

Windemere Township Lakes Association Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday May 2, 2026

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chair Dan Benzie at 9:01 AM. The meeting was held at Noah's home at 37510 Sunrise View Rd. Present were Bill Yechout, Joann Murphy, Laurie Patrick, Dan Benzie, Noah Cashman, John Tasky, Bill Lyon, Jerry Blazevic, Chip Wells & Loren Radtke. Absent was Kathy Burkard
- II. Agenda changes were requested. Moved by Laurie seconded by Chip to approve the agenda. APPROVED
- III. The minutes of the September 13, 2025 board meeting were sent out earlier. Loren requested that the minutes be amended under New Business item b. that a discussion on meeting dates of the board meetings be added. A motion was made by Laurie and seconded by Noah to approve the amended minutes. APPROVED
- IV. Joann presented the financial report. The current balance is over \$110,000. Joann is receiving 2026 memberships and about 240 have been received with many remitting over \$100. Motion for approval of the report from Jerry seconded by John. APPROVED.
- V. Laurie reported that she has 87 2026 memberships processed with at least another two hundred to record. The additional recruitment this year included property owners on Sand and the smaller lakes. Altogether she did about seven hundred mailings. The cost of postage was over \$500.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Lakes-
 - i. Sand-Jerry reported that the lake level is still low but up two inches from last Fall. Construction has started at the Sand Lake Resort. A large new dock has been installed near the campground. Improvements are being made to the public landing.
 - ii. Sturgeon-Bill stated that the lake level is twelve inches below the ordinary high water mark and three feet below the high point when there was flooding a few years ago.
 - iii. Island- Dan reported that he now has the DNR water level gauge. The lake level is up about twelve inches from last Fall. The outlet has about six inches of water flowing out. Dan will be organizing a cleanup at the outlet shortly.
 - iv. Smaller Lakes-Bill noted that Lords Lake has a very low water level.
 - b. AIS- Loren reported that he will be contacting Rich Rezanka shortly to get his schedule for surveying the lakes. We have been awarded up to \$43,000 from the county and \$10,000 from the state. The state grant requires that we have a point intercept survey done on Island before and after the treatment.
 - c. Road Pick-up- No report
 - d. Newsletter- There was discussion about having historical articles about the lakes included in future newsletters. Dan suggested that we continue to have short biographies of board members.
 - e. Brush-Laurie reported that the brush pile will be open on the third Saturday of the month from 10 AM to 1 PM through October.
 - f. Website-Chip encouraged board members to review the website and recommend changes.
- VII. Old Business
 - a. Noah reported that he had no new information on updating the WTLA brochure.
 - b. Tax filing for 2025 has been completed. Noah requested copies of the paperwork.

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- c. There was discussion about the new township zoning ordinance. The moratorium on building permits has been lifted. Minimum lot sizes have been increased. Zoning fees have been expanded.

VIII. New Business

- a. Laurie led a discussion on the cost of the mailings of newsletters, membership renewals and recruitment of new members. After some discussion it was decided that Laurie will chair a committee of herself, Joann and Noah to investigate our organization moving to internet electronic communication.
- b. It was moved by Laurie and seconded by Noah that membership dues and business sponsorships remain at \$ 25 and \$100 respectively for 2027. APPROVED
- c. There was a lengthy discussion about the general and board meetings. It was decided to keep the three general summer meetings. Dan reported that he has arranged for three secondary speakers for the meetings. They will be able to set up displays and speak briefly. They are as follows: June-Prairie Restorations, July-DNR Hydrology and August- Carlton SWCD. Noah will work with John to plan a meal and door prizes for the August meeting.
- d. Dan announced that the Pine County COLA will meet on May 21st at 9AM.
- e. Loren reported that he had been investigating the use of Goggle for Non-Profits. There appears to be some drawbacks with using it. It was decided to let Laurie's committee working on electronic communication take the lead.

XI. Adjournment

It was moved by Chip and seconded by John. to adjourn. APPROVED

Chip Wells, Secretary 5/2/2026.