



BWLA Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday August 23, 2025

Location: Pierson Township Hall

ATTENDEES

Present: Dave Cornelius, Jon Durren, Eric Hendrickson, Laura Wiltz, Tom Krehbiel, Pat Mead, Diane Ferris, Susan Smith, Mike Dazy, Jane Dykhouse, Ron VanTimmeren

Absent:

MEETING NOTES

- **Roll Call - Smith**
 - Meeting called to order by Laura Wiltz
- **Approval of minutes from June 7, 2025**
 - Approved by (J.Rowen, Janie Durren)
- **Opening Remarks- Wiltz**
 - Laura thanked the board and enjoyed her time as president and with the lake community.
 - Reminded us of our progress as a lake community
 - Welcomed your questions
- **Marine Patrol**
 - Reminder to review rules of the Lake in our yearly directory
 - Good year, DNR is visiting regularly, reminder to get fishing licenses
 - Jet Ski's reminder to our visitors, safety reminders
 - 100 ft away from boat or raft applies to pontoons and any craft, get tags for your boats- tag expiration is March of next year, online or at SOS to get renewal
 - No big updates or changes
 - Any thoughts to posting the rules at the boat landing- current rules are highly faded, safety is a concern! Make new signs to keep updated signs at launch...posted rules, have been updated at the Little Whitefish Lake boat launch
 - Swim buoys must be approved by the DNR
 - Lake residents can call central dispatch if you have questions for Marine Patrol, also they left some marine rule books!
- **Treasurer's Report from August 23, 2025 (Approval-John Klein, S Herrema)- Jon Durren**
 - Jon reviewed the treasurers report
 - Transitioning role of treasurer to Diane Ferris, moving documentation to digital away from paper
 - Thank you Jon for your work as our treasurer!
- **Township update- Buyze**

- Dan Buyze's is retiring from the Supervisor position and Patrick Maioho is taking his position as of September 15th
- August 28th hearing on 5 yr Master plan, charting our future for township
- 5 yr weed special assessment is in place
- 5 yr park & rec plan are in place- some additions and changes, sand box, mud kitchen
- **Ecology Report - Cornelius**
 - No major issues, good year – Jon mentioned we spent 44K on weed control
 - Treat in spring, mid June (16-18 ft of clarity)
 - Brad, Dave and PLM rep (Dan) did a survey of the Lake, we treated along western shore, near Hubbard property. Found a lot of Starry Stonewort, prevalent in Cove area, South end, large blooms
Treated to limit them and stop the spread of the S. Stonewort.
 - Blue Gill, Bass fishing going well, small population of Walleye. A question related to planting fish- it would be published which brings in more fisherman
 - Question about communication of treatment and pre warning, follow up related to this request at our next board meeting.
- **Sewer Report - Buyze**
 - New tanks are in in South part of BWF, no concerns – need new drainage field. To begin late fall, early spring. Meeting with engineering team next week
 - North site has required metering flow valve to be placed. Needs to be finished before further work is completed. Engineers, Dean's Excavating did an excellent job.
 - Once South site is completed will hopefully get 25-30 yrs from these updates.
 - North site had no issues with overuse over the 4th of July. Township has agreed to do a 2-yr plan for North site related to flow meter. It's split between LWF and BWF associations (40-60%)
 - More info coming on costs, when we look at what needs to be completed, we are short on funds \$175-200 K is an estimate.
 - Dan will be transitioning from Supervisor to the Sewer advisory committee with Patrick taking over the supervisor role.
 - Question related to Dagget project- 30-32 homes
- **Boat Cover Recycling - VanTimmeren**
 - Collect the temporary blue covers, hold onto them. Ron sends out an email to communicate plans
 - Fall on the way, leaves in yard, reminder that we are not allowed to blow leaves into the road/ or area on Dagget, options include using Republic land fill or hire to take leaves away
 - Reminder to pull trash containers away from the roads after pickup
 - Question about burning leaves in fall. Burning puts a lot of phosphorus into the lake, impacts your algae growth. If do so keep it away from the lake. There is no ordinance against burning leaves, but it would be a daytime operation, sunup/down
- **Hillis Road (tennis/pickleball) Update- Davy**
 - New shed, store nets, equipment, anyone storing associated equipment at their homes/garages, can go into storage. Pat Mead, Laura have storage shed keys and will help if contacted.
 - How to support nice drive area, working on this and possibly an improvement to the pavilion in the future

- **Committee Reports – Wiltz**

- Judy in NY, excellent job on communication- website/emails
- Mark Wiltz on Fireworks- welcome to the fireworks committee- no updates, working on planning for next year. May have to reach out to other vendors....
- Boat Parade- awards, was a huge success! Excellent job to all. Start to finish- 1-1.5 hr. Not a three hr cruise! Laura encouraged boat parade participation and felt it was able to grow because of timing on fun run/4th of July. Discussed next year with Saturday 4th of July. Group suggested to keep it on Saturday suggested for the next year. A new theme to be selected by winners! Awards provided to participants and winners. Durren, Warners and Stormzand – 1st place, 2nd place Wiltz, 3rd place...?
- Fishing contest was a great success
- Golf outing also very successful with great weather too!
- O'Rourke's thank you for PB coordination and support
- New apparel planned for next year
- Spearing Contest, Buyze- Gar Pike, Dog Fish awards- Dan got trophies to participant

- **Board of Directors- Fall Elections motion to add Beyer, Moore (J. Rowen/S. Herrema)**

- Expiring terms: Krehbiel, Durren and Dykhouse
- Krehbiel agreed to stay on another three years.
- Jane Dykhouse, (9 yrs) Jon Durren (14 yrs) have spent tireless hrs on the board. Thank you both so much!
- Jeff Moore and Lisa Beyer are interested in joining the board
- Special thanks to Mark supporting Laura. Passing the leadership to Eric Hendrickson. A big Thank you to Laura Wiltz for her leadership and work with our board!

- **Questions, Comments, New Business**

- Question about short term rentals, about who is here, guests, parties etc. Is this becoming an issue, disruption? Happening elsewhere, as we move down the road with ABnB or VRBO, discuss at a township level discussion? Laura suggested, at this time there is no short-term ordinance at Pierson township. In Northshore, bylaws have rules that you can't rent out. Other zones do not have bylaws written or a separate rule written.

Eric Hendrickson recognizes Laura and all thanked her for the excellent job well done!

- **Adjourn**

Approved by (A. Jansen/S. Herrema)