LAKE JOHN ASSOCIATION

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JULY 14, 2025

6:30 pm at Southside Township Hall
8209 County Rd 3 NW, Annandale, MN 55302

Board of Directors (BOD)

OFFICERS	SECTION REPRESENTATIVES
President Joleen Sytsma	Section 1 Dennis Sjoberg
Vice President Chuck Wachter	Section 2 Neysa Silver
Treasurer Jon Bigalk	Section 3 Mark Fournier
Secretary Michelle Sutton	Section 4 John Greenwood
	Section 5 Becky Wachter
	Section 6 Kim Larson

ATTENDANCE/ROLL CALL

BOD Present: Fournier, Greenwood, Larson, Silver, Sjoberg, Sutton, Sytsma, B. Wachter, C. Wachter

BOD Absent: Bigalk

Members Present: Kelly Kosloski, Gerry Larson

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Call To Order
   Sytsma called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Minutes - June 9, 2025
   MOTION made by C. Wachter **to approve the minutes as presented,** seconded by Greenwood, and **PASSED unanimously.**

3. Approval of Agenda - July 14, 2025
   MOTION made by C. Wachter **to approve the agenda as presented,** seconded by Fournier, and **PASSED unanimously.**

4. Reports
   A. Financial - January 1 through June 30, 2025
   No report provided due to Bigalk's absence.

   B. Section Representatives - New Property Owners/Property Developments/Member Issues:

   Comment: If section representatives are made aware of new residents, please reach out and welcome them to get their name and contact information. This allows the board to extend a warm welcome and share important information about the association, including how to stay informed and get involved with the Lake John community.

   Question: Is there a map showing where each section begins and ends.

To our knowledge, no such map currently exists. If anyone has it, please provide it to the President. However it was suggested to reach out to Wright Project Administration - GIS Team as they have tools to create customized maps and already have the PID information.

Question: Can section reps receive an electronic copy of the member Excel list specific to their section? This would support timely communication with Jon regarding updates or changes to membership records. This could also help improve accuracy and responsiveness while supporting reps in their outreach efforts.

C. LID Liaison Report – Kosloski attended a meeting on Thursday @ 6:30. The group discussed weed treatment options, focusing on whether to proceed with a comprehensive treatment, which would exceed the current budget or to explore more cost-effective alternative approaches.

D. Committees

I. Lake Quality & Water Level Monitoring - June 2025

Kosloski provided a detailed report provided in the agenda packet and summarized the lake quality and water level results noting June's RMB results had not been posted online as of the meeting.

ONGOING BUSINESS

5. Migrating Bogs

- One large bog near DNR access has remained stationary
- Removal and relocation options explored so far:
  - o Perry Ryan was to provide a quote for removal via Steve Jameson's property – no quote received
  - o DNR denied removal at that location due to bog size vs size of space.
    - ▪ We could check if they would approve if we moved it out from another spot and then moved it to Steve's J's low area.
  - o Called the City if we can use the old landing, they want to know how soon that would be because they are planning to move the rocks.
  - o Do Gerry and Kim Larson have equipment still available as previously suggested?
  - o One company quoted:
    - ▪ Removal: $7700-$9210 (cut and wheelbarrow method)
    - ▪ Relocation: $1660-$2415 (use 6' 2X4 vs preferred 12')
      - based on hours, estimate 20X30 estimating warranty unclear
  - o Awaiting quote from second company
- Staking process:
  - o Untreated 12' 2X4, diagonal cut at end
  - o Need good wind conditions
  - o Past relocation site has been the southwest corner
- Environmental concerns when removing bogs:
  - o Filtration
  - o Degradation of the Lake quality
- Would another alternative be to try patching to another bog to root together
- DNR approval required
- Board to establish a bog policy and broaden involvement – task too large for one person.
  - o Fournier has agreed to Chair the Bog Committee

    - Best place to report floating bogs is to the Lake John Association email address info@lakejohnassociation.com and President will forward to Fournier for now
- Short-term options:
    - Remove from City "green" space or DNR landing, and relocate to Steve J's property if allowed by the DNR.
    - Stake into shallower area near lily pads
        - **Motion** made by C. Wachter **to stake the bog**, Second by Sjoberg, and **passed unanimously**
        - Chuck to coordinate: stake sourcing, quantity and communicating

6. 2025 LJA Membership Survey
    - Survey was approved by the Board last month and mailed today, July 14; responses requested by July 31st
        - Note, no return postage included
    - Question was asked where the survey came from? It was based on an example provided by Lake Margaret Association
    - Future consideration:
        - Use an electronic format (e.g., Survey Monkey)
            - With consideration to those that don't use or have email or LJA doesn't have their email or a correct email address
        - Ensure broad, anonymous participation with well-rounded topics
            - Topics good practice
        - Kosloski will share an example with Fournier for consideration
        - Fournier and Sutton offered to assist with the next survey
        - Ideal distribution timing is at the end of the season

7. 2025 LJA Annual Golf Fundraiser
    - Scheduled for Saturday August 16 at 4 pm (9-hole shotgun format)
    - Cost: $30 per participant
    - Payment: Checks payable to Lake John Association, due by Aug 7th
    - May be mailed or dropped off
    - Foursomes will be assigned unless participants request their own group
    - Event committee - reach out to Molly Van Metre to support/plan/communicate-promote

8. August Kid's Fishing Event
    - No event scheduled for 2025 due to limited interest from association members

9. LJA Board Insurance

Systma notified the board that the LJA board director and officer liability insurance has been bound with United States Liability Insurance Group for a cost of $880 per year.

