

AGENDA

Sawyer County Lake Forum

March 18, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

Sawyer County Courthouse - Assembly Room

[Virtual Connection \(Teams\)](#)

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Roll/Introductions
3. Public Comment
4. Approval of Minutes: February 18, 2025
5. Election of Board Officers
 - a. President – Martin Hanson elected 10/30/24
 - b. Vice-President – Jean Accola elected 10/30/24
 - c. Secretary – to be elected (volunteers)
 - d. Treasurer –(Conditionally assigned to President)
6. Treasure Report
 - a. Bank balance
7. Bylaw Changes Discussion
 - a. Formalize committee members and schedule
8. Website Update
 - a. New Website
 - i. Original domain restored
 1. SawyerCountyLakesForum.org update communications/bookmarks
 - ii. New site under construction
 1. Working on responsiveness (phone and tablet formatting)
 - iii. Collect suggestions for content
9. Legislation Updates
 - a. Federal
 - b. State
 - i. Elevated Wakes
 1. Draft resolution update
 - c. County
 - i. Sawyer County:
 1. Board of Supervisors
 2. Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee

3. Zoning Committee

- d. Town
 - i. Town of Round Lake

10. Lake Reports (all)

- a. Chetac
- b. Clear Lake
- c. Conners/Lake of the Pines
- d. Grindstone
- e. Lac Courte Oreilles
- f. Little Sissabagama
- g. Round
- h. Spring
- i. Tiger Cat
- j. Whitefish

11. Northwest Lakes Conference

- a. Participation update
- b. Costs
 - i. Sponsorship \$100 (due by April 15)
 - ii. Booth fee \$20
 - iii. Registration \$45

12. Sawyer County Lakes Forum Annual Meeting

- a. Formalize organizing committee
 - i. Set date
 - ii. Set agenda
 - iii. Guest speaker(s)
- b. Round Lake Property Owners sponship

13. Future Agenda Items

- a. Town of Round Lake considering organizing an AIS education event

14. Set Next Meeting Date

- a. Monthly, Third Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.

3. Zoning Committee

- d. Town
 - i. Town of Round Lake

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C. Secretary: Linda Zillmer recommends posting the secretary job to the website as there is still no nominations.

D. Treasurer: Suggested that we temporarily combine the President & Treasurer positions until we can find a secretary. Then the secretary & treasurer positions will be combined. Motion passes.

-Martin motions to have Jean Accola be the second signer on checking account for now. Dave Meyer seconds. All in favor, none opposed. Motion passes.

6. Treasurer Report

Revenue: About 11 membership dues came in! About \$400 in the bank account now.

Expenses: Martin will be purchasing the Microsoft Account for \$100.

Send Martin an email if you want your own SCLF specific email/Microsoft account.

7. Website Update

A.) New Website

i/ii/iii.) We exceeded the capacity for the current website, so Martin purchased a new website and he was able to get the old domain/URL back.

New website is www.sawycountylakesforum.org

Old website will remain for approx. 8 more months, but will have a notice to direct people to the new website. After the domain is expired in 8 months, the website will not exist anymore.

iv.) Looking for local lake pictures, or other local lake information. Send Martin your pictures/ideas.

v.) Create new logo?

Linda suggests this is a lower priority. Kurt Schroeder wonders who the audience will be & to keep that in mind. Martin will table the new logo creation for now and proceed with the current logo until a new one is discussed and created.

B.) Communications

i./ii.) Record monthly meetings? Post to YouTube?

Dave and Dick agree that the meeting minutes are fine and there is no need to record the meetings.

Don agrees to rely on the meeting minutes, unless there is a special meeting/presentation. Recording these presentations can be used for educational purposes.

Consensus: Don't record meetings unless there is a presenter in which we will ask for their permission to record.

-Side Note: On the website on the agendas/minutes page, you have to download the agenda and minutes rather than clicking and it opens right away. It is also not mobile phone friendly as the dates do not show up to identify which meetings/agendas go with what date.

8. Legislation Updates

A.) Federal: None

B.) State

i.) Elevated Wakes:

Some Counties have resolutions. Does the SCLF want to draft and send one to the state as well? Do we want to go through the County?

Members agree we should keep it simple and general for now until there are state bills that are passed. Maintaining local control over regulating this is very important. Enforcement is also a big issue. Some members think that the size of a lake (acres) should be used rather than the 500-700ft off the shoreline for example. Linda drafted a potential resolution based on the Lakes at Stake resolution.

Consensus: We should go through the County and start with the Land, Water, Forest Resources Committee (LWFRC). They will bring this to the County Board, and then with approval from the County Board, the Board would lobby to the State legislature. We will use the draft resolution made by Linda but delete lines

25-33. Jean will then bring the updated draft to the LWFRC. Motion by Jean, second by Dick. Motion passes. Updated resolution will be posted on website.

ii.) Lake District:

The County wants greater oversight over lake districts and potentially limiting their term (not in perpetuity). They are sending a petition to the State legislature to change State Statute Chapter 33 on Lake Districts. SCLF chooses to stand mute on this issue.

