

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 May 14, 2026, 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), Ken Stewart, Terry Stewart, Steven Slater, Stephen Slater, Kim Nelson, and John Carpenter. A quorum was present, so the meeting continued.

SC Members Absent: Isaac Smith

Members Present: Frank Hudik, Vern Pederson, Kathy Boyajian, Curt Cleaveland, Anne Carpenter, and guests from American Lake LMD Joel Veanha, Joel Kangiser, Janet Spinoath, and Kurt Spinoath.

Government Staff: None

2. **6:33 PM Approval of Agenda** – MOTION: SC Member Steven Slater moved to approve the agenda. SC Member Jim Biehl seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **6:33 PM Approval of March 19, 2026, Meeting Minutes** – MOTION: SC Member Janice Leitzke moved to approve the March 19, 2026, meeting minutes. SC Member Jim Biehl 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. Participation by SC members throughout meeting on several topics.
5. **6:35 PM Recurring/Continued Business:**

Budget – Janice Leitzke – Provided an update of the 2026 Financial Report and Financial Details through May 12, 2026, see attached. Most Grant Funds were received. Still lacking about \$5,000, which we would expect to receive after the CMP Plan is approved at the end of June. Janice is still working with the County to correct long standing issues – particular problem areas were Interfund reimbursement for 2025 \$6,200 not received, other smaller budget invoice items that have been a recurring issue.

Work Orders/Invoices were detailed:

No new Work Orders/Invoices since February 2026 meeting.

6:46 PM Old Business

Lake Surface Temps/Water Levels – Surface water Temperatures reaching 71 degrees this week. Water level remains high. Water still spilling over dam on outflow creek. One of the longest sustained water outflows since 2021.

Floating Island Issue – A small floating island (2'x2') floated up on shoreline in the East Basin of Lake Lawrence, Scenic Shores Community Park.

Senate Bill S-3518.1 – WALPA sent out a perspective paper/review to all parties on 2 April. They will coordinate actions with city/counties and DFW. Barry to coordinate with all State LMDs. On 3 April 2026 Barry sent email/information to all State LMDs with recommended changes to perspective paper. On 5 May 2026 all responses received from LMDs were forwarded to WALPA. Expect joint meeting by end of June 2026.

Cyanobacteria Management Plan (CMP) – CMP Meeting #4 was held virtually on 16 April 2026 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Herrera Inc. provided DRAFT copy of CMP. The 2-hour presentation was posted on the YouTube channel at this link: <https://youtu.be/DtocqRtDDwA> . Over this last month the plan was reviewed by LMD SC members, County Environmental Health and Department of Ecology with all comments being submitted. Herrera Inc. has agreed with our

recommended changes. A follow-up TEAMS meeting with Herrera personnel was conducted 13 May and some of the changes to the CMP were provided to the SC on 14 May for discussion and consideration.

MOTION: SC Member Jim Biehl moved to approve the Draft CMP Plan with changes submitted by SC members. SC Member Steven Slater seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

SC discussed the many products that can be used to sequester harmful algal blooms (HABs), as they have in the previous three meetings. Many of the products discussed in the CMP were not recommended. The SC discussed in detail those products recommended by the CMP, that included: **Aluminum Sulfate (ALUM); Eutrosorb G and SI are Lanthanum based products; Zero Valent Iron (ZVI): OASE Lake Therapy Product; Oxygenation Saturation Technology (OST) System.** A lot of time was devoted to discussing the options, facts, assumptions, criteria, and weighing the criteria to formulate a decision matrix to best provide an unbiased recommendation for what product(s) to use in mitigating/eliminating our Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB) problem. At our 19 March 2026 SC meeting six areas of concern were identified with 14 criteria. During that meeting one concern and one criterion were eliminated from the decision matrix (Cost & Logistics) so that the ultimate decision would be based on what is best for the lake versus what is affordable. Affordability would be addressed separately. Scoring and weighing were also resolved during this 19 March meeting with a decision to review, discuss, and make a decision at the 14 May SC meeting. For more detail review SC Meeting Minutes from 19 March. Based on the CMP and SC member discussion five Courses of Action (COAs) were identified. The five COAs (Slide 48 in presentation) were:

