

# CEDAR LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2026

The meeting was held at Alden Town Hall and was called to order at 5:34 P.M. on January 27, 2026 by Warren Wood (Chair).

· Roll Call:

Commissioners Present –Warren Wood (Chair), Jim Reckinger (Treasurer), Ted Johnson, Tom Deans (Secretary) (by phone) and Danielle Olson (by phone).

Absent –John Bonneprise.

Other Attendees – Cheryl Clemens of Harmony Environmental (by phone) and Craig Jameson, lake resident (by phone)

· Approval of Agenda: **Motion (Early/Reckinger) to approve the agenda with one modification. Item H) Other Business will be moved to the first Business Item, in order to discuss Alden Special Assessment. Motion carried as amended.**

· Public Comments: None

· Minutes: The preliminary minutes of the December 16, 2025 board meeting were available for review.

**Motion (Johnson/Wood) to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.**

· Treasurer’s Report: Jim Reckinger presented the treasurer's reports for January 2026. The report showed a summary as follows:

<b>Gross Available:</b>	\$691,028.93
Non-lapsable fund balance:	\$70,983.44
Committed to alum treatment (CD)	\$260,131.56
Additional to CD	\$2,415.04
Committed to alum treatment (non CD)	\$255,697.55
Committed to grants:	\$16,000.00
<b>Net Available Balance:</b>	<b>\$85,801.34</b>

Jim discussed the report including recent expenditures and deposits. He answered any questions from board members about payments and expenditures. Jim also talked about the District’s bank accounts and some that some CD’s are maturing. Jim said he will look into these accounts and determine the next step.

**Motion (Early/Johnson) to approve the treasurer’s report. Motion carried.**

· Business Items:

· Alden Special Assessment – The board discussed the Special Assessment Tax levied to the Lake District.

The Town of Alden re-assessed property values in 2025 (payable in 2026) resulting in a significant increase of property values which led to the same percent increase in the District's Special Assessment for alum treatment. Star Prairie did not re-assess property values and special assessments remained similar to 2024. 2025 is the last year of the 10-year Special Assessment for Alum Treatment.

Since the tax is due January 31, 2026, the Board decided to return the increased assessment to residents of the Town of Alden to bring the payment in 2026 in line with what was paid in 2025. The means and methods for returning these payments are still to be determined.

**Motion (Reckinger/Johnson) to return to Lake District property owners in Alden the increase in Special Assessment from 2024 to 2025. Motion carried.**

- Alum Treatment – Dan Early and Cheryl Clemens shared results of ongoing discussions with CLP&RD limnologist, Bill James.

Bill has completed in-depth studies of all alum treatments thus far on Cedar Lake. He has identified and compiled data on the most effective results and the process of each of the past four treatments. While the alum treatments have significantly improved the overall water quality and clarity of Cedar Lake, the lake continues to experience algae bloom in the late summer when the lake mixes. Algae blooms occur when phosphorus is available to feed algae growth.

Based on the data compiled by James, and in keeping with the Cedar Lake District's strategy of adaptive management, the Lake District board agreed to follow Bill's recommendation to proceed with a refined process of treatments. These treatments would "strip" phosphorus from the water column that occurs during mixing (typically late July or August) when the lower water, which contains some phosphorus, mixes with the upper water. Timing of the treatment would be just prior to lake turnover. The goal of the procedure would be to reduce the frequency and extent of late season algae blooms.

This process is intended to capture phosphorus that has "leaked" from bottom sediment and but will also add to the alum floc already lying on the lake bottom.

With the funds collected and remaining from the 10-year assessment, the Lake District will proceed with up to 3 annual treatments of smaller doses in the critical deeper areas of the lake. The first of these treatments will this coming summer.

**Motion (Early/Reckinger) to initiate a program of annual maintenance doses of alum to strip phosphorus from the water column before lake turnover in the fall. Motion carried.**

*The CLP&RD Board elected, at this time, to no longer pursue an iron treatment for the lake. This decision was based on the high cost of an iron treatment combined with complexities involved in receiving DNR approvals for such treatment.*

- AIS

CBCW – Dana Early mentioned that the District is looking for a new Clean Boats Clean Waters coordinator for this summer. This is a paid position and would be perfect for a responsible student or someone retired. Anyone interested can contact Dan Early at [early.danielj@gmail.com](mailto:early.danielj@gmail.com), or just let any board member know. Board member contacts can be found on our website; cedarlakewi.com.

EWM – Nothing new.

- Shoreland Zoning: Nothing new.
- Grants: Warren Wood mentioned that “fish sticks” are still being considered by the DNR fisheries biologist for our lake.
- North Landing: Nothing new. Wood said that the Town of Alden will likely re-apply for a grant in 2026 to help fund the ramp replacement and accessibility work.
- Wake/Surf Boats: Warren Wood mentioned that the Wisconsin Lakes organization has recently recommended that wake boat use be restricted to waters 30 feet and deeper. It also recommends wake boats be at least 700 feet from shore while creating large wakes. The board discussed options to restrict large wakes. This will be discussed further at future meetings.
- Board Member Reports: Warren Wood talked about consolidating our bank accounts if we can be assured of FDIC coverage. Jim Reckinger said he will look into this.
- Board Committee Assignments: None.
- Committee Reports: None.
- Lake Management Plan Actions: Nothing new.
- Other Business: Nothing new.
- Agenda for Next Meeting: Business items for the next meeting will include: Alden Assessment Return, Alum Treatment and Monitoring, AIS, Shoreland Zoning, Grants, North Landing, Wake/Surf Boats, Board/Committee and Other Business.
- Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at Alden Town Hall, 183 155<sup>th</sup> Street, Star Prairie at 5:30 PM (or at another location or by Zoom if circumstances require).
- Adjourn: **Motion (Johnson/Early) to adjourn. Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM

Minutes prepared by Tom Deans, Secretary