



MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 9, 2025

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Silver Lake Management District (the "District") was called to order at 6:30 pm, Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at the Copper Bottom Grill, 28836 Silver Lake Rd, Salem, WI.

(The venue was changed because the Silver Lake Community Center was locked. A sign was attached to the door to the Silver Lake Community Center directing attendees to the Copper Bottom.)

2. Roll Call

Dee Andershock (absent)
John Coffey
Ron Gandt
Harry Laws
Jim Purinton

Ron Gandt was recently appointed to the Board as the representative of the Village of Salem Lakes, where he also serves as a Trustee.

3. Open Meeting Law Compliance Check

The required 24-hour notice of the meeting was satisfied. The April 9 Board Meeting Notice/Agenda was posted on the District website on April 3 and was physically posted at the Silver Lake Post Office, the Salem Lakes Village Hall, and the Community Library on April 4.

4. Approval of Minutes of December 17, 2024, Board Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes made by Coffey and seconded by Laws.
Motion passed (Gandt abstained)

5. Citizen Comments: None

6. Chairman's Report

- a. Purinton reported on the March 18 meeting with the Village of Salem Lakes. Purinton and Dave Engels met with Cassandra Hiler (Village Administrator), Brad Zautke (Director of Public Works), Ron Gandt (Trustee and newly appointed Village representative to the SLMD Board). Purinton said the meeting's takeaways included the following:
 - i. Purinton will draft a District webpage, for Village review, on No-Wake, Hazard, and Mooring Buoys.
 - ii. The Village will not be able to hire a summer employee to staff a Clean Boats, Clean Waters program for Village lakes, even if lake districts in the Village paid for the cost.
 - iii. The Village has not changed its ordinance that prohibits mooring buoys on all village lakes. Purinton said he stressed that very shallow depths along the shore in the northeast portion of the lake make it necessary for owners to moor their boats out from shore and that the WDNR has given permits for mooring buoys in that location in past years.
- b. Purinton reported that he was not able to set up a coordination meeting with Kenosha County this year.
- c. Purinton asked if Board Meeting Minutes could be uploaded to the website prior to their approval at subsequent Board meetings if they are marked "Pending." He said the time between Board meetings is 3-4 months and this process would allow greater transparency. Discussion supported proceeding with this idea on a test basis.
- d. Purinton also noted that many municipalities now also upload Meeting Packets in addition to the Meeting Agendas to their websites. The Meeting Packets are the informational packages provided to the elected officials. He asked if the Board agreed that it would be a good idea to also upload the Meeting Packets with the Meeting Agendas, again in the interest of greater transparency. Discussion supported proceeding with this idea on a test basis.

7. Treasurer's Report

- a. Laws presented the 2024 Final Year-End Financials and the 2024 Independent Accountants Compilation Report prepared by Red Rock Business Advisors. Motion to approve made by Coffey and seconded by Purinton. Motion passed.
- b. Laws presented the 2025 Year-to-Date Financials (Exhibit A).
 - i. Laws summarized revenues and expenses so far this year:

\$34,797.59 received in tax receipts and a \$2,951.21 WDNR reimbursement for 2024 water safety patrols. Administrative expenses totaled \$3,043.51 for annual insurance premiums, the 2024 outside financial review, and costs of preparing 1099's for District vendors.

- ii. Laws requested approval to reimburse David Engels for \$249.45 of expenses incurred regarding the fall 2024 water quality sampling and analysis. Motion made by Coffey and seconded by Laws. Motion passed.
- iii. Motion was made by Coffey and seconded by Laws to approve the 2025 Year-to-Date financials. Motion passed.
- c. Laws presented the status of the Chase Bank "Ladder" CD's.
 - i. In 2024, the Board authorized \$30,000 to be invested as follows: \$7,500 each in 3-month, 6-month, 9-month and 12-month CD's which would convert to 12-month CD's upon maturity. The \$30,000 was invested, \$7,500 each, in 3-month, 6-month, 9-month, and 12-month CD's.
 - ii. Chase then reported that they cannot do the "Ladder" investments for governmental clients like the District.
 - iii. As a result, the CD's have been/will be rolling over into the same 3-month, 6-month, 9-month, and 12-month durations at maturity.
 - iv. The Board also authorized an additional \$30,000 investment in Chase Ladder CD's but no CD's have been purchased pursuant to this authorization.
 - v. Laws proposed an alternative plan to invest all \$60,000 in 12-month CD's, \$7,500 per month, for eight months beginning in June 2025, cashing existing CD's as needed. Motion was made by Laws and seconded by Coffey to implement the revised Chase CD investment plan. Motion passed.
- d. Laws presented a proposed 2026 Budget, noting that a 2026 budget needs to be approved tonight by the Board for presentation and vote at the upcoming Annual Meeting.
 - i. Laws said the proposed budget includes reduced \$15,000 expenses for HWM Lake Treatment, \$14,000 for Water Safety Patrols, and \$15,000 for Water Quality Studies, as well as typical Administrative Expenses.
 - ii. Laws said that, since the District will be close to meeting its goal to hold sufficient funds in reserve for possible lakewide HWM treatment, he suggested a *reduction* in the 2026 tax levy. After discussion, it was determined that the tax levy should be reduced to \$47,000, a 10% reduction from the \$52,000 tax levy of 2023, 2024, and 2025.
 - iii. Laws made a motion, seconded by Coffey, to approve the

