

FOREST COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LAKES, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Lake Lucerne Pavilion (No ZOOM)  
Friday, August 15, 2025

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 8:32 am by President Pam Schroder who established a quorum.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Present: Jim Zach, Mark Orlovsky, Bob Ebben, Greg Schmitz, Clair Carty, Mike Henderson, Derek Thorn, Diane Smith, Mark Smith, Vi Lamers, Lee Lamers, Pam Schroeder, and Kathy Babcock.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Present on ZOOM: No Zoom Offered

Board of Directors & Liaisons Excused: Pat Shultz and Kayla Littleton.

Board of Directors & Liaisons Absent: None.

Guests: None.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept the minutes from June 10, 2025 was made by Jim Zach, seconded by Mike Henderson. Motion passed unanimously. There are no minutes for July as that was a small planning committee meeting regarding Kentuck Day after the 6-County meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Ebben reported that . . .

- we have more new members and donations coming in thanks to Greg's letter.
- even though we overspent on the newsletter, with the new membership dues, this shouldn't be a problem.
- the he recently received the safety deposit bill from Associated Bank, which increased from \$31.50/yr. to \$75/yr. Bob will compare prices with Laona State Bank and CoVantage before renewing.
- we received a renewal notice for Wisconsin Lakes, which, in the past, we have paid \$200.

Mark Orlovsky made a motion seconded by Mike Henderson that we pay the Wisconsin Lakes membership based on an accurate count of our membership. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob presented the Register Report, Current Budget, and Net Worth. Greg Schmitz made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Lee Lamers. Motion passed unanimously.

GRANT UPDATES: No report at this time.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Forest County Land and Water Conservation: Kayla Littleton sent a written report as she couldn't attend today's meeting. She noted that Lucas is doing a great job. He has fully taken over the cost share/shoreline protection program and oversees non-metallic mining in the county. Kayla continues to focus on GIS work, among many other things.

Lumberjack RC & D: No report at this time; however, Derek Thorn noted that the deadline for Lumberjack grants is October 1<sup>st</sup>. Mark Orlovsky volunteered to be our liaison for this group. Pam agreed to be his alternate. Diane Smith made a motion, seconded by Vi Lamers, that we approve Mark Orlovsky as the Lumberjack RC & D liaison with Pam Schroeder as his alternate. Motion passed unanimously.

WRISC: Kathy reported that WRISC is still in the process of becoming a 501 3c independent organization. They will be changing their name to Roots & Rivers.

FLOW/AIS: Derek reported that . . .

- the surface water grant application is now open.
- he will be applying for a Lumberjack grant to offset the fact that Oconto County has withdrawn from FLOW. He explained that Oconto County has a good lake association – that they have made a decision to keep all funding in-county.
- he is continuing to grow the AIS resort outreach project he developed perhaps by looking to include Air B&B's, dock companies, and guide services.

- Ron Skellerude from Kentuck Lake is looking to appoint someone from Forest County to sit on their lake district board.
- his boss, Tracey Beckman, is looking for representative from Forest County to be a member-at-large on the Lumberjack RC & D board.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Essay Contest (spring)— *Clair Carty*. We have two students, each with two people from their families, planning to attend the Annual Dinner: Melia Ward and Preston Hauser.

Newsletter (spring)— *Vi Lamers* -- Vi reported that the plastics article written by Diane and Mark Smith was inadvertently left out of this year's newsletter. It will be used in the 2026 newsletter.

Kentuck Day (July) – *Greg Schmitz and Mark Smith* – Greg reported that Kentuck Day was a success and thanked all who helped. Many bags filled with literature, bobbers, and non-lead sinkers were distributed. The kids, especially, loved the bobbers and sinkers. Rob from WRISC did a great job talking about AIS, etc. The location was very good. We received one new membership on site and expect a couple more via the mail/website in the near future.

To improve for next year, Greg will organize the literature in advance and put in the canvas bags ahead of time (we have approximately 100 bags left, so no need to purchase more). They will permanently fasten the banners to the tents before raising them.

Fall Forum (August 15) – *Jim Zach* – Jim reported that Austin Babitch, Forest County's new Conservation Warden, would not be able to be a presenter today, but that Heather Stricker- Orlovsky had enough material to cover for that vacancy.

Environmental Day (Friday, October 2) – *Lee Lamers & Kayla Littleton* – Kayla's written report indicated that Laona and Wabeno have acknowledged the date – she hasn't heard back from Crandon yet. She will be sending a reminder email in the coming weeks, once the schools are back in session.

Lee indicated that Kayla does a lot of work for Environmental Day. Typically, they have 8 stations including Ron Krueger from Northern Lake Services, a shocking boat, etc. This year they hope to have Greg Matzke, WDNR Fisheries Biologist.

Lee will contact Channel 12 News and maybe Up North at 4 to see if they will cover this event.

Annual Meeting (Saturday, October 18) – *Pam Schroeder* - Pam reported that she has confirmed Wolf River Rendezvous as the venue and Demings on Hwy 55 as the caterer. The menu was discussed and will likely include beef tips in gravy and a chicken-in-pastry entree, plus vegetables and a salad for \$16.00/person. This is without dessert. It was decided that Pam will have Demings add dessert, even though the cost will be a bit more. The event will begin with our annual meeting at 4 pm, a presentation on wildlife at 5 pm, and dinner immediately following at approximately 6 pm. Essay contest winners and their families will be invited to come at 5 pm.

By-Laws Review – *Pam Schroeder* -- No report at this time.

Website – *Greg Schmitz* – No report at this time.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Fall Forum Lake Signs – Diane recommended that we get new table signs for each lake association group in Forest County. She will find out the cost for this and present it for consideration at our September board meeting.

Wisconsin Lakes Website – Kathy will update our board of directors names/lakes on the Wisconsin Lakes website.

Portable Box Podium & Sound System – Larry used to be the keeper of this. Mark Orlovsky checked to see if it was at his home – no luck. Pam will check to see if the Lions Club is housing it. Jim Zach made a motion, seconded by Mike Henderson, that if our portable podium and sound system cannot be found, Pam Schroeder should purchase another one. Motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING – Our next meeting will be at **9:30 am** in person and via Zoom on **Friday, September 19** at the Associated Bank in Crandon.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn at 9:35 am made by Clair Carty, seconded by Mike Henderson. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned and the Fall Forum began immediately thereafter (see addendum).

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Babcock

## ADDENDUM—FALL FORUM

23 people representing 11 lakes attended per the sign-in sheet:

Pam Schroeder - Little Long Lake

Lee & Vi Lamers - Roberts Lake

Bob Nack – Roberts Lake

Clair Carty - Bear Lake

Mark & Diane Smith - Lost Lake

Derek Thorn - FLOW AIS

Mark Orlovsky - Lake Lucerne

Steve Van Grinsvon - Lake Lucerne

Jerry Van Grinsvon - Lake Lucerne

Jim & Susan Zach - Lake Lucerne

Maren Klich - Lake Lucerne

Eric Anderson - Lake Lucerne

Mike Henderson - Lily Lake

Bob Ebben – Arbutus Lake

Kathy Babcock - Butternut- Franklin Lakes

Keith & Kathy Hahlbeck- Butternut Lake

Greg Schmitz - Camp 6 Lake

Mark Truyman – Lake Metonga

Keith White - Silver Lake

Heather Orlovsky - Eagle River / Presenter