

Lake Lawrence Lake Management District Steering Committee

Lake Lawrence Community Club
P.O. Box 297
Yelm, WA 98597



1. **6:31 PM Call to Order** – Co-Chair Barry Halverson called the LLLMD Meeting on July 18, 2024, to order at 6:31PM. Steering Committee (SC) provided self-introductions.

SC Members Present: Barry Halverson (Co-Chair), Jim Biehl (Co-Chair), Steven Slater, Janice Leitzke, Ken Stewart, Terry Stewart, and John Carpenter. A quorum was present, so the meeting continued.

SC Members Absent: Stephen Slater and Isaac Smith

Members Present: Frank Hudik, Ann Carpenter, John Graver

Government Staff: None

2. **6:32 PM Approval of Agenda** – **MOTION: SC Member John Carpenter moved to approve the agenda. SC Member Steven Slater seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

3. **6:32 PM Approval of May 16, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: SC Member Jim Biehl moved to approve the May 16, 2024, meeting minutes. SC Member John Carpenter seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **6:34 PM Public Communications** – No one wished to make any statements/testimony.

5. **6:35 PM Recurring/Continued Business:**

Budget – Janice Leitzke – Provided an overview of the budget report as of June 2024 noting that many of the purchases to date have not hit the County MUNIS report and are highlighted on our budget report in BLUE. RED highlighted item (Prof Services Advertising) for \$143.52 is a disputed charge for notice in the Olympian by the BoCC Clerk of the Board. No resolution on this issue yet. Issues on County charges for Salaries and Payroll are still a concern. Awaiting County working out Admin Rate process. Overall County related admin charges are down considerably from previous years.

2025-2026 Budget Proposal – Janice - Reviewed rationale and process for proposal

2025-2026 Budget & Work Plan – Barry – Reviewed DRAFT plan posted to website a month ago.

MOTION: SC Member Janice Leitzke moved to approve the 2025-2026 Budget & Work Plan. SC Member Terry Stewart seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **7:00 PM Old Business**

Lake Level/Temps – Frank Hudik – Surface water temperature is 82 degrees. It fluctuates from 40-41 degrees in the winter months (December – February) to 81-82 degrees during the summer months (July – September). A bit higher lake temperature than previous year at this point in time. Lake levels peaked in April at 2.56, approximately six inches above the dam level. Water level is currently at 1.64. For reference the dam level is 2.4. Water level falling fast do to evaporation.

Yellow Flag Iris (YFI) Floating Islands – Frank Hudik – Last floating island identified and towed to cove on 4 April 2024.

Islands are still coming from two primary locations (south end of lake and cove on southwest end of West Lake. Possibly some coming out of cove on west side of West Lake. Working with Representative JT Wilcox, District #2 and State Departments for resolution. Last meeting on 1 July WDFW and Ecology were on virtual meeting with Representative Wilcox, but not DNR. DNR has jurisdiction. Representative Wilcox proposed asking for a Capitol Budget Expenditures (funding). State Departments responsible for identifying costs/method to solve problem. Representative Wilcox will work on Capitol Budget Expenditure proposal for responsible State Department to resolve issue.

Senate Bill S-3518.1 – Following May 16 LMD Meeting DFW provided a letter outlining their concerns on May 30th. On June 24th all LMDs in the State (24 of them) sent a letter back to DFW addressing their concerns, agreeing with some and disagreeing with others. Requested DFW provide a response to that letter by the end of July 2024.

Cyanobacteria Management Plan (CMP) – Toxic Algae Plan – Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved contract with Herrera Inc. (Seattle) on June 18th. Contract issued on June 18th. The contract virtual meeting kickoff July 12th. Initial contract site survey July 25th (12:00 – 4:00 pm). Public meeting to identify community concerns July 25th (6:30-8:30 p.m.) at the Lake Lawrence Lower Lodge. The contractor and County Environmental Health (EH) are working with WA State Department of Ecology on the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). Expect this product by end of July for SC review. Ecology review by end of August and final approval by end of September. Must be in place before any water testing/monitoring is done. The contract is expected to run from July 2024 through June 2026 with much of the water testing/monitoring occurring between October 1, 2024, and September 31, 2025. Final report due no later than June 1, 2026. Process will include at least two public meetings and three SC meetings with contractor. First Public Meeting 25 July. Following SC and Public Meetings in 2025 and 2026 to be discussed/voted on at October 2024 LMD meeting. Proposed dates are Thursdays, 22 May 2025, 11 December 2025, 17 April 2026 and 11 June 2026.