revised proposed 2026 Budget for presentation, review, possible revision, and approval at the Annual Meeting. Motion passed.

8. Commissioner Comments: None

9. Update: 2025 Hybrid Water Milfoil (HWM) Treatment Program

- a. Purinton reported that the Wisconsin Lake and Pond Resource contract for the 2025 spring HWM Lake Treatment and the 2025 Fall Survey was executed as authorized in December.
- b. The limited 2025 HWM Treatment, about 1/3-acre in the southeast portion of the lake, is targeted to be undertaken in May.
- c. A map of the 2024 Fall Survey and the 2025 HWM Lake Treatment were uploaded to the website.

10. Update: 2025 Water Safety Patrols

- a. Purinton reported that the WDNR reimbursement for the 2024 water safety patrols was less than expected.
 - i. Expenses were audited by WDNR and reduced by about \$320.
 - ii. Then the reimbursement was made at 57% of approved expenses, not the 75% that was expected.
- b. Purinton reported that Commissioner Andershock attended a meeting at the Kenosha County Sheriff's Office in March with other lake districts and municipalities to review 2025 water safety programs. The District's proposed increased 2025 water safety patrols was confirmed.
- c. Purinton said that the 2025 Water Safety Patrols contract with the Kenosha County Sheriff's Department was executed and returned for final county approval and execution.
 - i. The contract form was the same as the 2024 contract, which was reviewed and approved by the attorney last year.
 - ii. The contract reflected the terms approved by the Board in December -- increased patrols (at least 4 hours on Saturday and 4 hours on Sunday every weekend from Memorial Day through Labor Day, rainy days excepted) at a cost not to exceed \$14,000.

11. Discussion and Possible Action: Proposed Silver Lake Water Quality Plan and Proposed Web Page

- a. Purinton said that Dave Engels, on behalf of the District, took spring and fall 2024 water samples to provide baseline data on the chemical composition of the lake water. The analysis of the samples was discussed at the December Board meeting.
- b. The proposed next step is a more detailed water quality study that would focus on sources of nutrients and salt compounds, storm sewer drainage, possible run-off from shoreline properties, and salt use in

adjacent County and Village roads. The study would also attempt to understand the reasons for frequent Village beach closures from high coliform levels.

- c. Motion was made by Laws, seconded by Coffey, to approve the following resolution, which was passed:

“Whereas Silver Lake has high levels of salt compounds and nutrients in its lake chemistry, there is a need to further study the various possible sources of those compounds and nutrients that affect the overall water quality of Silver Lake. The Board hereby requests that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) prepare a proposal for Board consideration to include various noted study components.”

- d. Water Quality will be an agenda item at the Annual Meeting and will include a description of the 2024 spring and fall water chemistry analysis, as well as the proposed Water Quality Study.
- e. Purinton also asked the Board to review the proposed webpage and supporting materials titled “Water Quality – Causes, Effects, and Solutions.” The plan is to upload it to the website prior to the Annual Meeting.

12.Update: Lake Levels and Outlet Dam

- a. Purinton reviewed the latest Lake Levels chart noting that lake levels during the summer of 2024 were 5” to 10” higher than those in 2023. He also noted that the lake is currently significantly lower than it was at this time in either 2023 or 2024.
- b. Purinton said the proposed revisions to the Lake Levels web page were provided for Board members’ review and comment and would be uploaded to the website by the end of April.

