WHITE LAKE CITIZENS LEAGUE (WLCL)

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: July 20, 2026
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: WLCL Board Meeting

Board Members Present

Larry D'Angelo, Sarah Horn, Karen Pinagel, Chuck Neville, Chris Wichers, Scott Trudell, John Millington, Bob Parrett, Elizabeth Millington, Jamie Horn, Shelley Kirchner, Sean Whelan

Board Members Absent

Denise LaFlamme, Jennifer Genter

Guest

Adam Kennedy

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of June 24, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of July 2026 Financial Report
4. Membership Update
5. Fireworks Show Discussion for 2026 & 2027
6. Aqua Weed Survey Post Treatment
7. White Lake Improvement Board (WLIB) July 14, 2026 Meeting Recap
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

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1. Call to Order

President Karen Pinagel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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2. Approval of June 24, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the June 24, 2026 Board Meeting were presented for review.

Motion: Jamie Horn moved to approve the June 24, 2026 meeting minutes.
Second: Larry D'Angelo
Vote: Approved unanimously.

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3. Approval of July 2026 Financial Report

Treasurer Chuck Neville presented the July 2026 Financial Report and was recognized by the Board for his thorough preparation and presentation of the financial statements.

Financial Summary

For July 2026, cash receipts totaled **$3,225.04**, including approximately:

- $1,600 in memberships and donations
- $1,630 in apparel sales

Cash disbursements totaled **$910**, including:

- $342 in credit card processing fees
- $568 in fishing tournament expenses

As a result, the cash balance increased approximately **$2,300** to **$80,712**, remaining essentially unchanged from July 2025.

Year-to-date through July 2026:

- Cash receipts totaled **$62,485** compared to **$64,169** during the same period in 2025.
- Membership and donation revenue of **$33,958** exceeded the same period in 2025.
- Cash disbursements totaled **$72,023** compared to **$31,205** in 2025.

The increase in expenditures reflects deferred membership flag expenses from 2025, increased fireworks costs, expanded apparel inventory purchases, and higher online catalog and payment processing expenses.

The Board noted that the organization's cash balance is currently approximately $10,000 lower than December 31, 2025, with approximately $1,600 in remaining budgeted expenses to be incurred during the balance of the year. Additional fundraising efforts will be necessary to maintain year-end reserves comparable to 2025 levels.

Fundraising Update

Chris Wichers reported that she and Lisa Bruins met with a local business owner interested in hosting a percentage-night fundraising event this fall. The Board discussed scheduling options and agreed that additional raffle prizes would be beneficial.

Potential raffle items discussed included:

- A bourbon basket
- A signed jersey donated by Bren Pawlek
- Use of remaining raffle tickets from prior events

Euchre Tournament Discussion

The Board discussed organizing a Euchre tournament fundraiser during the fall. Potential venue options, rental fees, licensing considerations, raffle opportunities, and participant pricing were reviewed. Members agreed to continue evaluating venue availability and event logistics.

Merchandise Sales

The Board reviewed apparel sales and inventory performance. Merchandise sales are currently near break-even due to increased inventory purchases and weather-related impacts on seasonal sales demand.

Strategies discussed included:

- Offering apparel at all fundraising events
- Expanding sales opportunities during fall and winter events
- Promoting merchandise during holiday activities
- Selling apparel at future golf simulator and winter fundraising events

Payment Processing Fees

The Board reviewed increased credit card processing and online catalog expenses. Members discussed:

- Allowing purchasers to voluntarily cover transaction fees at checkout
- Evaluating Venmo and other payment methods

- Improving inventory management and transaction tracking

Motion: Larry D'Angelo moved to approve the July 2026 Financial Report.
Second: Shelley Kirchner
Vote: Approved unanimously.

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4. Membership Update

Lisa prepared the membership report.

Membership Statistics

- 402 Individual Members
- 30 Second Membership Cards Issued
- 432 Total Memberships/Cards
- 15 Business Memberships
- 64 New Members During the Current Membership Cycle

The Board noted that overall membership remains generally consistent with the prior year.

Discussion

The Board discussed:

- Conducting an additional membership mailing before year-end
- Repeating outreach efforts to residents who have not previously joined
- Continued membership promotion at upcoming fundraising events
- Distribution of membership flyers and coordination with block captains

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5. Fireworks Program Discussion

Board members reported overwhelmingly positive community feedback regarding the enhanced 2026 fireworks display.

Members noted that the expanded program, including multiple barges and an extended finale, was widely viewed as a significant success and compared favorably with neighboring lake communities.

2027 Fireworks Budget Discussion

The Board reviewed the approved fireworks budgets:

- **2026 Fireworks Budget:** $45,000
- **2027 Preliminary Fireworks Budget:** $30,000

Discussion focused on balancing strong community support with long-term financial sustainability and fundraising capacity.