C.) County

i.) Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee: None

ii.) Zoning Committee: Lots going on. March 4th at the Washburn County Center in Shell Lake is a zoning training. UW-Stevens Point Center for Land Use also has a great website for zoning resources.

iii.) Sawyer County: Calahan-Mud Lake Lake District: The Board needs to make a decision before April.

iv.) Sawyer County: Public Reserve Strip: Town of Bass Lake is considering getting rid of the strip.

v.) Sawyer County: Backlot access: Deals with riparian owners that don't have direct waterbody access and how they are able or not able to get access to the waterbody.

vi.) Sawyer County: Blanket SUP approval

vii.) Sawyer County: Multi-Dwelling Development: Deals with shoreline density development. What should the lot size requirements be if there are more than 1 dwelling on the lot? Resorts further complicate these lot size determinations. Lake classifications would help determine the lot sizes. Martin will put this information on the website and if anyone wants to suggest to the ad-hoc committee that they bring back the lake classifications they can, but only as an individual, NOT as a representative of the SCLF.

9. Lake Reports

Spring Lake: None

COLA: None. Boat wash stations are very useful

Linda Zillmer: Salt Wise Campaign and webinar for Salt Week. Mark your calendar for the Red Cedar Watershed Conference on March 13th, 2025.

Little Sissabagama: None

Tiger Cat Flowage: 2 DNR planning grants- one for Burns Lake & one for Placid Lake and an education grant all got approved for funding.

Windigo: Hot water decontamination station being installed. There will also be cameras to monitor compliance.

Whitefish: None. They've had a bleach solution decontamination station for a couple years.

Spider Chain: Had a major website update. Check it out!

Blueberry: None

Grindstone: Continuing AIS grants for Little Grindstone. There are permanent ice shacks that are be rented out on the lake. There are no regulations for it.

Round: 2 planning grants got approved. They have a Lake District Study Committee, and have just over 50% membership.

10. Northwest Lakes Conference

Save the Date! Friday, June 20th, 2025 at the Hayward High School

Jean and Don agree to have a table at the conference. They will get in touch with the conference committee to sign up.

11. Sawyer County Lakes Forum Annual Meeting

A.) Formalize organizing committee

Linda Zillmer, Don Stover, & Mike Gardner volunteered to be on the committee. Send them any ideas you have.

12. Town of Round Lake AIS Event

Not happening anymore. SCLF wants to take this on and do it at their annual meeting.

13. Bylaw Changes Discussion

Important we identify what kind of lake association. For example: state “qualified” versus a casual group that gets together for food/drinks. But it’s also important that we be inclusive of everyone and we don’t want to create division. Input from all interested parties should be welcomed.

We will discuss the bylaw changes in more detail at the March meeting and hopefully adopt them as the new bylaws. Please look them over and bring your comments.

14. Future Agenda Items

None

15. Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, March 18th at 9am. Online and Sawyer County Courthouse Assembly Room

Meeting adjourned at 11:01am

BYLAWS
SAWYER COUNTY LAKES FORUM, Inc.

ARTICLE I GENERAL

SECTION 1:
NAME

The name of the Association shall be the Sawyer County Lakes Forum, Inc., herein referred to as the Forum.

SECTION 2:
PURPOSE

The purpose of the Forum is to facilitate education, research and sharing between organizations, individuals, governmental bodies, and the general public of Sawyer County; to maintain and improve Sawyer County's water bodies, environs, and watersheds for now and future generations, including, but not limited to aesthetics,, water quality,, wildlife habitat,, fisheries, and recreation. These purposes will be accomplished while respecting the rights of property owners.

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1:
ORGANIZATIONAL

Any Sawyer County Lakes Association or Lake District * whose primary purpose is to maintain and improve the quality of Sawyer County lakes and waterways for the benefit of **the** general public.

* If there is more than one lake organization for a particular lake and a vote shall take place, the representative from the lake association that is a DNR qualified lake association, shall be the voting member.

~~SECTION 2:~~
~~ASSOCIATE~~

~~Any person supporting the Purpose of the Forum who resides in Sawyer County for at least one month each year and owns lake property in Sawyer County and the lake is not represented by an ORGANIZATIONAL member, is eligible to become an Associate Member of the Forum~~

SECTION 2:
ASSOCIATE

Any person or organization who subscribes to the purposes of the Forum is eligible to be a participant in support of Forum proceedings.

ARTICLE III VOTING

SECTION 1:
ORGANIZATIONAL

Any member organization as defined in ARTICLE II SEC. 1, shall be entitled to vote on any question ~~or~~ business before the Forum. In order to cast any vote, an organization must be a member in good standing with dues paid up to date. The casting of a vote by any member organization is limited to the delegate or alternate as designated by the President or Board of Directors of such member organization.

