Mead Lake District

3rd Quarter Meeting Minutes – Final

Date:	August 8, 2026
Time:	9:00 a.m.
Location:	Mead Town Hall

I. Meeting called to order by Chair Rutkowski at 9:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call:
   a. Present: Steve Rutkowski (Chair), Will Ruemmele (Treasurer), Mary Schalow (Secretary), Paul Proksch, Justin Running, Bill Martens (Town of Mead), Joe Waichulis, Jr. (Clark County)
   b. Quorum reached

III. Approval of minutes of 2nd Quarter Board Meeting of 4/25/2026. Approval of Commissioners Meeting of 6/13/2026. Approval of Board Meeting minutes of 7/5/2026. Review of Annual meeting minutes of 6/13/2026.
   a. Running motioned we approve meeting minutes as printed and distributed at the meeting. Seconded. Discussion regarding change of title of 7/5/2026 meeting from "Special Meeting" to "Board Meeting".
   b. Motion made by Running to amend 7/5/2026 minutes to reflect exact comments regarding calcium chloride insurance coverage. Seconded.
   c. Motion to accept the minutes carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report - Ruemmele
   a. Account balances and list of expenditures:
      i. CD = $45,723.34 with maturity date of 9/14/2026
         1. As per annual meeting direction, we will be moving 35,000 to designated non-lapsable fund.
         2. Remainder will be rolled over into money market account.

ii. Business Checking = $4,851.41
iii. CMMA (money market account) = $4,780.66

b. Two outstanding bills totaling $1,032
c. Motion by Rutkowski to accept treasurer's report. Seconded, followed by discussion. Approved.

V. Old Business
a. Status of Insurance Policies – Policies approved at 7/5/2026 board meeting.
b. ADS Aeration investigation plan – Would need to research this or other projects in detail prior to moving forward. Non-lapsable fund was established at annual meeting for general lake improvement.

VI. New Business
a. Look into buying AEDs. Waichulis will bring to Clark County's attention.
b. Discuss who to speak to at the County Campground for donations/tax levy. The lake district is not able to tax the county/campground. Rutkowski will approach Clark County's Forestry and Parks Committee to consider financial support for the lake district.
c. Need to move nanobubblers to new storage place. Proksch agreed to store the two small machines at no cost, as he has been doing with the district's water tanker.
d. Plan for selling nanobubble machines.
i. Motion by Rutkowski to sell the large nanobubbler machine for $27,000 as offered by Lake Restore, LLC, and place proceeds in checking account. Seconded. Discussion. Motion carried.
ii. Motion by Running to list the small nanobubble machines for sale on Wisconsin Surplus Auction with the caveat that the Mead Lake District board needs to approve the sale at our next meeting. Seconded. Discussion. Motion carried.
e. Plan for interfacing with our ECRWA (Eau Claire River Watershed Association) partners. Membership dues have been paid and Rutkowski will interface with them on behalf of the lake district.

VII. Correspondence sent to the district. Correspondence received by the lake district was shared with the Board:
a. Letter from Bill Becker regarding lake district (attached).

b. Letter from Larry Koschak regarding annual meeting minutes
c. Grievance document
d. Dissolution Petition from Brian Hafner requires vote at 2027 annual meeting. To be posted on district's web site.

VIII. Public comments
a. Waichulis introduced Chris Straight from the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, as a valuable resource for our lake district.

IX. Motion to adjourn at 10:32 a.m. Seconded. Motion carried.

Mead Lake District Secretary, Mary Schalow

First I would like to state that I have been a member of the Mead LD and it's previous organization, the Mead Lake Club as had my father spanning about 57 years. I've supported many of the projects and volunteered my time and research to the same.
That being said, I'm embarrassed at the poor behavior of some of OUR board members during the annual meeting. For the first time in all my years, I've seriously considered leaving the Mead Lake District. (Many members don't even know they can opt out of the membership and not be assessed a yearly fee.) I sat thru over 4 hrs of nothing but unhealthy tension. I question whether anything important was really accomplished. But I told myself that if you care about something, you have to have a commitment.

The board has been adapting to a more professional procedure the past few years and though somewhat tedious, it's in line with current practices. However, though there are differences of opinions between all of us, there is no room for personal bashing because someone may not like someone else or what they did or what was perceived that they did. Calling a person out to justify their actions, especially if it is questionable legal, should be done outside of the meeting. The results should be reported to the members before the annual meeting so the members have time to consider the incident and such response. Throwing it out there after vaguely touching on the issue is a recipe for decisions not well thought out, or maybe a way to promote one's own agenda.

It was said, more than once, that the board was bringing topics to the members to vote on, instead of the board making these decisions. While I agree with that on important topics, the purpose of the board is to act in our interests as best as they can, the reason they are elected.

I believe it was last year or the year before, the Mead Lake District adopted a Mead Lake management plan. This is as close to a mission statement as I can find. This was accepted by the MLD as our goals. Can anyone explain to me why we are not following that plan?

It was stated in a previous members meeting that we were illegal because we didn't have a title for our funds. Not a difficult problem to overcome. The committee should have handled that themselves, which they pretty much did. As was stated, it could be changed at any time. It didn't need to be voted on since the money wasn't going anywhere except to the management plan.

The problem is the understanding of how difficult it is to accumulate enough money and manpower to do something to improve the lake. We have many people doing research and legwork to try to achieve goals.
We try projects. Some may work, some not. But sitting on our butts waiting for a bolt of lightning to cure all our problems is pointless. Why have a Lake District?
What I'm asking is for the board and committee members to remember what we're in this for. Don't grovel on past incidents that can't be changed. Don't just point fingers. Do find solutions, or try to. And stick to the management plan. Otherwise, the whole organization is pointless.

Bill Becker
W9103 Scout Rd
billbecker66@hotmail.com