

Bear Lake – Lake Board
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 9, 2026
North Muskegon City Hall

Chairman Paul Pek called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Present: Chairman Pek, Members Howell and Panici, Commissioners Barrett and Cook

Absent: None.

ROLL

Chair Pek called the roll.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Cook moved to approve the agenda. Member Howell supported the motion. All in favor. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

Member Howell moved to approve the May 12, 2026 minutes. Commissioner Cook supported the motion. All in favor. Motion approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

The two residents present preferred to comment during the next public comment period.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Chair Pek received correspondence about the No-Wake buoys. He sent the information to Sam Janson. Chair Pek was informed the buoys were being installed today.
- Chair Pek received correspondence about suds in discharge areas. He sent the information to PLM. PLM advised that without testing they could not tell what is causing the suds but their educated guess is that it is most likely being caused by pollen.
- Commissioner Cook received correspondence requesting condo input on assessments.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Chair Pek: Treatment/Lake Health Updates – minor treatment

Treasurer/Vice-Chair Howell:

- Will be attending the next City of North Muskegon meeting to update the Council and bring back any questions/concerns for this Board.
- Received an invoice from PLM for the lake treatment today and submitted it the City of North Muskegon for processing.

Secretary Barrett: Nothing to report at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- MI Lakes & Streams Assoc Membership (Pek): will look into further later in the year.

- Nixle Setup: Chair Pek stated the setup is complete. Anyone interested in receiving notifications from the Bear Lake Lake Board can text BEARLAKE to 888777 to be added to the list. If you provide your email – you will receive information through email instead of text messages.
- Spring Newsletter: Member Panici is working on.
- 2027+ Assessment – Assessment District and Boundaries: Board went over the proposed boundaries. Member Panici asked how many parcels were in the district in 2017 compared to now. Chair Pek said he would find that out for the Board. Motion by Member Panici to use the bridges at Ruddiman and Witham Roads as the boundary for the assessment district. Member Howell supported the motion. All in favor. Motion approved.
Motion by Commissioner Cook to have Chair Pek and Member Panici meet with the County GIS administrator to discuss allocations. Commissioner Barrett supported the motion. All in favor. Motion approved.
- 2027+ Assessment – Lake Management Plan Updates: Chair Pek is going to request a quote from PLM to update the Lake Management Plan incorporating information/suggested updates from previous Water Resources Commissioner Moore. The Board will make a decision at the next meeting.
- 2027+ Assessment – Timeline: The schedule was discussed with Commissioner Barrett's input. We will fine tune the timeline as we receive more information.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2027+ Assessment – Budget: Chair Pek and Member/Treasurer Howell to work with PLM to provide a projected budget
- Grants: Chair Pek discussed the availability of grants for the Lake Board with PLM. PLM said there are currently no grants available for the work the Board is currently doing. PLM will advise if they find any grants that may be applicable to us going forward. Chair Pek will also reach out to Dr. Alan Steinman (GVSU AWRI) to see if he is aware of any grants applicable to the work we are doing. He will report back to the Board at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Resident Shafer spoke about the previous assessment allocation and would appreciate the Board looking into other ways to spread the assessment. She also thanked the Board. Resident Wiitenan had several questions (including but not limited to: when the park was going to be open, if Bear Lake Tavern and those past the bridge contribute) and concerns (including but not limited to: washing of boats, wakes, and noise as well as fires and ash from them close to the water).

BOARD COMMENTS

Commissioner Barrett noted that she would not be able to attend the regularly scheduled July 14, 2026 meeting. The Board discussed rescheduling the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Pek adjourned the meeting at 7:17 PM.
Next meeting dated yet to be determined.