

GENEVA LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY (GLEA)

Walworth County, Wisconsin

This special **INFORMATIONAL MEETING ONLY** of the GLEA was held at the Fontana Village Hall Meeting Room, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana, Wisconsin, 53125. Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 4:00 pm.

Minutes

Members/ Staff Present: P. Kenny (Village of Fontana), M.J. Fesenmaier (City of Lake Geneva), J. Weiss (Town of Linn), J. Lovell (Town of Walworth), R. Umans (Village of Williams Bay), D. Rasmussen (Attorney), J. Schmidt (Director), T. Peters (Consultant), A. Townsend (Admin. Asst.)

Members Absent: R. Pappas (Village of Fontana), T. O'Neill (City of Lake Geneva), B. Whiting (Town of Linn), L. Lundberg (Village of Williams Bay), A. Wisnionski (Lake Manager Asst./Intern).

Public Present: T. Dunn (Alderman, City of Lake Geneva), Steve Russell (Harbormaster, City of Lake Geneva), B. Duncan (President, Village of Williams Bay), L. Wright (Trustee, Village of Williams Bay), D. Malmin (Resident, Town of Linn), C. Roan (Resident, Town of Linn), D. Roan (Resident, Town of Linn), J. Livingston (Supervisor, Town Linn/ Commissioner, Linn Sanitary District), M. Zimmerman (Supervisor, Town of Linn), C. Colman (Chairman, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission /Chair, Water Alliance,) T. Nickols (Chair, Water Alliance/ Geneva Lake Conservancy), M. Lillie (President, Geneva Lake Association), M. Rehberg (Resident, Lake Geneva), E. Johnson (Press, Lake Geneva Regional News), D. Holst (Resident, Village of Fontana).

Presenters Present in Person: Eric Olson, Director and Lake Specialist, University Wisconsin Extension Lakes and Dr. Thomas Slawski, Chief Biologist, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Presenters Present Virtually Via Zoom: Mike Engleson, Executive Director of Wisconsin Lakes (Via Zoom), Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource Staff Members Carroll Schaal Lakes & Rivers Section Chief, Bureau of Water Quality and Heidi Bunk, Lakes Biologist.

GLEA Board of Directors Meeting Called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman P. Kenny.

Roll Call

General Business:

Public Comments

P. Kenny asked if there were any comments from the public. He prefaced that this was an informational meeting and reminded the public that the GLEA would not be taking formal action on this matter at this meeting. The whole purpose of tonight's meeting is to learn about our options, which is why it is an informational meeting. We do not know because we do not have all the answers and are currently trying to gather the facts. We are joined by experts who can explain the pros and cons of different structures and the differences between these various options. P. Kenny also addressed the rumors about the GLEA no longer existing and confirmed that these rumors are indeed false; he clarified that the GLEA is not going anywhere. We are looking at the future and what is in the best interest of Geneva Lake, and a reorganization/restructuring might or might not happen.

No other public comments were made.

1. Discussion on lake organization structure type (I.e., Intergovernmental Commission, Lake Districts, and Waterways Commissions).

P. Kenny asked J. Schmidt to introduce the presenters; J. Schmidt gave a brief background on why these presenters were invited to this informational meeting. Eric Olson, Director and Lake Specialist, University Wisconsin Extension Lakes; Dr. Thomas Slawski, Chief Biologist, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission; Mike Engleson, Executive Director of Wisconsin Lakes Association; Wisconsin DNR staff Carroll Schaal and Heidi Bunk, each contributed to the informational presentation by providing background on the various structures including the pros and cons, an overview of the formation process for each design, the authority, budget process, and governing structure. The presenters invited board members to ask questions. P. Kenny invited the public to ask questions to the presenters. **THIS WAS INFORMATIONAL ONLY- NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.**

2. Meeting Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 5:11 pm by R. Umans. Seconded by J. Lovell. CU

Dated December 26, 2022. Upon approval, posted at the GLEA office and website <https://www.gleawi.org/>. These minutes were recorded and transcribed by Jacob Schmidt, Director. Aimee Townsend, Admin. Asst. The recording of this informational meeting is posted at www.gleawi.org.

APPROVED 03/16/2023