

Lake Lawrence Lake Management District Steering Committee

15735 Topaz Dr. SE
Yelm, WA 98597



1. **6:30 PM Call to Order** – Co-Chair Barry Halverson called the LLLMD Meeting on October 16, 2025, to order at 6:30 PM. Steering Committee members were introduced.
SC Members Present: Barry Halverson (Co-Chair), Jim Biehl (Co-Chair), Janice Leitzke (Budget Chair), John Carpenter, Ken Stewart, Terry Stewart, and Steven Slater. A quorum was present, so the meeting continued.
SC Members Absent: Tanisha Scott, Ben Ames, Isaac Smith, and Stan Sorensen.
Members Present: Kim Farnes
Government Staff: None
2. **6:33 PM Approval of Agenda** – **MOTION: SC Member John Carpenter moved to approve the agenda. SC Member Ken Stewart seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**
3. **6:33 PM Approval of July 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes** –
MOTION: SC Member John Carpenter moved to approve the July 17, 2025, meeting minutes. SC Member Janice Leitzke seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **6:34 PM Public Communications** – No one wished to make any statements/testimony at the beginning of the meeting.
5. **6:35 PM Recurring/Continued Business:**
Budget – Janice Leitzke – Provided an update of the 2025 Financial Report and Financial Details, see attached. Some Grant funds were received. More expected in coming weeks. The County provided financials through July 2025. 2024 final budget report was also received. Some discrepancies with 2025 financials. Meeting with EH budget next week to discuss.
Annual meeting expenses totaled \$184.47.
Admin Supplies purchased in September for 2026 totaled \$138.10.
MOTION: SC Member Terry Stewart moved to approve Work Orders for 2026 meeting notification mailer (Quote of \$602.47); 2026 treatment notification card (Quote of \$191.84); 2026 Aquatic Submerged Weed Treatment (Quote of \$71,308); and YFI Treatment (Quote of \$1,500) and allow Co-Chair to approve expenditures +/- 10% of quote. SC Member John Carpenter seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **6:46 PM Old Business**
Lake Level/Temps – Frank Hudik provided updated information prior to the meeting that showed surface water temperature is dropping significantly – currently at 57 degrees and the Lake at its lowest water level in seven years. Water level has not yet begun to improve. See meeting presentation for more detailed information.
Yellow Flag Iris (YFI) Floating Islands – Frank Hudik provided backup slides for the Floating Island issue. There has been no movement on the floating mat issue. Frank will coordinate a lake tour with Representative Marshall and Army Corps of Engineer representative Hammond. A large ~60x8x5' floating mud island erupted from West Lake Lawrence on 3 Oct. Curt Cleaveland initially sat a large orange cone at the end of the island to provide some visibility to boaters. Barry and Bob Clary went out a couple of days later and posted three stakes with "CAUTION" tape to provide better visibility. This island is so big it cannot be chopped up by volunteers as has been done with previous mud islands. Storms this winter will break up the island, and it will eventually dissolve and sink back to the lake bottom. The island is stationary currently and not moving. Everyone is asked to report any sightings of new islands and any movement of the current island.

Senate Bill S-3518.1 – No movement on this issue as the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Lands Division Manager collaborating with us on the issue. has not responded to several email requests.

Cyanobacteria Management Plan (CMP) – Toxic Algae Plan –Will pick up with stream/discharge testing when sufficient rainfall allows. Public meetings are scheduled for 11 December 2025, 16 April 2026, and 11 June 2026. Notices were sent to all members via USPS in January 2025 and will be sent out again in January 2026. Email reminders will be sent to LMD members from our contact list the week prior to these meetings. As noted during our budget update, some Grant Funding has been received, and more is expected in the coming weeks. WA State Department of Ecology has advised that once the study is completed and they receive it for review it will take them 1-2 months to complete the review and provide feedback.

With this plan we are attempting to control Toxic Algae Blooms and improve dissolved oxygen in the deeper depths of our lake. We are looking at numerous ways to do this:

