

GENEVA LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (GLEA)
262-245-4532, www.glea.wi.org, info@gleawi.org

Monthly Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday June 18, 2026 – 4:00 PM.
105 N Elkhorn Rd., Williams Bay, WI 53191.

The GLEA Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm, Thursday, June 18, 2026, by M. Fesenmaier.

Roll Call

Board Members/ Staff Present: R. Pappas (F), M.J. Fesenmaier (LG), R. Umans & L. Lundberg (WB), A. Rasch (W), C. McAdam (L). H. Baseman (Director).

Via Zoom: P. Kenny (F).

Board Members/Staff Absent: J. Weiss (L).

General Business:

- 1. Public Comments:** None.
- 2. Approve Board Minutes:** Motion to approve June 16, 2026, board meeting minutes made by A. Rasch. Seconded by R. Umans. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- 3. Monthly Review Items:**
 - a. Action on May 2026 Income Statement, motion to approve made by A. Rasch, seconded R. Umans. The vote to approve was unanimous.
 - b. Action on May 2026 Balance Sheet, motion to approve by R. Pappas, seconded by R. Umans. The vote to approve was unanimous.
 - c. May 2026 Disbursement & Donation Report for Review
 - d. Budget Comparison 2025/2026 for review
 - e. Budget vs Actuals 2025/026 for review. **YTD Financial Review:** The Director explained a discrepancy in the net income figure, clarifying that a \$1,000 groundwater testing expense that wasn't properly reflected in the budget initially caused the difference in net income for the year, which has now been corrected in the budget. It was reported that \$100,000 was moved to a money market account to earn interest, and funds will be transferred to checking as needed.

Possible Actions On The Following Business:

- 1. Update from Water Alliance Meeting:** The main discussion focused on updates from the Water Alliance meeting regarding phosphorus loading in the watershed. Walworth County presented a map identifying nine key projects that could help reduce phosphorus runoff if fully funded at \$410,000. Walworth is looking for match funding. The next Water Alliance meeting is Monday, July 13, at 1:00 p.m., at the Williams Bay library. GLEA board-elected representatives should attend.
- 2. Steel Pier Update:** R. Pappas shared that the Fontana legal counsel did not move forward with any action on Steel Piers in the Village of Fontana. Discussion revolved around the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) approving the permanent piers despite their

potential environmental impact. The Director explained that the DNR lacks proof of harm and cannot impose stricter regulations without state legislature. The board agreed to monitor the situation, document any issues with plant growth under steel piers, and consider approaching subdivisions as a potential alternative approach to restrict steel pier installations. In the meantime, R. Pappas will work with Fontana's attorney to add specific language to the ordinance requiring a permit for any pier alteration, including replacement of cribs with steel piers (even if in the same footprint), and send the revised version to the GLEA Director to get to all municipalities.

3. Lakefront, Piers, and Harbors Committee Meetings Updates: The Director reviewed progress on wake signage implementation, with new signs installed at launches containing interactive Google Maps functionality. In order to have interactive mapping GLEA had to sign up for a program online for \$120 a year. The board was advised that the interactive mapping only works when signed into Google Maps. The Director will be visiting all marinas and boat dealers on the upcoming Tuesday to educate on the 500-foot and 30-foot depth recommendation.

4. E. Coli Signage and Testing: The dead fish that have been reported at several locations are most likely due to spawning stress, temperature changes, and the amount of runoff depriving the fish of oxygen this spring. E. coli signage is here, waiting for the boxes, hopeful for installation in July. Interns will do the install. Letters offering E. coli testing went out to camps, etc.

5. Stream Testing: The Director discussed the additional testing being done on the streams with an update on Buena Vista Creek and Southwick. No movement on septic issues that Walworth County and Linn Sanitary District were working on.

6. AIS Signage Updates: Signage is on its way for Lake Geneva and Williams Bay. Interns will do the install. Abbey Marina sign still needs to be put together and installed.

7. White River Gage: Height gage for the kayak club will be here soon and will be installed along a homeowner's property and the White River along Sheridan Springs Rd.

8. Zebra & Quagga Mussel Surveying: The substrate (surveying) equipment went in. Two types went in, as we saw a big decrease in zebra mussels last year. The Director shared that zebra mussels cycle. The new secondary system will hopefully help us determine if we are in a zebra mussel decrease or not.

9. Additional Intern Time – Henry: Henry will be back in the area for a couple of weeks, and it would be valuable to pay him to help with the Fish Crib Diving, Starry Stonewort Mapping, and Nearshore Fisheries Survey. The Board approved Henry's time. A Communications Coordinator, Joanna Gerard, has been hired. She will work more in the summer and limited hours in the winter. Also, a social media intern, Lillian, is working for GLEA unpaid this summer.

10. Lake Como: The Director has received several questions on who does testing for Lake Como. The Board discussed that GLEA will respond to Lake Como testing inquiries only if approached, and if so, will require payment for any testing services provided.

11. Fundraising/Grant Writing: GLEA received \$1,000 from ARPA for E. coli signage. HOA letters to go out the following week. HOA letters for Fontana take to HOA meeting on

June 20th. The pontoon boat will need to be rented again for the Nearshore Fish Survey with the Fontana Ecology Club, as well as the use of a second boat, so cost will be closer to \$900.

12. Upcoming Events: June 11 State of Our Schools, Lake and Government presentation; June 20th Fontana HOA President's Meeting presentation. Speak at the Clean Boats, Clean Waters conference in July. Farmers' Markets in July – Lake Geneva and Williams Bay. Williams Bay Art Show has not responded. Need to contact the Lions Club to offer to help with the Corn and Brat Fest.

13. Municipal Reports:

- a. City of Lake Geneva – updating the Comprehensive Outdoor and Recreation plan, which is a plan for parks and lakefront incorporated together this time.
- b. Village of Williams Bay – looking into E. coli issues on Southwick.
- c. Village of Fontana – question on the Abbey dredging and whether it increased Starry Stonewort – GLEA staff keep an eye on it in late July/August.
- d. Town of Linn – no updates
- e. Town of Walworth – no updates

14. Next Meeting Date: July 16. 2026, 4:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 5:05 p.m. M. Fesenmaier, seconded R. Umans.