

# CEDAR LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes – March 24, 2026

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

· Roll Call:

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

Absent –John Bonneprise.

Other Attendees – Cheryl Clemens of Harmony Environmental (by phone), Shelly and Dan Michaelis, lake residents.

· Approval of Agenda: The Agenda was available for review.

**Motion (Reckinger/Early) to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

· Public Comments: Lake residents Shelly and Dan Michaelis attended the meeting to discuss aquatic plant growth and water quality. Shelly said there was heavy plant growth in the water in front of their home. Board members explained that we have had heavy aquatic plant growth in the last few years and it is occurring pretty much everywhere on the lake. Board members and Cheryl Clemens added that the DNR has restrictions governing removal of aquatic plants in lakes including near-shore areas. Mechanical removal and treatment with chemicals is not allowed without a permit. More information can be found at the DNR website (dnr.wisconsin.gov). The board agreed that we would check the shoreland area near the Shelly and Dan’s home this summer to determine what plants are growing in that area. Shelly added that she noticed blue-green algae last year. Board members discussed recent algae blooms and what is being done to try and limit this.

· Minutes: The preliminary minutes of the February 24, 2026 board meeting were available for review.

**Motion (Early/Olson) to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.**

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

<b>Gross Available:</b>	\$1,053,450.71
Non-Lapsable Fund Balance	\$70,983.44
Alum Treatment (CD)	\$262,764.96
Additional to CD	\$2,415.04
Alum Treatment (non CD)	\$623,258.35
Committed to grants:	\$17,000.00
<b>Net Available Balance:</b>	\$77,028.92

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 said that he will consolidate accounts into FNC Bank.

**Motion (Early/Deans) 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).

Treasurer Jim Reckinger said that FNC Bank has agreed to write the return checks and he will send them out. A letter will be sent with each check/correspondence explaining the reasoning for the return and also that anyone that has not paid the assessment in full will not receive the return payment until full payment is received by CLP&RD.

- Alum Treatment – Dan Early and Cheryl Clemens shared results of a discussion with CLP&RD limnologist, Bill James, Alex Smith with the DNR, Jim Reckinger and themselves. Dan said that Alex is okay with allowing Alum Grant funds to be used for the next targeted treatments. 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 in August.

Cheryl said she has prepared bid documents for the next treatment.

**Motion (Early/Reckinger) to approve the Bid Documents for the next Alum Treatment as prepared by Harmony Environmental. Motion carried.**

Cheryl mentioned that if the District is considering applying for additional Alum Treatment Grant funds (beyond the current plan), we should start considering when and how much we would need. The Board will continue this discussion.

She also mentioned that the Request for Bids document must be published in a local publication as per state requirements.

**Motion (Wood/Early) to designate The Star Observer as the official publication of CLP&RD legal notices. Motion carried.**

- AIS

CBCW – Dan Early said that Declan Grubbs has agreed to be the new Clean Boats Clean Waters coordinator for this summer. Anyone interested in paid/part time work as an onsite monitor of boats arriving and leaving the lake 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 – Jim Reckinger mentioned that the DNR will not allow treatment of known EWM beds on the lake at this time as the beds are considered too small.

- Shoreland Zoning: Polk County is in the process of looking at revisions to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. A public meeting was recently held but Warren Wood and Danielle Olson said that they tried to attend by ZOOM but the audio was not working. Danielle said she will contact Polk County and see if they will provide a transcript or recording of the meeting.
- Grants: Jim said that he is working with the DNR to obtain reimbursements for grant funds already approved.
- North Landing: Warren Wood said that it appears the source of funds for the grant to help pay for the North Landing improvements is no longer available. If the situation changes he said he will let us all know.
- Wake/Surf Boats: Cheryl Clemens said that Polk County has prepared a map of the areas that wake/surf boats should operate. This map was based on limiting the area to depths of 25 feet and deeper and a minimum of 600 feet from any shore. The board agreed these limitations are particularly important for Cedar Lake as alum treatments rely on undisturbed alum in the upper sediments.

**Motion (Wood/Early) to strongly recommend that the map showing areas of allowed wake/surf boat operation be based on depth of at least 25 feet and 600 feet from shore. Motion carried.**

Cheryl mentioned that other lake districts and governmental entities have enacted ordinances to restrict wake/surf boat operation. Enforcement of any ordinance enacted is typically up to the entity passing the ordinance. This will be discussed further at future meetings.

- Board Member/Committee Reports: Warren Wood mentioned that lake resident Sherry Larson past away recently.
- 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, Preliminary Budget, Annual Meeting, Board/Committee and Other Business.
- Next Meeting Date: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 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/Olson) to adjourn. Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 6:59 PM

Minutes prepared by Tom Deans, Secretary