13. Discussion and Possible Action: WDNR 2025 Silver Lake Panfish Study

- a. Purinton said there is evidence that the size of panfish (bluegill, pumpkinseed, crappie, perch, warmouth) has decreased in time in many Wisconsin lakes. Studies in Minnesota and Wisconsin show that reduced bag limits can increase the average size of panfish in certain lakes.
- b. The WDNR is considering undertaking a panfish growth overview study in Silver Lake. The spring 2021 Silver Lake Fisheries Survey demonstrated a below-average abundance of various panfish, particularly pumpkinseed and bluegill,
- c. Motion was made by Laws, seconded by Coffey, to approve the resolution noted below. The motion passed.

“Whereas the WDNR has determined that certain lakes are experiencing panfish overharvesting, and whereas the WDNR is considering undertaking a 2025 panfish growth overview study for Silver Lake, the Silver Lake Management District does hereby endorse the WDNR’s proposed study.”

14. Discussion and Possible Action: 2025 Annual Meeting Agenda, Proposed 2026 Budget, Meeting Notice and Materials, Annual Meeting Details

- a. Purinton said that the Board needed to take action on several items in preparation for the Annual Meeting. These items were discussed and approved:
 - i. Annual Meeting Notice/Agenda: Motion made by Laws, seconded by Coffey. Motion passed,
 - ii. Annual Meeting Notice Documents to include the Meeting Notice/Agenda, Resolution to Expand the Board by Two Elected Commissioners, Call for Commissioner Nominations, and Financials (2024 Final, 2025 Year-to-Date, 2026 Proposed Budget): Motion made by Coffey, seconded by Laws. Motion passed.
- b. Purinton discussed the Annual Meeting Checklist and Assignments:
 - i. The Copper Bottom Venue needs to be reserved (Coffey).
 - ii. The Annual Meeting Notice Documents need to be mailed to all lakefront property owners by May 2 (Laws and Andershock), a Class 2 Legal Notice also needs to be published (Purinton), a Meeting Notice email will be updated to the website and an email sent to the website mailing list (Purinton), and a physical Meeting notice will be posted in several locations (Laws and Andershock).
 - iii. Purinton will prepare Check-In and meeting materials.
 - iv. Various Board members will recruit volunteers for the Check-In (Coffey: Rustic Shores and Silver Lake Rd, Purinton: Newport Bay and Shorecrest, Laws: Cogswell Rd).
 - v. Coffey and Laws will be the Election Judges.
 - vi. Set-up is at 9:15.

15. Any Other Topics

- a. Wake Surfing is a current controversy on many Wisconsin lakes. Regulations limiting or prohibiting wake surfing on many Wisconsin lakes are being considered and, in some cases, passed. The Salem Lakes Village Board is having an informational meeting on April 23 on that topic.

16. Next Board Meeting: Immediately after the Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 24, 2025.

17. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Gandt, seconded by Laws. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Purinton for Dee Andershock, Secretary.



2025 BUDGET / YEAR-TO-DATE

CASH BASIS

as of 4/9/2025

	2025 BUDGET	2025 YTD	Expected Rest of Yr	Expected 2025 Total	Budget v Expected	
CASH RECEIPTS						
Tax Levy	52,000	34,798	17,202	52,000	-	Note 1
Grants	-	2,951		2,951	2,951	Note 2
Donations	-	-				
Interest	-	-				
TOTAL RECEIPTS	52,000	37,749	17,202	54,951	2,951	
CASH EXPENSES						
HWM Treatment	25,000	-	6,000	6,000	19,000	Note 3
Water Safety Patrols	10,000	-	14,000	14,000	(4,000)	Note 4
Water Quality Studies			5,000	5,000	(5,000)	Note 5
Administration						
Website	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	-	
Insurance	2,600	2,388		2,388	212	
Legal	500	-	500	500	-	
Annual Meeting	700	-	700	700	-	
PO Box	100	-	65	65	35	
Banking	100	-	-	-	100	
Audit	700	600	-	600	100	
Contingency	1,300	-	-	-	1,300	
Reserve for Future Projects	10,000	-		-	10,000	
TOTAL CASH EXPENSES	52,000	2,988	27,265	30,253	21,747	
PROJECTED YR-END SURPLUS (DEFICIT)				24,698		
TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENTS						
Start of Year	66,357					
Projected End of Year				91,055		

Note 1: Tax receipts are received Jan-August

Note 2: Unbudgeted WDNR reimbursement for 2024 Water Safety Patrols

Note 3: 2025 spring HWM treatment and fall 2025 lake survey expected cost of \$6,000

Note 4: 2025 water safety patrols contract not-to-exceed \$14,000

Note 5: Estimated 2025 portion of proposed Silver Lake Water Quality Study