

CEDAR LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2026

The meeting was held at Alden Town Hall and was called to order at 5:32 P.M. on February 24, 2026 by Warren Wood (Chair).

· Roll Call:

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

Absent –John Bonneprise.

Other Attendees – Cheryl Clemens of Harmony Environmental (by phone).

· Approval of Agenda: **Motion (Johnson/Olson) to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

· Public Comments: None

· Minutes: The preliminary minutes of the January 27, 2026 board meeting were available for review.

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

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

Gross Available:	\$680,787.13
Non-Lapsable Fund Balance	\$70,983.44
Alum Treatment (CD)	\$262,764.96
Additional to CD	\$2,415.04
Alum Treatment (non CD)	\$256,573.71
Committed to grants:	\$16,000.00

Net Available Balance: \$72,049.98

Jim discussed the report including recent invoices, expenditures and deposits. He answered any questions from board members. Jim talked about the District’s bank accounts and that some maturing CD’s will need to be addressed. Jim said he is continuing to look into options for CD accounts.

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

· Business Items:

· Alden Special Assessment Return – The board discussed the return of a portion of the Special Assessment Tax levied to Lake District residents in Alden Township.

The Town of Alden re-assessed property values in 2025 (payable in 2026) resulting in a significant increase in 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. The

Board decided during the January 2026 meeting to return the increased special assessment to residents of the Town of Alden to bring the payment for 2025 tax (payable in 2026) in line with 2024 (payable in 2025). The means and methods for returning these payments are still being determined.

- Alum Treatment – Dan Early and Cheryl Clemens shared results of ongoing discussions with CLP&RD limnologist, Bill James. Dan said that Bill is analyzing data from a recently completed “Lake Sample” test to help determine the next dose(s) of Alum.

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.

The goal of these treatments is to "strip" phosphorus from the water column in late July or August when the water at deeper levels contains high concentrations of phosphorus. Timing of the treatment would be just prior to lake turnover when deep water is brought to the surface. The goal of this process is to reduce the frequency and extent of late season algae blooms.

While this process is intended to capture phosphorus that has “leaked” from bottom sediment it will also add to the alum floc already in the lake sediment.

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 is planned for this coming summer, likely late July or early August.

- AIS

CBCW – Dan Early reminded board members 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, 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: Jim said that he is working with the DNR to obtain reimbursements for grant funds already approved.

- North Landing: Nothing new. Wood reiterated that the Town of Alden will likely re-apply for a grant this year to help fund the ramp replacement and accessibility work.

- Wake/Surf Boats: Cheryl Clemens said that Polk County is willing to help our Lake District in mapping No-Wake Zones and the recommended areas for wake/surf boats to operate. The board agreed that this would be very helpful. The board discussed the distance from shore and depth of water for recommended wake/surf boat operation. After discussing this matter it was generally agreed that the recommended parameters for wake/surf boat operation should be at least 600 feet from shore and depth of 20 feet minimum. (Subsequent to that discussion a review of the Cedar Lake bathymetric map showed that 20 feet and deeper comprises most of the lake area. Using 25 feet and deeper would be

more in line with the intent to minimize bottom sediment disturbance. This is particularly important for Cedar Lake as alum treatments rely on undisturbed alum in the upper sediments.)

Cheryl mentioned that the state legislature had looked at bills to regulate wake/surf boats but no action is planned (at this time) for legislation. This will be discussed further at future meetings.

· Board Member/Committee Reports: 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, March 24, 2026 at Alden Town Hall, 183 155th Street, Star Prairie at 5:30 PM (or at another location or by Zoom if circumstances require).

· Adjourn: **Motion (Johnson/Reckinger) to adjourn. Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

Minutes prepared by Tom Deans, Secretary