1. Eutrosorb, which is currently being used on several lakes in our area to include Long Lake, Spanaway Lake, and Kitsap Lake. Costs range from \$160,000 to \$220,000 a year for treatment depending on size/depth of lake and volume of phosphorus in lake. Estimates from our current submerged weed contractor to control the phosphorus for our lake using this product run from \$108k using a 20-year plan to \$2.1million for a total reset (all at once) All alternatives are being investigated. The lakes that have used this product have had no toxic algae blooms since beginning its use.
2. OASE Lake Therapy Product. This is a new product for our area and has yet not been used in the Pacific Northwest. It is a Calcium Chloride based product, which is currently not authorized for use in WA State and would require an experimental phosphorus sequestration product use plan approved by WA State Department of Ecology. We have identified a potential issue with this product (pH) based on our pH levels in our lake. We are currently working with the company that makes this product to determine if it is even feasible.
3. Zero Valent Iron (ZVI) a Hepure Product currently approved for use by WA State, but currently only used at Steilacoom Lake since last year (2024). We have talked with the President of the Lake Improvement District (Similar to an LMD) who says it is working, but they have had to reapply this year (2025) and so far, have had no toxic algae blooms. This year total costs were \$161k with three different applications. We are continuing to monitor and gather information on this product.
4. Oxygenation System is currently being studied by Pierce County for use in Spanaway Lake. This system requires a fixed site to install generators, which require 24/7 power, and hoses run from the generator into the deepest parts of the lake. Multiple basins may require multiple sites. Power costs are estimated at \$25k a year per site. Frequent maintenance is required so a maintenance contract would be necessary. Initial costs for installation at one location are ~\$2million. Our lake would require at least two sites. At this time, we do not feel this option is feasible for our location but will continue to monitor progress.
5. Aluminum Sulfate (ALUM) has been used extensively throughout the country and the world. It is a safe product that provides reliable results if applied correctly. It strips the algae from the water column and sequesters it on the bottom of the lake. This can result in increased submerged vegetation due to increased water clarity. That water clarity is short lived. Two lakes in our area that have recently used ALUM are Green Lake in Seattle and Black Lake outside of Olympia. Costs were \$800,000 for Green Lake in 2016 and \$1.4 million for Black Lake in 2021. They have not experienced toxic algae blooms since application, but they are preparing for additional applications. Conservative estimates show that repeat applications after 10 years may be necessary to control the new phosphorus that enters the lake from external sources. We will continue to monitor the use of ALUM.
6. Phosloc/Lanthanum was used in Kitsap Lake in 2022 at a cost of \$117k. They are 100 acres smaller than our lake. In 2024 they applied Eutrosorb G at a cost of \$175k – not being satisfied with the application of Phosloc. We need to find out more about this product.

7. Eutrosorb SI – New product, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) underway. Scheduled to released Dec 25.

This is a granular Iron-Bound Lanthanum product that does not strip the water column of algae like ALUM,

Eutrosorb G and ZVI. Should be authorized with new APAM in March 2026. Will continue to monitor and assess.

If anyone knows of any other products out their please let us know. We are attempting to learn as much as possible about every means to control toxic algae before we need to decide in March/April 2026 about the direction we need to go to take care of our toxic algae problem.

2025 LMD Fragrant Water Lily (FWL) Treatment Plan – On August 25, 2025, approximately 3 acres of FWL were treated at a cost of \$1,875. The only area treated this year was the southern portion of the main lake due to the volume of FWL identified during our 8 July lake survey. After the treatment, our contractor stated that we may want to look at treating the Watershield as it is getting out of control. We will look at it during our June Lake Survey.

LMD Renewal 2027 – Where are we and how do we get to the finish line. Our website provides a detailed review of our progress and future actions. The summary version is that we have submitted our petition to the County, and it has been reviewed. The County is currently working to get the approval of our County Commissioners who will then issue a Resolution of Intent to Form Lake Lawrence LMD #26. That Resolution will be sent to our government partners (DNR, Ecology, WDFW, etc.) and a letter sent to all our members announcing a Public Hearing, which will be posted in the Nisqually Valley News (the local paper of record). This will require the letters to be mailed by registered mail. We also need additional stamps for mailing our welcome letters to members. Along with the welcome letters, which contain a paragraph on the LMD Renewal, we are attaching a copy of the LMD Petition, so new residents are not surprised by the upcoming increase in assessment fees. Barry asked the SC to make a motion to allow him to pay for the registered mail envelopes and additional stamps needed for the welcome letters.

MOTION: SC Member Janice Leitzke moved to reimburse Barry for the cost of the registered mail for LMD Renewal and a book of stamps for welcome letters. SC Member Ken Stewart seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items - Nothing new since July. See SC meeting presentation for details on action items – found on website under documents.

2026-2027 Budget & Work Plan – Approved by County Environmental Health and submitted to Budget for approval by BoCC when they approve the overall County Budget in November or December.

Shallow Water Signs – There was considerable discussion on this topic primarily around how to physically post signs near the shallow points in the south end of the lake. At the annual meeting one of our members suggested obtaining a mesh/metal cage like they use in erosion control along highways, putting the signpost in a concrete block, setting the concrete block with post inside the cage and filling it with rocks at the location where the signs need to be posted. This would require several boats and strong volunteers. September of next year would be the best time to do this. Everyone will consider this idea, and a decision will be made at our February or March meeting. The material and signs were approved at the October 2024 meeting.

8:02 PM New Business –

Lake Survey 19 August 2025 – Complete survey results for all lake surveys posted on Lake Lawrence Website. Blue/Green Algae was present along the shoreline out to 200 feet in front of AVAS areas 10-18. We requested EH test the bloom. Unfortunately, they did not come out until the following week, and the bloom had dissipated. We counted 158 geese. Aquatic vegetation in all areas treated with Sonar One shows signs of stress and reduced vegetation from application. Water Nymph, Common Elodea, Narrow Leaf Pondweed, and Curly Pondweed showed signs of dying. Nitella, Tape Grass, and Big Leaf Pondweed were impacted but not dying. This is because Sonar One does not impact these types of vegetation.

