

**LAKE REDSTONE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 6 pm**  
**Location: Town of La Valle Hall, 324 Hwy 33, La Valle, WI 53941**

**Minutes**

**1. Call meeting to order, verify compliance with the Open Meeting Law.**

Meeting called to order by chair, Mike Mittelstadt, at six pm.

**2. Roll Call:**

Mike Mittelstadt, Brad Horner, Dave Crockett, Pat Sullivan, Ray Demaskie, Peter Kinsman, Ken Keegstra (on zoom)

Others: Tom and Sue Walters, Ken and Sue Kidd, Jana and Russ Burg, Pat and Mark Reynolds, Chuck and Carol Ecklund, Anna Demaskie, Mike Jones (USDA wildlife biologist), six other people attended the meeting, but did not sign in.

Others on zoom: Al Baade, Paul Burke, Terri Moeller, Matt Haerter, Jeff Duszynski, Dave Rancourt, Penny Weigel, Jill and Matt Messmer, Mitch McCarthy, Tom and Joy Burney, Robin Hoffman, Al Schlinsog, Charlie and Sue Chapin.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve current agenda by Crockett, second by Horner. Motion carried.

**4. Approve minutes for January 14<sup>th</sup> regular meeting**

Motion to approve January 14<sup>th</sup> minutes by Sullivan, second by Crockett.

**5. Public Input**

Several people were present at the town hall and others joined the meeting via Zoom.

Mittelstadt provided 3 minutes to all those who wished to make comments regarding the proposed new boating ordinance. Their comments are condensed for sake of brevity.

Pat Reynolds- Supports ordinance; commented on safety and enjoyment issues.

Jana Burg- Supports ordinance; commented on safety, enjoyment, and environmental issues.

Matt Haerter-Supports ordinance; commented on safety issues.

Tom Burney- Supports ordinance; commented on safety and enjoyment issues.

Jeff Duszynski- Opposes ordinance; wake boat owner, tries to be responsible, thinks people should be able to use their boats.

Terri Moeller- Supports ordinance; commented on safety, enjoyment and environmental issues.

Moeller said that Sue and Charlie Chapin also supported the ordinance but needed to leave the zoom meeting before they could speak.

Penny Weigel- Supports ordinance; commented on safety and enjoyment concerns.

Jill Messmer- Supports ordinance; commented on safety and enjoyment concerns.

Mitch McCarthy (Sauk County)- No position on the ordinance. He encouraged people to do their own research on the pros and cons of enhanced-wake boats, but he offered to help them locate resources.

**6. Chairman's Report**

**a. Discussion of goose roundup in 2025-Mike Jones**

Surveys performed in the spring of 2024 documented that Lake Redstone has more geese than is healthy for a lake our size. A subcommittee of the water quality committee, i.e., Sue and Tom Walters and Sue and Ken Kidd, explored options for controlling the number of geese. One is a goose roundup. Mike Jones is a wildlife biologist who works for Wildlife Services at the USDA; they are the only agency allowed to do goose roundups in Wisconsin. He described what is involved in doing a roundup.

Roundups occur between mid-June and early July when geese lose their flight feathers. Both adult and juvenile geese are guided to certain areas on land that are surrounded by nets before transfer to ventilated poultry crates on a trailer. Wildlife Services needs written permission from landowners before they can use their property as a roundup site. Usually about 1/3 of geese are adults while 2/3 are juveniles. The WDNR does not allow the geese to be relocated, so they are euthanized and donated as human or animal food.

The cost for a goose roundup is \$3500. If the goose meat is to be donated to food pantries, at least 10% of the birds (minimum of 5) must be tested for lead and mercury levels at a cost of \$125/bird. This will increase the cost of the roundup, depending upon how many birds are collected.

An open public meeting is necessary before a roundup to provide residents with information about the process. This would need to be scheduled sometime in April because May becomes very busy for Mike Jones and his staff. Keegstra made a motion to move forward with a goose roundup, second by Crockett. Motion carried.

**b. Update on policy for boats with enhanced wake**

The town board met on Monday, March 10 and decided to go ahead with the process of hearing from both sides of the issue, with an open meeting tentatively schedule for April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10am. The board sent the ordinance to the DNR for approval. The DNR suggested a new definition for displacement mode, which the town will use. The attorney suggests removing the 1000-foot wording from the existing ordinance. An open records request was sent to the LRPD. A survey was suggested to find who is in favor and who is opposed to the proposed ordinance. Horner mentioned that this question was considered by the WDNR in their state-wide surveys last fall. He reported that at the Sauk County hearing in Baraboo, and in the state-wide results reported by the WDNR, the split was 70/30 with most attendees in favor of regulating enhanced-wake boats.

**c. Update on Martin Meadowlark weir repair project**

The contractor wanted to do the project this winter, but the gabion baskets order was delayed. Because it can't be done between March 1 and April 15 (per DNR restrictions), it has been postponed until June or July. The correct gabions have been obtained by the contractor.