2024 LMD Invasive/Nuisance Aquatic Weed Treatment Plan - Bio Base Survey completed by contractor 23 May at a cost of \$1,770 (est. was \$1,800). Copy of Bio Base Survey posted to website. First Curly Pondweed treatment was done 12 July. Second application to be done 2-3 weeks later (weather dependent). A second treatment notification card was required to be sent out to all shoreline parcels as the initial one expired on June 26th (they are only good for 45 days). The initial card was necessary to accomplish the YFI treatment at the end of May 2024.

2024 LMD Yellow Flag Iris (YFI) Treatment Plan – YFI was treated by a contractor hired by the County Noxious Weed Department on May 31, 2024. Twenty-Seven parcels (24 private parcels) were treated in accordance with the plan. Owners of the other 150 parcels on Lake Lawrence will need to pull or cut any YFI growing on their shoreline. Two YouTube Videos were produced to show residents how dangerous YFI is and how to identify, pull and/or dig YFI to keep it from coming back. Links to these videos are at: <https://youtu.be/wk5AVYtrWhA> and https://youtu.be/spE_BfHvSG4. The cost for this treatment was \$3,500. The LMD was charged \$1,500. The other \$2,000 was grant money from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Thurston County Lake Management District Standard Operating Procedures (TC LMD SOP) – BoCC approved the SOP on April 2, 2024. The SOP is on the first page of the website at: www.lakelawrencelakemanagementdistrict.com. All LMDs in the County have quarterly meetings with the County Assistant Manager. Next meeting is 24 September.

Goat Island Restoration Work Party After Action Review – Work Party on June 8th was attended by seven LMD members. All Tansy was dug up and all trails cleared. More work needed to be done, but the brush hog broke down. Check out this YouTube Video of the event: <https://youtu.be/8-xxSArHgBw>

LMD Renewal 2027 – This process needs to start now. Barry has attended every HOA Annual meeting this year (Wildaire, Scenic Shores and Lake Lawrence Community Club) and provided them with information and answered questions. This outreach will continue. Communities/private parcel owners around the lake that want to have a meeting to discuss what this means please contact Barry to schedule. A sub-committee will be formed to work this starting now. Progress will be reported at every LMD meeting from now on. If you are interested in being a part of this committee let Barry know. Here are some of the things to consider:

LMD Duration (10-35 years) – If we are going to start any type of toxic algae mitigation program, we need to have a longer duration LMD to reap the benefits of that program. It is costly and needs to be sustained for years to be effective.

LMD rates & charges – Do we want to change how we charge LMD rates to align with other LMDs throughout the state? Lake Lawrence rates are the cheapest in the state and would not be sufficient to sustain an algae management program. What do we want our LMD to focus on moving forward? Do we want it to just focus on control of Noxious, Invasive and Nuisance Vegetation, which we are doing now. Or do we want to continue to do that, but take the next step in lake management and add algae (toxic algae) management to get a cleaner/healthier lake? The \$50,000 grant we applied for

this year and received will prepare us for that next step if we decide to take it. That step will cost more, but the rewards will be reduced toxic algae blooms and a lake with water you will enjoy recreating in.

What do we want our LMD to do moving forward:

- Toxic Algae mitigation (will cost substantially more and will raise LMD fees).
- Continue to control Noxious, Invasive and Nuisance Vegetation (this is what we do now).
- Will require community involvement/volunteers.

Annual Meeting – September 28, 2024, 3-5 p.m. Lake Lawrence Lower Lodge. Guest Speaker will be Jennifer Johnson, Thurston County Public Health Education and Outreach Specialist. Topic: Rain Gardens/Home & Yard impacts on lake and what you can do to help. See agenda on website.

