

Agenda/ Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 27Mar2025

Topic: Lake Wisconsin Alliance Monthly Meeting

Board Meeting Attendees:

Forrest, Dede	X	Murray, Andrea	X	Zumm, Rob	X
Gleason, Mike	X	Neander, Steve	X		
Herbert, Brandon	NP	Ray, Kauhanae	X		
Kell, David	X	Stowe, Amy	NP		
Kidd, Sarah	X	Zumm, Jenny	NP		

Agenda/Meeting Discussion:

This was the monthly meeting of the LWA Board members.

1&2. Meeting Administration

- David called the meeting to order.
- The meeting minutes of February 20, 2025, were approved.

3. Treasurer's Financial Report

- Brandon provided the report and David reviewed it during the meeting.

4. Communication

- Update on Website Design:
 - Mike and Sarah obtained references from Erawatech and Tingall's. Those references were contacted and obtained feedback. That feedback was shared with the Board by email prior to the monthly meeting.
 - After discussion of the feedback obtained and the budgets provided by the vendors, there was a motion to select Erawatech (1st Motion: Sarah/2nd Motion: Dede). The full Board was in favor to proceed with Erawatech.
 - **Next Steps:** Sarah will notify James at Erawatech of the decision and get information on next steps. Mike will notify Tingall's.

5. Membership

- There was no update on membership.
- Feedback received from the membership reminder email sent through Constant Contact was shared with the Board. Issues with paying for membership will be reviewed at the time of our website re-design.

6. Education

- Wisconsin Water Week is being held March 26-28 in Stevens Point. Jenny and Rob are attending virtually. David is attending some sessions in person. And update will be given at the meeting.

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- Wake Boat Coalition:

Rob updated the Board on the status: The Wake Boat Coalition is now comprised of over 70 member organizations throughout the state of Wisconsin. As result of the vote from last month's LWA Board meeting, we are one of those member organizations. Currently, neither the State Assembly nor State Senate has drafted any legislation to regulate enhanced wakes caused by these high-powered wake boats. According to the coalition, the Wisconsin legislature is working on an energy Right of First Refusal (ROFR) bill and budget, which is taking all of the oxygen out of the room and not leaving any bandwidth for other policy work (such as wake boat legislation) from getting done. Once the ROFR bill legislation is completed, the coalition anticipates the wake sports legislation would be next up on the docket.

Following our last Board meeting, Rob forwarded two videos that clearly illustrate the impact that enhanced wake sports is having on our lake eco-systems.

- David listened to a talk at the Wisconsin Water Week Conference about the on the dug-out canoes that were found in this area and suggested we follow up with this speaker to see if they would speak at our annual meeting.
- **Next Steps:** Rob will follow-up with the speaker on the dug-out canoes.

7. Business

❖ Lake Wisconsin Alliance and Potential Partnerships

- Sarah compiled a list of 10 landscaping companies to contact for their interest in the project and has begun contacting the companies.
- Sarah met with Meister's K&M Tree & Landscaping on Mar 27 and they are not interested in the project. They do not feel it fits with their expertise.
- **Next Steps:** Follow-up with the landscaping companies and schedule meetings with the interested companies.

❖ Involvement of New Volunteers

- **Next Steps:** Amy will generate a list from those members that have expressed interest in volunteer opportunities.

❖ 2nd Annual Watershed Meet and Greet

- This meeting was held on March 1 and was well attended.
- Bob Pfaff of Green Merrimac posed the question to the groups represented of how the various groups in the watershed can measure their impact on the lake. While there was no quick answer to this question at the meeting, it is a question for the group to continue to consider.

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- Meeting minutes are available on our website.

- ❖ Leadership for Midwestern Watersheds
 - This is a forum for professionals who lead projects that reduce agricultural runoff in watersheds of the central United States.
 - This conference was held on February 27 and was attended by David, Mike, and Ron Schoepp.

- ❖ Evaluation of Explore the Watershed series and Plan for 2025
 - May 17-Volunteer work project
 - June 21-Hike the Parfrey Glen State Natural Area
 - July – Lake Wisconsin Farmer Watershed Council (date to be determined)
 - August 23-LWA Annual Meeting @ Merrimac Memorial Park
 - September 20-Merrimac Preserve hike
 - October 18-Hike @ Gilbrater Rock Park

- ❖ UW Madison Extension – Community Development
 - After reviewing the materials available through the Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium (SEWISC), we agreed to reach out to this organization to learn more about how they put their 5-year strategic plan together. It appears they worked with UW Madison Extension – Community Development to put this together.
 - **Next Steps:** Reach out to SEWISC.

- ❖ LWA Newsletter update CHECK
 - Dede sent the spring newsletter.
 - *All Board Members: Keep note of subjects that may be good newsletter topics and send a note to Dede.*

- ❖ Native Plant Newsletter
 - The first edition of the Native Plant Newsletter was sent in March. The primary topic was the association between deer ticks that carry Lyme Disease and their association with the invasive plant, Bush Honeysuckle.

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Next Meeting: April 24, 2025

Next Meeting Agenda Items

- Support for Lake Wisconsin Farmer Watershed Council. In 2024, Alliant Energy provided \$500 in support of the event and LWS provided \$1,000.
- National Wildlife Certification

Action Items

No	Item	Responsible	Status
1	Notify Erawatech & Tingall's of the Board's decisions.	Mike Sarah	
2	Follow-up with the speaker on the dug-out canoes for interest in presenting at the annual meeting.	Rob	
3	Generate a list from those members that have expressed interest in volunteer opportunities.	Amy	
4	Transfer the membership data from Filemaker Pro to Excel	Amy	
5	Follow-up with the landscaping companies and schedule meetings with the interested companies.	Sarah	
6	Reach out to SEWISC to learn more about the generation of their 5-year strategic plan.	Sarah	
7	Proceed with making a donation of \$500 to the Grade Boat Club in support of the purchase of a work boat	Brandon	
8	Request 50% of the amount from Grade Boat Club (made to Roloff Corp)	Brandon	
9	Provide list of businesses that received Business Appreciation Certificates to Andrea/Amy for inclusion in the LWA member database and Mike for posting on the website.		
10	Explore future dates for educational presentation on invasive species. Work with Mara Lince for future opportunities. ➤ Mara suggested we contact a local school for a boat tour of the lake. She has experienced this recently and it was a great time for youth.	Mike	Continue to follow

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No	Item	Responsible	Status
11	Contact the remaining 2 website designers and request the additional information discussed by the Board members	Mike Sarah	COMPLETED
12	Inform Dan Butkus and Mike Engelson of LWA's motion to join the Wake Boat Coalition	Rob	COMPLETED
13	Inform Mark Niebuhr of Dekorra's Park Dept. of the Board's agreement to move ahead. Investigate applicable grants and bring this information back to Mark Niebuhr of Dekorra and the LWA Board.	Sarah	COMPLETED