**d. Possible projects for 2025 Sauk County grant program**

Sullivan explained that he met with Mitch McCarthy, and they would like to propose a project on Cardinal Bay. The overall project is divided into 3 areas. The first is on the Wegner farm, which is being done directly with Sauk County folks using other funds. The second is from the Wegner farm to East Redstone Dr; this area involves 6 landowners with several that have bad ditches that need attention. This is the region that has a potential for a grant proposal. Sullivan will work with McCarthy over the coming weeks to develop specifics that could use the entire \$82,000 that the county has available.

The water quality committee would like to conduct phytoplankton surveys in the summer of 2025. This idea was suggested in the Onterra gap analysis report; the goal is to understand details about why the lake has so much chlorophyll. Keegstra contacted Gina LaLiberte, the algae expert at the WDNR, who provided advice about how to perform the survey and where to have the analyses conducted. The exact details of the sampling program are still being worked out, as is a decision to choose the vendor who will perform the analyses (it will likely be the State Laboratory of Hygiene, who performs the chemical analyses for LRPD water sampling operations). Depending upon the details of the sampling program, Keegstra estimated it would cost between \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Mittelstadt made a motion to have Sullivan and Keegstra prepare draft proposals by April 1, second by Crockett. Motion carried. This date will allow time for board members to review the proposals before the April LRPD board meeting when final decisions must be made. Final proposals to Sauk County are due before April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**e. Update on liability insurance changes**

The insurance agent was not able to locate a policy that will provide coverage for the new weirs that will be installed above Martin-Meadowlark Bay. Thus, our new insurance policy will be renewed without coverage on the weirs (considered dams by the insurance company).

**f. Finalize plans for lakes conference**

Sullivan will attend virtually. Mittelstadt, Crockett and Horner will attend in person. They will work out plans to maximize coverage of interesting and relevant sessions.

**7. Treasurer’s Financial Report**

**a. Approve vouchers**

Fondriest	ProSolo dissolved oxygen test kit	\$1,705.51
Payroll Solutions	Q3 2024 payroll processing	\$134.00
MBE CPAs	2024 1099 processing	\$189.53
Onterra LLC	Data review & gap analysis	<u>\$3,957.25</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$5,986.29</b>

Motion to approve current invoices by Sullivan, seconded by Keegstra. Motion carried.

**b. Review monthly financial reports**

**8. Secretary’s Report**

**a. Initial planning for Annual Meeting**

Meeting will be held August 2<sup>nd</sup> at the La Valle Town Hall.

**b. Establish date for spring 2025 review of 9KE progress and plans**

It was agreed that the special LRPD board meeting to review the lake management plan will be held on Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

**9. La Valle Town Representative: Demaskie**

The two bridge projects on LaValle Rd have been approved and should begin about April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**10. Sauk County Representative: Kinsman**

The Sauk County Extension office has a new phone extension.

**11. Committee Reports**

**a. Lake Management Plan Integration Committee**

**b. Water Quality Projects Committee**

Sullivan reported that he is making plans to perform the Clean Boats/Clean Water program in 2025. One inspector from earlier years will return, but he will need to hire one new inspector. Keegstra made a motion for Sullivan to look for another clean boat clean water inspector for 2025, second by Horner. Motion carried.

**i. Discussion of Onterra gap analysis report**

The report was received from Onterra on February 3, 2025; copies were distributed to all board members and a copy was placed on the LRPD web site under “reports”. The report described six different activities/projects that could be done in the future. Some were suggested for the summer of 2025 while other activities were recommended for later years. Continued water sampling, including adding a phytoplankton survey will be pursued in 2025. Another activity planned for 2025 is a repeat of the shoreline habitat assessment, which will be performed by Sauk County.

**ii. Discussion of aquatic plant survey results**

The results of the surveys performed in August and September of 2024 was received from Sara Hatleli on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Copies were distributed to all board members and a copy was placed on the LRPD web site under “aquatic plant management”. Keegstra briefly summarized the results. The abundance of aquatic plants, both native and invasive species, continue to decline in Lake Redstone. Because the abundance of Eurasian Water Milfoil does not meet our criteria for herbicide treatment, no herbicide treatment is recommended for 2025. If local abundance reaches nuisance levels, manual removal of Milfoil is suggested.

**c. Sediment Control Committee**

The spring survey of gullies will be conducted soon.

**d. Education & Outreach Committee**

Mitch McCarthy reports that 11 homeowners have expressed interest in creating shoreline improvement projects in the coming year.

**i. Update on 2025 newsletter**

The third draft was distributed to board members for review and edits. Another draft will be distributed before publication and distribution in early May.

**12. Agenda items for April 8<sup>th</sup> regular meeting**

Sauk County Grant, Surface water grants, finalize newsletter

**13. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned when all business was complete at 8:17pm.

**AD/March 15, 2025**

**KK/March 28, 2025**