MOTION: SC Member Janice Leitzke motioned to approve expenditure of up to \$1,000 for annual meeting costs. SC Member Terry Stewart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items - Were discussed. Updates on YFI Floating Island Removal. Nothing noted for archiving. See SC meeting presentation for details on action items – found on website under documents.

7. 8:00 PM New Business –

June/July Lake Survey Results – 11 June survey showed a few more plants than in May, but still nothing significant. 25 June and 9 July results showed a huge growth in aquatic vegetation around the lake triggering action for contractor to treat Curly Pondweed in approximately 26 acres of the lake. And triggering action by the survey committee to recommend treating Fragrant Water Lily (See Below) and putting out a contract for weed harvesting (see below).

Fragrant Water Lily (FWL) – As noted above the 9 July weed survey committee noted substantial growth in FWL. FWL locations were noted by GPS coordinates and mapped. Contractor was notified and agreed to treat the FWL in conjunction with his last treatment for Curly Pondweed in July or first week of August. This would reduce costs as equipment mobilization and posting requirements would already be done for treatment of the Curly Pondweed. This brought the cost for FWL treatment to \$2,500 or less, which was under our budget for the year.

MOTION: SC Member Terry Stewart motioned to approve up to \$2,500 for FWL treatment. SC Member John Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Weed Harvesting – Survey on 9 July showed a large amount of nuisance aquatic vegetation in most littoral areas. Survey committee recommended contracting for a weed harvester (a machine that cuts the weeds off within 1 foot of lake bottom out to 6 feet of water depth). Because of the size and weight of harvester they do not go in and out of docks unless they are far apart. Members will still be responsible for removing vegetation from shoreline to end of their docks. A YouTube Video was produced to show how this can be done. View it at: <https://youtu.be/681crIKJtlg>. A map of the recommended harvest areas can be found in the presentation slide packet posted on the website. The cost was expected to be approximately \$1,000 per acre not including tax and disposal of weeds. Coordination was conducted with the LLCC and Scenic Shores HOA Boards to remove the cut vegetation at their respective parks. LLCC agreed to allow removed vegetation to be deposited on their community area on the far east end of the park (near the burn pile) if other arrangements with a local farmer could not be made. A Request for Quotation (RFQ) was written and sent to three contractors to obtain bids for the work. One has already responded that they will not provide a bid for the work. The other two have until 24 July to submit their bids. Once bids are received, they will be evaluated by three members of the LMD SC (Barry, Janice and Ken) and EH notified. The contract will be negotiated with the winning contractor and a contract issued by 1 August with work to be completed by 15 August. This is all dependent on getting bids that come in at or under the proposed budget.

MOTION: SC Member Steven Slater motioned that up to \$20,000 be made available to hire a weed harvester contractor to do the expected work. SC Member Ken Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. 8:20 PM Other Business:

2024 Meetings –

July 25, 2024, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Cyanobacteria Management Plan (Toxic Algae) PUBLIC MEETING. LLCC Lower Lodge.

Lake Lawrence LMD Meeting Minutes for July 18, 2024

September 28, 2024 3-5 pm. LMD Annual Meeting/BBQ LLCC Lower Lodge

October 17, 2024 6:30 – 8:30 pm. In Person. LMD Quarterly Meeting LLCC Lower Lodge.

2024 Surveys planned –

August 20, 2024 9am – 12:00. Last survey of the year. See website for details.

9. 8:22 PM Good of the Order

Barry attended HOA meetings and provided information on LMD:

Wildaire HOA – 18 May

LLCC HOA – 15 June

Scenic Shores HOA – 13 July

Lake Tours with County Leaders:

31 May – Commissioner Menser

25 June – Commissioner Edwards, Commissioner Candidate JW Foster (District #2) and County Manager Leonard Hernandez

19 July – Commissioner Mejia

26 July – Commissioner Candidate Rachel Dreon (District #2)

15 August – Commissioner Clouse

16 August – Commissioner Fournier

Over the next two months we will be working on the State of the Lake report that is due in October 2024

10. 8:28 PM Adjourn – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

July 18, 2024, Meeting Minute Attachments: None, however all presentation slides and information from meeting are posted on the website and are very informative.

Prepared by Barry Halverson

Barry Halverson, Co-Chair