



White Bear Lake Conservation District

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

September 15, 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, Mark Ganz, Chris Churchill, Diane Longville, Shari Salzman-Hankins; and H. Alan Kantrud and Jody Savage. Absent: Mark Wisniewski, Shelley Dropkin, and Brian Bonin. A quorum was present.
2. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Bryan DeSmet at 7:00PM.
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 August meeting minutes was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded and passed
5. **Public Comments** - none
6. **New Business** - none
7. **Unfinished Business**
 - Commercial Bay survey markers - scope and sequence/quote –For context, 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. DeSmet has not heard back from surveyor, will follow up again with an email and ask for input before the October meeting. We would like a something in place before Ice Out next year 2027.
 - Strategic Planning session update -Meredith Walburg discussed the Strategic Planning update – Volunteers from the board include Chris Churchill, Meredith Walburg and Shari Salzman-Hankins, with one additional board member still strongly considering joining the sub-committee. They will be working on figuring out a scope and objectives from feedback from the last session, and how to incorporate citizens and professional partners.
 - Wake boat discussion –For context: 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 continuous acres in size. The two maps included in the board packet are very similar – a few areas in the Minnesota Lakes and Rivers map may not meet the criteria for the 50 continuous acres but the University of Minnesota map does.

John Elizandro from the Water Sports Industry Association will be coming to the Executive Committee Meeting on October 8th after which DeSmet will report back to the board in the October board meeting. DeSmet would like to see the board have a

recommendation on this item before ice out next spring.

- Jet Ski rentals- Byran DeSmet, Mark Ganz, Jody Savage, and Rick Juba had an initial meeting on August 25th. Ganz will be calling Lake Minnetonka to see how they currently handle rentals on their lake. Churchill also discussed tightening up the verbiage in our current ordinances to call out all personal watercraft (PWC) including all boats. This will be discussed at the Executive Meeting with the Board on October 8th. H. Alan Kantrud will be calling the Ramsey County water patrol to discuss their feelings on enforcing. Kantrud said with whatever we decide to pass we will just need to get it into the new ticket writer system and assign a criminality level with a suggestion as a misdemeanor and set it up with court administration – Also, seeing if Kantrud will talk to the sheriff and ask if they do stop a PWC to start getting information as to whether or not it is a rental. This will be an ask for the next patrol season.

8. Reports/Action Items

- **Executive Committee** – Bryan DeSmet stated that the executive committee did not meet so nothing to report.
- **Lake Quality Committee**
 - Lake level and temperature Mike Parenteau reported that the lake level today was 922.12 ft, which is 4 inches lower than last month, and a foot lower than last September. Temperature is 64 degrees, last month it was 76 degrees and last year at this time it was 74 degrees.
 - Phragmites treatment – The survey was completed on August 27th, and found 6 sites, a total of 9,198 square feet, 2000 feet more than was found the year before. Jody and Meredith did send out an opt out letter to 4 neighbors which no one has responded to but they have until September 21st to respond. Parenteau is trying to get treatment – Lake Management hasn't been responding but once they do and have an applicator ready to treat Parenteau will get DNR permit which is a renewal from last year.
 - Starry Stonewort picture identification-We had a little Starry Stonewort Scare and a picture was sent in via instructions from the Laker which was great to see. This was forwarded to Blue Water Science for identification- and it was determined there was no starry stonewort in the photo to worry about.
- **Lake Utilization Committee**
 - Mark Ganz – John Redpath Waterski permit application was approved by the LUC and was passed; there was no change from last year. Mark Ganz motioned to approve, it was seconded and then passed.
- **Lake Education Committee**
 - Educational outreach update- Labor Day Laker came out- Next issue is a little later than normal with a December publication. Phragmites opt out letters were sent out also.
 - Social media update – Walburg planning posts this month on starry stone wart, lake levels and the phragmites map. Email Walburg with any requests for upcoming posts.

9. Treasurer Reports

- 2026 July Treasurer's Report – A motion to approve NS debit 2026-26 and checks 2610 through 2616 was made by Mike Parenteau, seconded and passed.

- **2025 Audit Quote.** The company Abdo was approved to complete our audit. The introductory meeting was on August 19th and we are currently working through the Audit. Jody Savage has sent him all requests and is waiting for an update from John Stachel as to whether anything additionally is needed.
 - **Board Counsel Report** –H. Alan Kantrud – BWI wrapped up and a few people called about how they liked having the person do service back to the lake. Kantrud learned that friend of the lake passed away, Dick Galena. A celebration will be sometime next month.
10. **Announcements** – Washington County is hosting an East Metro lake gathering mini conference in Scandia – AIS, wake boats, strengthening your lake association and natural shore lines- DeSmet is set to attend and will report back. Next meeting is October 20th.
11. **Adjournment** – A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm was made by Mark Ganz seconded and passed.

ATTEST

Bryan DeSmet
Bryan DeSmet, Chairperson, WBLCD

Jody Savage
Jody Savage, WBLCD

10-20-2026
Date

10-20-2026
Date