GENEVA LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (GLEA)
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Monthly Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 2026 – 4:00 PM.
In Person: GLEA Office, 105 N Elkhorn Rd., Williams Bay, WI 53191.
Or Virtual: Join Zoom Meeting

Members:
Chairperson Patrick Kenny, Vice Chairperson Mary Jo Fesenmaier
Rick Pappas, Jim Weiss, Carol McAdam, Alex Rasch, Rob Umans, LaMarr Lundberg

AGENDA

Call to Order - Meeting of GLEA Board of Directors called to order by Chairman Kenny. Meeting began at 4:02 pm.

Present members: P. Kenny, C. McAdam, R. Umans, L Lundberg, A. Rasch.
Not present: J. Weiss, R. Pappas, M. Fesenmaier.

1. Motion to approve minutes of August 20, 2026 Board meeting made by R. Umans, seconded C. McAdam. Vote approved unanimously.
2. **Financials**
   a. Action on August 2026 Income Statement: Payment upcoming USGS.
   b. August 2026 Disbursement & Donation Report for review: Donations are up year-to-date compared to 2025.
   c. Budget Comparison 2025/2026 for review.
   d. Budget vs Actuals: YTD spending went slightly over on Farmers Market and boat rental costs; however, the actual costs were minor. Employee/ intern costs YTD are under the projected total for the year.
   e. Motion to approve budget report. First by A. Rasch and seconded by R. Umans. Vote approved unanimously.
3. **Stream Testing:**
   a. Hillside – The Linn Sanitary District (LSD) requested more in-depth testing in Hillside Creek due to E. Coli numbers. LSD has asked GLEA to do probe and laboratory testing to help pinpoint sources.
   b. Buena Vista – Continuing to investigate multiple animal markers (human, dog, deer) to pinpoint source locations; cow markers have been eliminated via MST testing. Probe will help identify if there are human markers in the channels.
   c. Simms/Academy Creek – H. Baseman reported that a concerned citizens group has formed to investigate and address concerns with this location. There will be a meeting with Walworth County to move this forward next week; she noted that it has taken significant time to coordinate. GLA, GLC and Water Alliance remain in the loop. P. Kenny mentioned that he has attended Water Alliance meetings via Zoom and hasn't yet heard of movement on the project from their end. H. Baseman reminded the board that GLEA can accept donations for funding this project and Walworth County (LURM- should we spell this out as it's the first time this group is mentioned) cannot.

4. **Equipment Needs**
   a. Need an optical brightener probe to test for human Markers. Total cost is $4,500. It was reported that LSD will contribute $3,400 towards the purchase, and GLEA will cover $2,000 and will own the equipment. R. Umans noted that we can add probe equipment at a later date as well. Motion to approve $2,000 cost for probe made by R. Umans and seconded by P. Kenny. There was discussion about looking for outside donation sources to cover this cost. R. Umans and P. Kenny mentioned their respective Lions Clubs. A. Rasch inquired about a possible in-house lab. H. Baseman noted that the cost would be $13,000 for a lab start-up. H. Baseman stated that Linn will still need to conduct inspections and likely dye or soil testing.
   b. Additionally, both labs that GLEA uses in Wisconsin have requested flow data with water sample submissions. GLEA no longer has a functioning flow meter; H. Baseman noted that the cost is $1,500 for a new meter that will more accurately measure low-flow depth streams. A. Rasch inquired about

borrowing one; H. Baseman stated they are $300 to rent. R. Umans said that he may be able to request a donation from Williams Bay Lions Club. P. Kenny stated he would reach out to Big Foot Lions Club. Motion to approve flow meter, first by R. Umans and seconded by A. Rasch. Vote approved unanimously.

5. **E. Coli Boxes** – H. Baseman asked the fabricators of the E. coli boxes to refund, but the company refused and suggested they assist in correcting the problem. The fabricator came down to GLEA to see the boxes in early September. They will work on a design to help hang the boxes per H. Baseman's initial request via quote. The goal will be to hang one box ~~(~~at Williams Bay~~)~~ once completed to verify that they will work. Project completion moved to early spring so that boxes can be assembled with a hanging mechanism.