2026 LMD Submerged Weed Treatment Plan – On 2 October we had a meeting with our contractor to discuss the 2026 treatment plan. We recommended that 3 additional acres be added to the treatment area, totaling 34 acres in 2026. The contractor recommended we start the treatment a couple of weeks earlier than last year and apply Sonar One, as we did in 2025 at four-week intervals. The estimated cost would be \$71,308, which is \$65 per acre greater than 2025.

Contractor stated that product costs were not yet available for 2026, but he had made his best guess at what they might be. We will mail the notice of treatment in late March or early April depending on weather conditions over the winter months. Warmer weather will require earlier treatment/notification. Treatment will begin mid-April with subsequent treatments mid-May and mid-June timeframe, again depending on weather and lake surveys. Focus is on Curly Pondweed. This will be our third year treating for Curly. After this year we may decide to stop applications for curly in the areas we have been treating to see if it comes back. This would provide us with an opportunity to treat other areas of the lake and get a good assessment of the success or lack of it for treating the Curly for the past three years.

2026 Yellow Flag Iris (YFI) Treatment Plan – Communications with Thurston County Noxious Weed Manager confirms their support for YFI treatment in 2026 with our contribution being \$1,500. We will send out permission letters to applicable members in the first week of January 2026. Permission Letters are due to Noxious weed by April 1. As noted above, treatment notification cards will be sent out in late March or early April. According to Noxious Weed YFI Treatment will be between 5 and 15 May 2026.

2026 Fragrant Water Lily (FWL) Treatment Plan – Dependent on survey results in July 2026. Our contractor from 2025 recommended treating the watershield around the lake as it is expanding and could become a control problem if not controlled. Survey committee will consider this and report back to full Steering Committee in July 2026.

2024-2025 Lake Lawrence LMD Annual Report – This has been emailed to all SC members several times, posted on our website and discussed at our annual meeting on 25 September. No additional comments/concerns have been received.

MOTION: SC Member Jim Biehl moved to approve the 2024-2025 Lake Lawrence LMD Annual Report and forward to our partners. SC Member John Carpenter seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Annual Meeting After Action Review – Agenda posted on our website. Total cost was \$184.47. Thirty-four LMD members were present. Commissioner Grant, District 2 attended. Deserts and beverages were provided.

Agenda: Everyone thought the agenda for the meeting was better than previous annual meetings with a meet and greet at the beginning where everyone had time to get to the meeting, talk with each other and our elected representatives present.

Food: Everyone thought the desert bar and beverages were right and much better than the BBQ and potlucks from previous years. Little food was left over.

Presentation: Good

2026 Meeting/Survey Schedule – The schedule for 2026 was presented, discussed, and approved.

LMD Meetings – All meetings are scheduled for Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. In Person meetings are at the Lake Lawrence Lower Lodge. Virtual meetings are via “TEAMS” with link posted on website:

19 February (Virtual)

19 March (Virtual)

14 May (In Person)

16 July (Virtual)

15 Oct (In Person)

CMP Meetings – Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. In Person Meetings are at the Lake Lawrence Lower Lodge. Virtual meetings are via “TEAMS” with link posted on website:

Mtg #4 16 April (In Person)

Mtg #5 11 June (Virtual)

Lake Surveys – Tuesdays from 9-12 a.m.

14 April

12 May

9 June

7 July

18 August

Annual Meeting – 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Thursday, 24 September

MOTION: SC Member Janice Leitzke moved to approve the 2026 Meeting Schedule. SC Member Terry Stewart seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

LMD Hand Receipts – HOA's holding LMD equipment signed hand receipts for that equipment. So far only Frank Hudik has submitted a hand receipt. At the meeting Ken Stewart submitted one for Wildaire. Barry will reach back out to Scenic Shores and LLCC to obtain hand receipts for LMD equipment they have.

8:20 PM Good of the Order –

Eutrophix will present a 30-minute presentation on their product at our March 2026 LMD Meeting.

Others may be invited to present at our February or March meeting.

Grant Funding – Kim Farnes was introduced at the beginning of the meeting. She volunteered at our Annual Meeting to lead our effort to acquire more grant funds.

Discussion of treatment options in Washington State and Thurston County – See meeting slide presentation for much more detail.

Discussion of safer ways to control insects and weeds without using harmful insecticides and herbicides – See meeting slide presentation for much more detail.

8:23 PM Adjourn – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Attachments:

1 – 2025 Financial Report, and 2025 Details of Financial Report – See meeting presentation slides

Prepared by Barry Halverson

Barry Halverson, Co-Chair