

Mead Lake District

1st Quarter Meeting Minutes – Draft

Date:	February 21, 2026
Time:	9:00 a.m.
Location:	Mead Town Hall

1. Meeting called to order by Chair Larry Koschak
2. Roll Call: Larry Koschak (Chair), Will Ruemmele (Treasurer), Mary Schalow (Secretary), Greg Evans, Steve Rutkowski, Bob Eckes (Town of Mead), Roy Tyznik (Clark County).
Quorum reached.
3. Reading and approval of minutes of 4th Quarter Board Meeting. Motion by Greg Evans and seconded to approve the minutes. Carried.
4. Reading and approval of Sections 6 and 8 of the 3rd Quarter Board Meeting. Motion by Larry Koschak and seconded to approve the minutes. Carried.
5. Treasurer’s Report.
 - Account balances and list of expenditures are included in attached financial report.
 - Treasurer Will Ruemmele was notified that many water tests have not yet been invoiced by the Wisconsin State Lab for Hygiene, likely totaling over \$3000. This was despite previous assurance by them that all invoices were paid.
 - Will continues to be very uncomfortable writing checks with no paper trail of approval. Puts the lake district at risk of lawsuits and liability exposure. Larry Koschak agreed to speak with previous Board members to determine the sequence of events, with findings to be presented at the next quarterly meeting. Will stated this needs to be disclosed to voters at the annual meeting, with

possible actions of discontinuing water testing, selling the nanobubblers, or even seeking restitution since the Lake District is at risk of being sued for misappropriation of funds.

- Motion made by Steve Rutkowski and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Carried.

6. Report from Clark County Sheriff Kerry Kirn

- Greg Evans introduced Sheriff Kirn, who answered a variety of questions. Stated there were two Recreational (warden-like) positions but one of those positions was allocated to patrol duties in an effort to improve patrol coverage without adding a position. When fully staffed, they plan to reallocate that position to boating on holiday weekends.

7. Discussion and action: Create and adopt a document: Mead Lake District Procedural and Policy Guidelines. Larry Koschak made a motion that the District create and adopt a document of Mead Lake District guidelines. Motion seconded and carried.

8. Discussion on analyzing water test results and next steps. – Agenda item withdrawn.

9. Update on first results of 2025 Nanobubbles lab reports. – Larry Koschak presented early results from the Nanobubbles testing and which lake conditions changed during summer 2025. No conclusions have been reached. This report is posted under the "More...Mead Lake Mgmt Plan" tab on the lake district's web page:

<https://www.meadlakewi.com>.

10. Present results of Dissolved Oxygen testing around the lake – Larry Koschak presented a document showing dissolved oxygen conditions and their variation across five lake locations and depths during summer of 2025. Larry's summary is posted under the "More...Mead Lake Mgmt Plan" tab on the lake district's web page:

<https://www.meadlakewi.com>.

11. Mead Lake District Mission Statement –Understanding what our board can discuss for topics related to the lake and surrounding matters. Discussed what boundaries exist, based on previous advice from UW and legal expert. No action taken.

12. Reimbursement of Board Member expenses for conferences – The UW Lake District advisors published a topic in their Lake Tides Newsletter (attached) regarding this. No action taken.

13. Non-lapsable fund – Discuss what our current accounts are for and allowed to function as. Discussion held about process for establishing non-lapsable fund; no action taken.
14. Liability insurance consideration – Discussion centered on affordable policies obtained by other Wisconsin lake districts. Steve Rutkowski motioned that Mary Schalow seek three quotes for liability insurance. Seconded and carried.
15. Ownership of Nanobubbler garage – Discussion concluded that Mead Lake District owns the shed. No action taken.
16. Update on grant applications – Mead Lake was awarded two DNR cost-share grants (summary attached). Electrical costs are not factored in. If faced with a choice, Larry Koschak would recommend the fine air bubble aeration project over the nanobubbles project. No action taken.
17. Review and recommend Commissioners take an Oath of Office – Tabled until the next Board meeting when a Notary Public is expected to be present.
18. Discussion and Action: Propose to extend timing for posting of meeting agendas. Larry Koschak motioned we adopt a policy to extend the statutory minimum for posting the annual meeting notice from 14 days to 19 days, and extend the statutory minimum for posting quarterly meeting notices from 24 hours to 7 days. Seconded and carried.
19. Next board meeting:
 - Larry Koschak requested the 2nd Quarter Board Meeting be moved from May 16 to April 25 due to a personal conflict. Board members agreed to this change.
 - Larry expressed an interest in addressing voter qualification requirements and disposal of the district’s pontoon barge sitting in his yard.
 - Steve Rutkowski suggested we add a “Public Comment” item to all future agendas. This will be added near the end of future meeting agendas.
20. Motion to Adjourn – Motion to adjourn by Larry Koschak at 11:20. Seconded and carried.

