Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Lakes & Watershed Commission

Consider:
Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Wednesday, August 5, 2026 **5:30 PM** **Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at 5201 Fen Oak Drive Moraine Room; attend virtually via zoom.**

See below for additional instructions on how to attend the meeting and provide public testimony.

A. Call To Order

Chair BLAZEWICZ called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Staff Present: Jeremy Balousek and Amy Piaget

Others Present: Steve Brooks and Linda Thompson

Present: 8 - ALAN LEVIN, STEVE GREB, BRETT SCHUMACHER, SHERRIE GRUDER, DAN BLAZEWICZ, PATRICK DOWNING, MICHAEL ENGELBERGER and PHIL GAEBLER

Excused: 2 - DEA LARSEN CONVERSE and RICHELLE ANDRAE

B. Consideration of Minutes

1. 2026 MIN-152 Minutes of the July 1, 2026 Lakes & Watershed Commission

Sponsors: Environment and Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

Attachments: LWC 07-01-26

A motion was made by LEVIN, seconded by GERUDER, that the minutes from the July 1, 2026 Lakes & Watershed Commission meeting be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote 8-0.

C. Fund Transfers

None

D. Referrals (Resolutions & Ordinance Amendments)

None

E. Items Requiring Committee Action

None

F. Presentations

1. Background and history of the Lakes & Watershed Commission

BALOUSEK gave a presentation on the history and previous work of the commission. The presentation is attached below.

2026 PRES-108 Background and History of the Lakes & Watershed Commission

Attachments: LWC History

G. Reports to Committee

1. 2027 Lakes & Watershed Commission Budget Recommendations

2026 RPT-164 Draft 2027 Lakes & Watershed Commission Budget Recommendations

Attachments: Draft 2027 LWC Budget Recommendations

A motion was made by BLAZEWICZ, seconded by GREB, to adopt the Draft 2027 Lakes and Watersheds Commission Budget Recommendations.

A motion was made by DOWNING to add a recommendation that the Yahara Chain of Lakes be managed at summer minimum levels during the summer period.

DOWNING accepted a friendly amendment to replace the word "managed" with "modeled".

Modified motion to amend: A motion to amend was made by DOWNING to add a recommendation that the Yahara Chain of Lakes be modeled at summer minimum levels during the summer period.

Motion to amend failed on a voice vote 2-6.

A roll call vote was requested.
In favor: DOWNING and GAEBLER
Opposed: LEVIN, BLAZEWICZ, ENGELBERGER, GRUDER, GREB, and SCHUMACHER

GREB was excused and left at 6:45 pm.
Present (7): LEVIN, SCHUMACHER, GRUDER, BLAZEWICZ, DOWNING, ENGELBERGER, and GAEBLER
Excused (3): ANDRAE, LARSON CONVERSE, and GREB

Original motion by BLAZEWICZ, seconded by GREB, to adopt the Draft 2027 Lakes and Watershed Commission Budget Recommendations carried by a voice vote 7-0.

2. Chapter 49 Ordinance Amendment update

PIAGET gave a presentation on the current status and proposed updates to Chapter 49. The presentation is attached below.

2026 RPT-295 Chapter 49 Ordinance Amendment Update

Attachments: Chapter 49, DCCO

H. Future Meeting Items and Dates

1. Next Lakes and Watershed Commission meeting tentatively scheduled for September 2, 2026 starting at 5:30 pm.

Commission members requested the following items for a future meeting.
- field trip to see commission related work
- presentation on the county's erosion control and stormwater management program and the fee-in-lieu study
- presentation and discussion on nitrogen.

I. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

BOOKS spoke on the community effort to keep Bernie's Beach clean from algae and aquatic plants. He requested that the commission ask the county for new harvesting equipment that can operate in shallower water than the existing equipment.

THOMPSON stated that she lives on Lake Monona where Buckeye Road ends and is dealing with a large accumulation of aquatic plants. She requested that the commission ask the county for new harvesting equipment that can operate in shallower water than the existing equipment.

J. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

K. Adjourn

A motion was made by LEVIN, seconded by SCHUMACHER to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jeremy Balousek and are subject to action at a future meeting.

Note: If you need an interpreter, translator, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access this service, activity or program, please call the phone number below—preferably at least three business days but no fewer than 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Nota: Si necesita un intérprete, un traductor o materiales en formatos alternativos o cualquier otra adaptación para tener acceso a este servicio, actividad o programa, llame al número de teléfono que puede encontrar a continuación — de preferencia con al menos 3 días de anticipación y como mínimo 24 horas antes del evento en cuestión.

Sau tseg: Yog koj xav tau ib tug neeg txhais lus, txhais ua ntaub ntawv, cov ntaub ntawv uas nyob rau lwm yam kev lawm los sis lwm yam kev pab nkag rau qhov kev pab no, kev ua si los sis kev pab cuam, thov hu tus xov tooj rau hauv qab no—xav kom hu li peb hnub ua ntej tuaj tab sis tsis pub tsawg tshaj 24 xuab moos ua ntej rau lub rooj sib tham no.

ملحوظة: إذا كنت بحاجة لترجمة شفوية أو كتابية أو مواد بصيغة مختلفة أو تسهيلات أخرى للحصول على هذه الخدمة أو النشاط أو البرنامج، يرجى الاتصال برقم الهاتف أدناه قبل ثلاثة أيام عمل رسمية على الأقل من تاريخ الجلسة.

Paul Eder or Amy Warner, 608-224-3730 TTY WI RELAY 711