OPEN FORUM

10. LJA Member Input or Comment
    - Annandale City Water and Sewer Plan Update
        - C. Wachter inquired about current status
            - Per Jacob Thunander with the City of Annandale, it is in a holding pattern pending grant response
            - Implementation would require all roads to be upgraded to city specifications

        - Members are encouraged to monitor the city council agendas and attend meetings for updates. Please let the BOD know of applicable upcoming meetings.

- Solar field Update
    - County has not yet received a permit for the solar field project
    - Members are encouraged to monitor for County Planning and Zoning meetings and attend for updates and input. Please let the BOD know of applicable upcoming meetings.
- Culverts
    - Go out and inspect weekly or biweekly to ensure proper water flow – Greenwood
- Outreach Initiative: Send an email highlighting active committees and encourage members to volunteer
- Should there be an email address for each section rep on the Lake John website for section members to contact?
    - Benefit, when ownership change or updated information – Fournier will reach out to Dana O'Connor – web master

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NEW BUSINESS

11. Section Review by Membership Count and Discussion - total counts per section were given by Sytsma

The number of properties has increased by 5 in Section 4 per Wright County records due to the new developments lots, raising a question by a LJA member about fair representation across sections

MOTION made by C. Wachter **to maintain current section assignments with an annual review by the board to assess,** seconded by Silver, **PASSED unanimously.**

12. Board Member Annual Review and New Member Onboarding
    A. Constitution And Bylaws - BOD & Position responsibilities were provided in the agenda to all Board members.
    B. Conflict of Interest Policy
        - Conflict of Interest Annual Statement Signatures - Conflict of Interest Policy was provided to all Board members with the agenda and signature were received by all Board members except Bigalk who was absent

13. Committee Lists & Chair Appointments
    - Lake Steward committee
        - Chair: Greenwood, and Member: Kosloski
        - Attended a virtual meeting from MLR, which included:
            - Program overview and evaluator guidance
            - Completion of training, survey and peer practice
        - Committee now has understands of the program and the requirements
        - Next steps:
            - Review the 123 survey with the MLR
            - Conduct yard assessments on each other's yards.
                - Need to score 70% to pass
        - Process overview: owner to take survey, evaluator walk thru, if they met the requirements, present the sign
        - Board consideration to purchase signs

        - Large signs $43 each, smaller signs (11X4) $20
        - Request: 5 of each total cost $315

    MOTION made by Fourner t**o approve purchase of LJA steward signs**, seconded by B. Wachter, **PASSED unanimously**.

- Events Committee Update – Chair Larson, Members: Van Metre, Sutton
    - Proposed Event Ideas:
        - 4th of July parade
        - Non-motorized parade
        - Learning & Living on the Lake, LJA, LID etc.
        - Annual Association meeting

14. LID Liaison

    Kosloski will continue as Liason

15. 2025 Annual Meeting and Election Reflection

    Framework: What Worked Well (Continue), Needs Improvement (Continue but Adjust), Suggestion (New Next Time), What did not work (Stop/Discontinue)

- Continue (Worked Well):
    - All mailed and email ballots were validated
        - Validation required confirmation of name and payment to maintain vote integrity
        - Compare annual updated LID list from the county with the LJA Directory for most accurate property owners with LID assessment
- Continue but Adjust (Needs Improvement):
    - Members in line to register a half hour past LID Meeting start time due to a well attended meeting
        - Explore more efficient tools or workflows for future elections
    - LID Meeting started over a half hour late due to people still in line to register and then exceeded meeting allotted time
    - LJA meeting started and ran later then the scheduled duration
        - Consider assigning section reps to confirm dues are paid prior to the meeting
        - Begin event planning earlier to streamline logistics including an updated LJA Directory with paid/unpaid dues information
        - Improve time management across segments
        - Ballot validation with dues paid process was cumbersome, review confirmation of dues paid process (possible two lines: Paid or Unpaid) to guarantee vote integrity
        - Request members arrive earlier to the meeting for check-in
        - Follow ballot counting instructions to enhance vote integrity
        - Review placement of guest speakers on the agenda with consideration to the vote and out of respect to the speaker
- Suggest (New for Next Time):
    - Consider offering speaker sessions online for broader accessibility after the meeting
    - Engage Events Committee to assist with planning
        - Hold separate online planning meeting (e.g. Zoom or Call)
    - Transition to QuickBooks Online for improved financial tracking and timely updating
    - Enforce a tighter agenda and adhere to time blocks as much as possible

16. August Board Meeting Discussion - Meet as Scheduled, Cancel, and/or Organizational Meeting for Committees
    - Do not meet in August as listed in the Bylaws and resume in September
    - Committees time to possibly meet

17. Adjournment

    Sytsma adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Michelle Sutton, Secretary.

LJA Meetings		LID Meetings	
<u>2025</u> September 8 - BOD	<u>2026</u> May 11 - BOD June 8 - BOD June 27- Annual Meeting July 13 - BOD August 10 - BOD September 14 - BOD	<u>2025</u> July 17 - BOD August 21 - BOD September 18 - BOD	<u>2026</u> April 16 - BOD May 21 - BOD June 18 - BOD June 27 - Annual Meeting July 16 - BOD August 20 - BOD September 24 - BOD
BOD Meetings: 6:30 p.m. @ Southside Township Hall Annual Meeting: 9:00 a.m. @ South Haven City Hall			