



BEAR LAKE PROTECTION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 68
HAZELHURST, WI 54531
Web site: bearlakeprd.org

ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 5, 2026 - 9:00 AM
HAZELHURST TOWN HALL
DRAFT MINUTES

- **Call to Order by Mitch Borneman:** at 9:01 am by Mitch Borneman.
- **Board Members Present:**

Mitch Borneman, Chairperson	Dawn Wozniak, Treasurer
Jeanne' Stanley, Secretary	Chris Schultz, Oneida County Rep
Ron Mundt, Minocqua Town Rep	
- **Secretary's Report - 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes:** Presented by J. Stanley. Motion to approve as presented by Mike Kline and seconded by Tim Wozniak. Motion carried.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Dawn Wozniak presented the final financial report for 2025. The 2025 financials were audited by Karen Kline. Motion to approve as presented by Jan Mundt, seconded by Barb Lee. Motion carried. A current income/expense report was presented for 2026.
- **County Report:** Chris Schulz discussed wake boats with the DNR and Sheriff departments continuing to decline involvement. A township may establish rules and post but would need a constable to enforce. Many lakes are establishing rules and hoping for compliance. Regarding weed growth, DNR is against chemical removal due to impact on wild rice, removal permits are not issued for native plants. Mike Kline confirmed you can clear 15' on either side of your own pier. Ron Mundt mentioned Weedoo aquatic harvester as a possible option.
- **Town of Minocqua Report:** Ron Mundt confirmed oak wilt disease has to be present by DNR. Town of Minocqua did clearing for road widening project which contributed to the problem. The town will not address remediation, homeowners will need to be responsible for their own trees. The town will no longer do clearing during the high-risk period between April 15th and July 15th. Town will address the wash out at the boat launch by filling with gravel. Mike Kline requested a sign regarding no power loading, and suggested loading as close to the dock as possible to prevent trailer tilt.
- **AIS Survey-Borneman:** Whitewater came out June 26th to conduct AIS survey. Dawn Wozniak and Mitch Borneman were present. Report will be available from Whitewater later this year. We still have some Yellow Iris, and Purple Loosestrife along with Wispy Cattail. Dawn and Tim Wozniak along with Mike and Karen Kline were thanked for removal efforts. Everyone is

encouraged to monitor and remove invasive species. Chinese snail, rusty crawfish are also still present, please be mindful and remove when found.

- **Loon Project – Wozniak:** No loon chicks were produced this year. Dr. Piper was here once this year, and as time/grants permit will arrange future visits. Dawn Wozniak suggested a donation to the Loon Project and has added to the proposed budget. No loon harassment was reported this year. Questions arose regarding camera use and providing a platform for nesting. Dawn Wozniak will inquire with Dr. Piper about using a camera to monitor.
- **Lake Maintenance Committee – Borneman:** Committee was formed last year due to weed bogs as an effort to address resolution and provide recommendations to the board. The committee recommended continuing with the current efforts the board supports and resolved to dissolve. The report is available on the BLPRD website. Mike Stadler inquired about the weeds on the south shore, and it was confirmed that they are native species and so lake wide eradication by the DNR is not warranted.
- **Fish Stocking – Borneman:** Last year we scatter planted 1500 Walleye, Mitch Borneman thanked all those involved. It was brought up that the budget to stock walleye should be reviewed given the lack of appropriate habitat. Rick Kline is currently arranging stocking for this year. The DNR determined through testing we have been provided the incorrect strain of walleye to have the best survival chances. The district will be using Central Wisconsin Fish Hatchery going forward as they guarantee the correct strain of walleye. Stocking will be mid- to late October, reach out to Mitch Borneman if you are interested in volunteering. A vote will be held during budget discussion to determine if we should continue stocking.
- **Trapping – Borneman:** Greg Watson is our trapper, Mitch Borneman thanked him for all the work he put in controlling the beavers. Two beavers were trapped last year. Monitoring the area continues.
- **Moleaer Nano Bubble Technology Update – Mundt:** The Moleaer representative has not been responsive in a timely manner, however with the help of Chris Shultz estimates for electricity are in the works. Cost estimates to be determined as we continue to pursue installation options and viability.
- **Clean Boats Clean Waters – Wozniak:** Adam Spankowski is our CBCW representative, this year, as of September 3rd, he has worked 237 hours, inspected 113 watercraft, contacted 237 people for prevention of invasive species. The program runs May 1 – October 30 for a 200 hour minimum. A. Spankowski has agreed to be the CBCW representative again next year. Grant applications are open and the district will apply. A. Spankowski was thanked for the hard work he has put in. Ron Mundt will inquire with Minocqua to install a camera at the landing for monitoring and potentially forwarding to the DNR.
- **2027 Budget Hearing & Vote – Wozniak:** Dawn Wozniak presented a proposed budget for 2027 with an income of \$21,947.00 and expenses of \$23,950.00. Discussion for continued or

rescinding fish stocking and using funds for silt removal occurred. Machine removal of weeds is prohibitive, using a blower for silt was explored. We are encumbered by the DNR and state regulations. Ron Mundt and Mike Staedler discussed dam vs. beaver for silt flow thru, which is further restricted by buildup and deadfall. Mike Staedler requested seeking assistance from the DNR and volunteered to help. Mitch Borneman requested we table the discussion to next year. Mitch Borneman requested a vote to continue fish stocking, majority yeas vote. A vote for frequency of stocking was tabled until next year. Barb Lee requested looking into cost of a blower to move silt. Additional discussion included removal of dam boards annually to facilitate flow, Mitch Borneman and Dawn Wozniak agreed to approach the DNR for additional assistance and guidance.

Motion to approve budget by Rich Thiesen and seconded by Pat Schillinger. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Dam Notice – Borneman**

Mike Kline will be removing the dam boards per DNR agreement September 30, 2026, and put back April 1, 2027, weather permitting.

- **Public Comments**

Barb Lee recommended attending/joining Wisconsin Lakes & Rivers Organization meeting.

Rich Thiesen thanked everyone for their patience and work today.

Mike Kline thanked everyone who worked through the year.

- **Election to Fill Expired Term of Commissioner (3 year term) – Borneman:**

Mike Kline nominated Tim Wozniak, Liz Watson seconded. No other nominations were made. Mitch called for a vote, Tim Wozniak was unanimously elected.

- **2027 Annual Meeting Date – September 4, 2027 - 9:00 am**

- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Mitch Borneman, seconded by Liz Watson. Meeting adjourned at 10:38 am. Motion carried.

- **There will be a short commissioner meeting immediately following the Annual Meeting to elect the District Officers for the 2027 Term.**