1. Use tried and true chemical (Lanthanum) – adds product to water and lakebed that is not naturally occurring in water or sediment.
2. Use natural mineral (Iron-ZVI) – already present in all lakes, but a higher percentage of Iron to Phosphorus ratio is required to sequester the high phosphorus content in the lake sediment.
3. Use Oxygen Saturation Technology (OST) – Mechanical Method – no chemicals.
4. Use a natural mineral (Iron-ZVI) to mitigate near-term Harmful Algae Blooms (HABs) and work to secure funding for OST over next 5 years.
5. If COA 4 does not prove successful (either through sequestering blooms using ZVI or securing funding) move to COA 1.

MOTION: SC Member Steven Slater moved to approve COA #4 with the understanding that if it proved unsuccessful, we would move to COA #5. SC Member Ken Stewart seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Toxic Algae Report – We have had 8 reported toxic algae blooms since 4 February 2026 (4 Feb, 2 Mar, 5, 20, & 28 Apr, and 5 & 12 May 2026). All reports and tests, except the last one on 12 May, showed toxic algae below state guidelines. On 12 May samples were taken. Results on 14 May showed Microcystin levels of 45.9 ug/L, well above the State guidelines of 8 ug/L. “WARNING” signs were posted at all entrance points to swim areas and boat launches. Last year we didn’t hit these toxic algae levels until 24 June 2025. Does not bode well for this year’s toxic algae levels and we cannot do any toxic algae mitigation until 1 January 2027.

LMD Renewal 2027 –

NEXT STEPS:

- STEP 9 - 31 March 2026 Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) adopted Ordinance creating LMD (RCW 36.61.100)
- STEP 10 – 9 April 2026 County publishes a notice of LMD Establishment in local paper of record (RCW 36.61.100)
- 30 April & 7 May 2026 County publishes a notice of Public Hearing for Rolls & Rates in local paper of record
 - 9 April LMD SC Mails a Notice of Objection Public Hearing to all property owners (RCW 36.61.140)
- STEP 11 – 19 May 2026 BoCC holds a Public Hearing for anyone that wants to object to the Rolls & Rates (Assessment) (RCW 36.61.140)
- STEP 12 – 19 May 2026 or soon thereafter as the BoCC desires Approve/Disapprove/Amend the Resolution Confirming the Roll of Assessments and send it to the County Treasurer for implementation on the 2027 Property Taxes. (RCW 36.61.130).

Following our SC meeting on 14 May the BoCC at the Public Hearing on 19 May 2026 approved Resolution 16628 confirming and approving the roll of rates and charges for Thurston County Lake Management District No. 26 for Lake Lawrence pursuant to RCW 36.61.120. The assessments will now be forwarded to the County Treasurer within 30 days to update tax records for implementation of new assessments in January 2027.

Safety/Information Signs –

On 6 April 2026 LMD volunteers installed a “Pet Waste Station” at the head of the trail leading into the County Park. Station provided by County Stream Team and post donated by LLCC HOA.

On 18, 20, and 21 April LMD volunteers installed 4x8’ safety/information/regulation signs at the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and LLCC HOA boat launches. Coordination and permitting for signs were completed with County Parks, County Sheriff’s Office, WDFW, and LLCC HOA. The sign at the public boat launch was paid for by the LMD, LLCC HOA paid for the sign at the LLCC HOA boat launch. The LLCC HOA donated all sign framing material.

On 9 May 2026 LMD volunteers installed the “DANGER SHALLOW WATER” signs on posts that were installed by volunteers on 18 April 2026.

2026 LMD Submerged Weed Treatment Plan – APAM Treatment Notice Card mailed to all shoreline residents on 31 March. First of three applications of Sonar One was made on 30 April 2026. A second application was made on 20 May 2026. The third application will be made in June. These applications are targeting Curly Pondweed and other invasive aquatic vegetation in the areas of treatment. Signs will be posted on day of treatment. Residents are responsible for picking up and disposing of signs 72 hours after treatment (NOT BEFORE). During our lake survey on 12 May we noticed that many lake residents had not picked up signs from their docks/shoreline. An email notice was sent to all.