6. **Potential GLEA Boat** – P. Kenny has accessed a free boat as a donation from Melges brothers. This 20-ft. boat has not been in use since 2018, and we have not yet verified whether it runs. H. Baseman noted she is thankful for the donation but discussed that she has concerns about owning a boat. Pros and cons discussed. It was noted that, regarding cost, owning the boat would be good. H. Baseman stated that even with the boat, GLEA would need to rent for Ecology Club participation and possibly late-summer boat count. C. McAdams suggested we consider volunteers who can drive the boat for us. Charlie Huss, who helped GLEA out during boat count in August, could also potentially be hired as a driver. H. Baseman is submitting the 2027 proposals to municipalities, which will include extra funding that would help offset rental costs or maintenance if GLEA will own a boat.

7. **Intern Update** – Logan attends UW-Milwaukee and was approved by his advisor to count 40 hours working for GLEA this fall towards a required course. He will help with the upcoming mussel survey, Wooden Boat Show, WB Homecoming parade, and other tasks needing to be wrapped up this fall.

8. **Events**
    a. Per P. Kenny, the recent GLA meeting went well. He further explained the purpose of GLEA's mission, and it was well received. H. Baseman will be doing the 2026 Fall Newsletter soon. We continue to get the word out on GLEA.
    b. Drone Quagga Survey on 9/18 – to be conducted with Kyle Tobias, Fontana Fire & EMS, who has an underwater drone. DNR lent GLEA a long-line sediment grabber to collect samples. Two folks from Madison, who work with the DNR, will also join to conduct a water sample survey of their own.
    c. WI Lakes Conference on 9/24 – H. Baseman presenting.
    d. Volunteer Day removal of mussel samplers on 9/25.
    e. WB Homecoming Parade – H. Baseman, Joanna Gerard, Logan Madison, and R. Umans will attend on behalf of GLEA.
    f. Wooden Boat Show at the Abbey on 9/26 – 9/27 – Logan Madison will attend.
    g. MI Beach Conference on 10/27 through 10/30 – H. Baseman will be attending virtually, and she will get up-to-date info on any new E. Coli testing practices.

9. **Grants/Fundraising** –
    a. Surface water grant first round submitted on 9/15. It is a large-scale submittal to help Walworth County LURM with phosphorus-reduction projects. Final application due in November. If awarded, it would be granted in March 2027.
    b. Proposals to municipalities – H. Baseman will take care of ASAP.
    c. Clean Boats, Clean Waters. Only Williams Bay and Linn need to finish hours.
    d. Tourism Commissions – possible source of funding for things like beach signage, etc. These areas help better our area, which promotes tourism. P. Kenny stated that, as head of the Tourism Commission, he will look into this as a source of funding.

e. Christmas Sale – GLEA notecards, necklace, Moira's book. C. McAdam suggested selling a GLEA Christmas card.

10. **Rental Space** – A woman stopped in to ask about sublease rental space from GLEA; individual would conduct counseling work. R. Umans expressed concerns, and board agreed not a good fit. H. Baseman requested info on any other local spots for rent if anyone has leads so that she can forward to the person who inquired.

11. **Municipal Reports and Updates -**
    a. City of Lake Geneva – M. Fesenmaier not present.
    b. Village of Williams Bay – R. Umans, tourism commission down the road. New sewer line going in.
    c. Village of Fontana – P. Kenny, triathlon went well. Fat Tire bike event, wooden boat show coming up; still looking into a bench to honor the three kids who died on the lake in July. A memorial will be placed in Reid Park.
    d. Town of Linn – Per C. McAdam, nothing from J. Weiss.
    e. Town of Walworth – NA

12. **Adjournment** - Next Meeting date of October 15, 2026, 4:00 p.m. was confirmed. Motion to Adjourn at 4:59 pm – first by A. Rasch and seconded by P. Kenny.