Winter Community Event Discussion

The Board discussed alternatives to the former Winter Carnival, including:

- Winter fireworks
- Drone shows
- Other professionally managed community events requiring less volunteer support and liability management

Community Survey

The Board agreed to develop and distribute an electronic community survey to gather feedback regarding:

- Satisfaction with the enhanced 2026 fireworks display
- Interest in continuing an enhanced fireworks program
- Willingness to support additional fundraising required for future displays
- Interest in winter fireworks, drone shows, and other community events

Survey language will be reviewed before distribution.

Drone Show Discussion

The Board discussed drone show feasibility, including operational requirements, safety considerations, and the potential use of combined fireworks and drone displays.

Action

The Board agreed to table any vote regarding the 2027 fireworks program until community survey results have been reviewed.

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6. Aqua Weed Survey Post Treatment

Lake Weed Management Update

John Millington provided an update on the 2026 aquatic weed management program.

The Board reviewed the effectiveness of the ProcellaCOR treatment program and agreed lake conditions have improved significantly.

Remaining vegetation was identified in limited areas near:

- The shops area
- North of the beach grounds
- Portions of Arrow Point

These areas have been reported to the treatment contractor for evaluation and possible follow-up treatment.

Board members commented that lake conditions appear to be the best they have been in many years.

Shoreline Conditions

The Board discussed:

- Localized shoreline sediment accumulation
- Leaves and yard debris entering canals and waterways
- Educational opportunities to promote proper yard waste disposal practices

Future communications will remind residents of the impact yard waste can have on water quality and aquatic habitat.

Water Quality and E. coli Discussion

The Board reviewed increasing E. coli concerns throughout Oakland County and discussed:

- County testing activity
- Environmental conditions affecting bacterial levels
- Aging septic systems
- Long-term sewer infrastructure challenges

Progressive AE Follow-Up

The Board discussed previous conversations with Progressive AE regarding water quality testing and agreed additional follow-up is warranted.

Action Item: Contact Progressive AE regarding outstanding testing and determine whether additional analysis can help identify potential sources of bacterial contamination affecting White Lake.

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7. White Lake Improvement Board (WLIB) July 14, 2026 Meeting Recap

The Board received a recap of the July 14, 2026 White Lake Improvement Board meeting.

The WLIB approved continuation of the current lake management program and assessment plan.

Assessment Protest Letters

The Board reviewed six protest letters received regarding the assessment:

- One from White Lake Township
- Five from Highland Township

Members discussed the formal responses prepared explaining:

- Assessment methodology
- Benefits provided through the assessment
- Comparisons with neighboring lake assessments

Members agreed the assessment continues to provide strong value for lakefront property owners.

Resident Education

The Board discussed improving public understanding of:

- The purpose of the Lake Improvement Board
- Assessment funding
- The relationship between WLCL and WLIB

Future newsletter articles will be developed to support resident education.

Assessment Schedule

Members noted that the current assessment cycle covers **2027 through 2029** and discussed the potential benefits of transitioning to a future five-year assessment cycle.

Dredging Discussion

The Board reviewed prior studies evaluating navigation, water depth, and sediment conditions.

Members noted:

- No significant navigation concerns have been identified.
- Dredging would require substantial permitting, engineering, environmental review, and financial resources.
- There are currently no plans to pursue dredging projects.

Assessment Appeal Process

The Board reviewed the formal assessment appeal process administered by the WLIB and acknowledged that property owners retain the right to appeal through the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

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8. New Business

Membership and Website Enhancements

The Board discussed improving visibility of:

- Business memberships
- WLCL apparel
- Upcoming fundraising events

Website enhancements and improved navigation were encouraged.

Merchandise Sales Strategy

The Board discussed emphasizing in-person apparel sales and implementing designated pickup opportunities for online orders to improve inventory management and reduce volunteer delivery requirements.

Golf Simulator Fundraiser

The Board reviewed the success of the inaugural golf simulator fundraiser and noted that demand exceeded expectations.

Future opportunities may include:

- Additional simulator bays
- Expanded event capacity
- Earlier planning and promotion

The Board commended volunteers for organizing a successful event on short notice.

Historical Records

The Board discussed reviewing historical records, meeting minutes, and archived materials before making decisions regarding preservation or disposal.

Wake Boat Legislation Update

The Board reviewed proposed Michigan Senate Bill 812 regarding wake-sport operations.

The proposal would establish operational requirements including:

- Minimum water depth requirements
- Shoreline setback requirements
- Potential civil penalties for violations

Members acknowledged that the proposal has not been enacted into law and discussed potential enforcement challenges.

Community Recognition

The Board recognized and thanked a Adam Kennedy for regularly collecting litter along Jackson Boulevard between Ormond Road and Duck Lake Road and helping maintain the appearance of the community.

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9. Adjournment

Motion: Chuck Neville moved to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Larry D'Angelo
Vote: Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at approximately **7:43 p.m.**