Mead Lake District Secretary, Mary Schalow

4/29/2025 #813	Lake Restore NanoBubbler Purchase	35673 voided
4/26/2025 #814	Larry Koshak-Conference reimburse	800.02
4/26/2025 #815	ECRWA- 2025 Annual Dues	1000
May-25 #816	Lake Restore NanoBubbler Purchase	35,673
5/29/2025 #817	Evans Print and Media Group	260.59
6/6/2025 #818	Ag Source water testing	381
8/20/2025 #819	AgSource water testing	381
8/19/2025 #820	Ag Source water testing	381
8/19/2025 #821	Ag Source water testing	381
8/20/2025 #822	Ag Source water testing	381
8/20/2025 #823	Wi State Lab. Of Hygiene testing	233
8/20/2025 #824	Wi State Lab. Of Hygiene testing	233
9/8/2025 #825	Wi State Lab. Of Hygiene testing	1399 voided
9/8/2025 #826	Stanley Republican Meeting notice ad	198
9/8/2025 #827	Evans Print and Media Group	310.29
9/8/2025 #828	Larry Koshak shipping reimbursement	127.58
10/11/2025 #829	Larry Koshak- ups testing reimbursement	51.32
9/9/2025 #830	Us Post Office Stamps	25
9/22/2025 #831		87.15
11/17/2025 #832	Wi State Lab. Of Hygiene testing	1398
11/22/2025 #833	Ag Source water testing	1,905
12/11/2025 #834	Addison Baiert	230
12/11/2025 #835	Enterprise Sentinel	53.13
2026 ytd		
1/6/2026 #836	Wi State Lab. Of Hygiene testing	792
1/15/2026 #837	UW Stout water yesting from May and June 2025 test	2960

#1730
CD balance as of 2/20/26 \$45,462.28

7366 checking account bal. 2/20/26 \$ 8,350.02

1041 Money Market balance 2/20/26 \$ 9,764.09

Liquid Foods \$18,114.10

Tred up +.1 9/14/26 \$45,462.28

\$63,576.38

You asked...

In each issue of the *Lake Board Bulletin*, we will offer an answer to a question we have received. Some questions/answers will be specific to lake districts while others will apply to both associations and districts. Call 715-346-2116 or email lakes@uwsp.edu if you have any unanswered questions.



Q: Is it required that Lake Districts reimburse all expenses of commissioners attending any conferences they choose, without prior approval of these expenses by the voters?

A: Statute 33.28 (2m)5 states, "Commissioners shall be paid actual and necessary expenses incurred while conducting business of the district, plus such compensation as may be established by the annual meeting."

Public officials in Wisconsin are generally subject to ethics standards that limit their ability to profit from their service, whether elected or appointed. If a commissioner's service involves travel costs or other incidental expenses, the law does provide a path for them to be reimbursed. There does not appear to be a consistent way that lake districts across Wisconsin interpret what "actual and necessary" means and many choose to not reimburse board members for such expenses. Whatever money is being considered, it should first be included in the lake district budget that was approved at the annual meeting. A lake district board could also adopt a policy for travel and conferences related to lake district affairs. We don't advise lake districts adopt bylaws, but they can create policies which are helpful guides that can be more detailed than Ch. 33. One policy could require that the lake district board approve such expenses before a commissioner is reimbursed. They could also adopt the State of Wisconsin's Uniform Travel Schedule Amounts as a guide for establishing allowable amounts for reimbursement.



Feb 21, 2025 Mead Lake District Commissioners Meeting



Presented by Larry Koschak, Commissioner

Update

Mead Lake District was awarded a cost share grant of \$10,000.

Grant Category: 2026 Surface Water Planning

The purpose of the grant award is to offset operational expense for laboratory testing in 2026 required in NR 109 permit for compliance in the Mechanical Aquatic Plant Control project, aka NanoBubbles aeration test and learn pilot project.

Grant Maximum Award: \$10,000 Grant Split: 65% DNR – 35% Grantee

Breakdown of Grant Financials		
	Pre-Application	As Awarded for 2026
Estimated Project Cost	\$17,996	\$17,921
Award - DNR Cost Share	\$10,000	\$10,000
District Share		\$7,921
Supplies and Operating Expenses		\$15,820
Donations – Volunteers		\$2,101

Operating Expense includes:

- 3 labs, splitting 12 metrics, shipping expense to 2 labs, permit expense, supplies

Volunteer Donation Includes:

- Volunteer value is \$15hr @ 140 hours, travel mileage to UPS @ 300mi, boat use, \$10hr @ 25 hours



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Presented by Larry Koschak, Chair

Update -

Mead Lake District was awarded a cost share grant of \$108,245

Grant Category: Management Plan Implementation

The purpose of the grant award is to offset capital and operational expense to purchase and install a fine air bubble aeration system in Mead Lake. The system will supplement natural circulation with artificial circulation to restore oxygen balance.

Grant Maximum Award: \$200,000 Grant Split: 75% DNR – 25% Grantee

Breakdown of Grant Financials		
Description	Grant Award	Pre-Application October 2025
Estimated Project Cost	\$144,327	\$144,375
Grant Awarded - DNR Share	\$108,245	\$108,281
District Share	\$36,081	
Equipment	\$103,112	
Supplies/Operating Expenses	\$31,659	
Construction	\$3,000	
Donations – Volunteers	\$6,555	\$4,605
Equipment Includes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aeration equipment – compressors, aeration disks, air control system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aeration equipment, shipping, machinery shed, electrical equipment
Supplies/Operating Expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation, system startup, crating, assembly hardware, electrical power & ventilation 	
Construction includes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machinery shed & foundation 	
Volunteer Donation Includes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer value is \$15hr @ 373 hours, boat use \$10hr @ 96 hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer value is \$15hr @ 243 hours, boat use \$10hr @ 96 hours