2026 Yellow Flag Iris (YFI) Treatment Plan – Treatment for YFI has been scheduled for 26-27 May. Later than originally agreed on (12-13 May or 19-20 May). Treatment signs will be posted on all impacted properties. Property owners are responsible for picking up and properly discarding signs 72 hours after treatment. All permission letters were received and turned into Thurston County Noxious Weed Manager. During the lake survey on 12 May we identified many properties with blooming YFI. An email was sent to all shoreline property owners and HOA community leaders informing them of their responsibility to ensure YFI is either dug up or the stems clipped to prevent further seeding of this highly noxious and invasive plant. Additionally email notices were sent to the respective property owners where YFI was identified. Follow up will be done during the June lake survey.

2026 Fragrant Water Lily (FWL) Treatment Plan – No Change. Dependent on survey results in July 2026. Our contractor from 2025 recommended treating the water shield around the lake as it is expanding and could become a control problem. Survey committee will consider this and report back to full Steering Committee in July 2026.

2026 Meeting/Survey Schedule – The schedule for 2026 was reviewed.

LMD Meetings – All meetings are scheduled for Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. In Person meetings are at Lake Lawrence Lower Lodge. Virtual meetings are via “TEAMS” with link posted on website: Next meetings –16 July (Virtual); 15 October (In Person).

CMP Meetings – Mtg #5, last CMP meeting is Virtual on Thursday 11 June 2026 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Virtual meetings are via “TEAMS” with link posted on website. We expect to receive the final CMP prior to or at that meeting.

Funding For Lake Lawrence (Grants & Other) – Kim Farnes has access the Secure Access Website (SAW) for WA State and working with County EH personnel to do that and to access WA State Department of Ecology site to input grant information for Phosphorus Management Grant that is due in November 2026. This is a \$60k grant opportunity. Following our last meeting we drafted a letter to go out to our membership asking for their support to organize a Non-Profit organization that could potentially generate funds for the lake. We received no input from that letter. Barry gave a presentation at the Scenic Shores HOA annual meeting on 11 April. Will do the same at the upcoming annual meetings for Wildaire and LLCC. If no one steps up this effort will not move forward and any associated costs will be borne solely by LMD members going forward. Setting up a non-profit is an opportunity to move some or most of the costs for Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) mitigation to corporate donors, but that takes boots on the ground volunteer support that seems to not be forthcoming.

Annual Meeting – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, 24 September 2026. Thurston County Hydrologist, Kevin Hansen has agreed to provide a presentation to the LMD. No one had any additional talking points for Kevin Hansen. Kevin has responded and agreed to present the information requested at our 24 September annual meeting.

8:45 PM New Business –

Lake Surveys – Tuesdays from 9-12 a.m. Meet at Barry’s house on canal. Next surveys are scheduled for 9 June, 7 July, and 18 August. Results of lake surveys from April and May were reviewed. Copies of the survey and details can be found on our website.

8:50 PM Good of the Order –

Trout Plantings:

- 5 Feb 26 – 90 Trout
- 12 Feb 26 – 236 Trout
- 18 Feb 26 – 250 Trout
- 24 Feb 26 – 20,000 Trout

HOA’s annual meetings.

- Wildaire – June 6, 2026, 9 a.m., Wildaire Community Park
- LLCC – June 20, 2026, 11 a.m., LLCC Lower Lodge

Animals of Lake Lawrence. During our April lake survey our survey team rescued a “Coot” duck that was tangled in fishing line and saw a rare “Painted Turtle”. A YouTube Video over the Coot rescue was posted on our YouTube Channel. Click here to link to that video: <https://youtu.be/-qnASdcjzAA>

Hazard Removal. On 18 April 2026 LMD volunteers removed a large floating log from West Lake Lawrence.

Seminars/Webinars. Barry has continued to attend virtual HAB Seminars/Webinars (23 and 25 March 26 and 15 April 2026). Information from these was shared with those present at the meeting.

9:00 PM Adjourn – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

Attachments:

1 – 2026 Financial Report and Details thru 12 May 2026 – See meeting presentation slides for additional information.

Prepared by Barry Halverson

Barry Halverson, Co-Chair