



Minutes

August 26, 2025

Held at Beaver Dam Chamber of Commerce Beaver Dam, WI 53916

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm

Attendees: Bill Foley, Dale Maas, Mike Zimmer, Gene Mazewski, Nicki Hupf

Guests: District members Eric Thoresen, Michael Clemens

Motion to approve agenda and deviate from agenda for meeting efficiency made by Dale Maas, seconded by Hupf and approved unanimously.

Election of Officers: First order of business following the annual meeting was the election of board officers. All current officers agreed to continue thus Dale Mass made a motion to elect existing officers to continue, seconded by Hupf and approved unanimously.

Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes of July 9, 2025 made by Dale Maas, seconded by Hupf and approved unanimously.

Correspondence: Information on an 'Upper Rock River Study' looking into Rock River flooding issues and possible watershed problems and fixes. Expensive study, proponents of the study looking for funding.

An announcement of a Healthy Soil Healthy Water demonstration of cover crops on Aug 28th was read.

Commissioners review & Feedback from Annual Meeting: All feedback from attendees was very positive. Discussion on running over allotted time with the High School venue and lack of time for Q&A discussed. Will look into reserving a 3 hour slot for next year. Tentative date decided to be Saturday Aug 1, 2026.

Treasurers report:

Mike Zimmer presented the treasurers report. Discussion on this years fish stocking with the add of mature bluegills for Trestle Bay will run about \$30,750. Also learned that the DNR has a 'Gift account' to which people or organizations can donate funds and earmark the dollars for very specific projects or activities. Following discussion a motion to approve the report and authorize payment on check 1003 from the Grant fund was by made by Maas, seconded by Mazewski and approved unanimously.

BDL Fishery:

Rakes Bay Summary: Effort continues to find appropriate access to the bay for the commercial fishing equipment and harvest. Old access at the Hwy G bridge is no longer usable. A property on the south west side of the bridge may be possible, discussion with the land owner continues. A property off of HWY was offered but after walking the property it was determined it would not be able to accommodate the heavy equipment. The Dodge Cty highway department will be doing road improvements on Hwy FW in 2027 or later and is open to installing an access as part of that work. This will solve the issue long term but won't help the short term efforts.

The District and Association have expended much effort to encourage the DNR to do a main lake rough fish harvest over the past 3 years with no progress in sight. They do seem willing to modify their original plan such that we could do a significant harvest from Rakes Bay this spring by trapping the spawning carp with temporary netting at the bridge, and depending on success, evaluate a permanent barrier. We are making this a main priority in order to make progress on rough fish removal. We will focus on how to get the necessary equipment into the bay and get the fish out.

Review DNR Fishery Plan: We will set up a meeting with Mark Baldock and Arthur Watkinson to go over the DNR Plan schedule to make sure all are on board with the timing and responsibilities in the plan consistent with the above modification for Rakes Bay.

Status of pan fish limit and proposed fall stocking plan The order is placed and stocking permit in hand. We will put in our normal 14-15,000 gills in the main lake with the an additional similar quantity including some larger fish for Trestle Bay.

Lake Management:

Slow No Wake Ordinance update: The County Sheriff insisted on 3 Towns to modify their existing ordinance specifying his office to enforce. That is now done but now there is a new warden involved and he wants it done differently than the past warden. More work for everyone. Likely no enforceable ordinance this year. Bureaucracy at work.

Review UMN St Anthony Falls Watercraft Impact: A report with good data on impact of high horsepower watercraft on lake habitat shown.

County Fair Alliance booth: Chairman Foley spent the day with producers at the booth. Well received, the producers in Dodge county are very active and in favor of improving the watershed. A Healthy Soil Healthy Water program is scheduled on a local farm with frontage on the lake to discuss the benefits of cover crops.

Schedule 2025 – 2026: Some upcoming projects were reviewed. The landowner on the Mill Creek project will start work in 2026. It will include a 40 to 50ft buffer strip. EQUIP funds are available through FSA and NRCS will aid in the engineering.

Native plantings are planned along Mill Rd. For erosion reduction. Volunteers will be sought to get the plantings done.

Public comment: None

Members matters: The District was contacted by management of the new Generac factory in town with an offer to provide volunteers for conservation projects as a community involvement service.

- Next Meeting Dates: TBD

Adjourn at 7:54 PM On motion by Dale Maas , seconded by Mike Zimmer and approved unanimously.

Gene Mazewski
Secretary