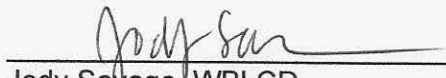
motion to approve and it was seconded and passed.

- Approval of additional buoys – Brian Bonin needs additional chain and clasps – approximately \$100 – Laid out 4 of the 6 buoys but needs chain and clasps for two additional buoys. Will approve next month in August board meeting.
10. **Board Counsel Report** – Alan Kantrud – nothing big to report. Waiting on court notice for only BWI we have gotten this season.
11. **Announcements** – Next meeting August 18th – will start at 6PM with the Strategic planning session and then will run into regular board meeting
12. **Adjournment** – A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm was made by Mark Ganz seconded and passed.

ATTEST



Bryan DeSmet, Chairperson, WBLCD



Jody Savage, WBLCD

8-18-2026

Date

8-18-26.

Date