~~SECTION 2:
ASSOCIATE~~

~~Any associate member as defined in ARTICLE II, SEC. 2, shall be entitled to voting privileges. In order to cast any vote, the Associate member must be a member in good standing, that is, with dues paid up to date. The Associate member shall be entitled to one vote on all matters, any question or business before the Forum.~~

SECTION 2:
ASSOCIATE

The Associate member holds no voting rights.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

SECTION 1: OFFICERS

~~The Board shall select seven lake management organizational delegates and/or associate members to serve as the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall select a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer from within the Board of Directors. The president shall preside as chairperson of the Board of Directors. Any of the four Directors shall constitute a quorum for considerations by the Board of Directors~~

The Board shall select seven to nine lake management organizational delegates to serve as the Board of Directors . The Board of Directors at their discretion can also appoint up to 2 Associate members to the Board, granting voting rights. The Board of Directors shall select a President,, Vice-President,, Secretary, and Treasurer from within the Board of Directors. The president shall preside as chairperson of the Board of Directors. A simple majority of the current total number of Directors shall constitute a quorum for considerations by the Board of Directors. ..

~~PAST PRESIDENT The immediate past president shall continue to serve as a voting member and therefore serve as a director and member of the Board of Directors.~~

SECTION 2: TERM OF OFFICE

Directors shall serve a term of two years and shall be nominated and elected at a Board meeting. Directors can be elected to three (3) consecutive terms.

SECTION 3: VACANCIES

In the event any Director cannot complete a term of office, such office shall be filled by appointment of the Board of Directors. In the event the office of the President is vacated, the Vice-President shall assume that office for the remainder of the term.

SECTION 4: DUTIES

PRESIDENT: The President shall preside at all scheduled and special meetings of the Forum and represent the Forum at all official functions and assume the role of official spokesperson for the Forum.

VICE-PRESIDENT: The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, fulfill the duties of the President. Further, the Vice-President shall fulfill other duties as designated by the President, the Board of Directors, or the general membership.

SECRETARY: The Secretary shall record and maintain minutes of all meetings of the Forum and manage all routine correspondence, records, and membership lists.

TREASURER: The Treasurer shall maintain all financial records pertaining to dues, other income, and all expenditures. The Treasurer shall present a summary report of income and expenditures at all regularly scheduled meetings. The records and accounts of the Forum shall be maintained on a fiscal year basis from January 1 through December 31. All Forum financial records shall be audited yearly by a ~~Audit~~-Finance Committee appointed by the President.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The Board of Directors may, when necessary and expedient, providing a quorum is present, conduct the business of the Forum.

SECTION 5: COMPENSATION

No officer, Director or member shall be compensated for their time and effort. The Board of Directors may authorize Officers, Directors, and committee members to be paid actual and necessary expenses incurred while on Forum business.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

SECTION 1: TYPES OF MEETINGS

Meetings and voting may be held at a time or place designated by the Board of Directors including in-person or electronic methods. The number of attendees will contribute to the necessary quorum.

The Forum shall have the following meetings to conduct the business of the Forum:

ANNUAL MEETING: The election of Board of Directors. and any business the BoD deems necessary.

BOARD MEETING: Such meetings will be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. The agenda of the meeting may include elections, adoption of a budget, committee reports, membership concerns, and educational matters. **Board meetings are open to all members of the SCLF.**

SPECIAL MEETING: A special meeting of the Forum may be called at any time by the President or by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, or by request of at least six (6) of the member organizations. The agenda of a special meeting may include any items properly brought before a Board meeting.

SECTION 2

QUORUM

No formal business may be conducted at special meetings unless representatives from a minimum of seven member associations are present. Without a quorum, meetings may be held at which admission of new members may be announced, a program may be presented, or members may engage in discussion of matters of interest to the Forum.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing committees of the Forum shall consist of the following committees. Each

committee shall consist of at least two persons as assigned by the President and approved by the Board of Directors:

AUDIT FINANCE COMMITTEE: The ~~Audit~~ Finance Committee shall audit the Forum financial records in conformance with Article IV, Sec. 4 (Treasurer duties).

NOMINATION COMMITTEE:

The Nomination Committee shall present a slate of Directors. Such a slate shall not preclude nomination from the floor.

SECTION 2: AD HOC COMMITTEES

The President may appoint other committees as deemed necessary to support the efforts **of** the Forum.

SECTION 3: COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION BY PRESIDENT

The president **shall** be an **ex** officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE VII DUES

SECTION 1:

DUES

Annual dues for any Organizational member as defined in Ar. II, Sec. 1 and for any Associated member as defined in Art. II, Sec. 2 shall be determined by the Board each year and shall be effective in the following fiscal year January 1 thru December 31. Such dues shall be paid at or before the Board meeting in the new fiscal year. A 30-day grace period for payment of dues shall exist prior to removal from membership.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1:

AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may only be amended at any meeting of the Board of Directors provided that a two-thirds majority of the members at such meeting, a quorum being present, approve the action. **This action, with the intent of the amendment, must be included in the agenda prior to the meeting,**

ARTICLE IX PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION 1: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the Forum's final authority on all questions of procedure and parliamentary law not covered by these Bylaws. Non Members and guests may be recognized to speak at Forum meetings at the discretion of the presiding officer who shall also serve as parliamentarian.

ARTICLE X INDEMNIFICATION

SECTION 1: INDEMNIFICATION

As provided by Wisconsin law, the Forum shall indemnify any Director, employee or agent who was, is, or may be involved in a legal proceeding by virtue of his/her good faith action on behalf of the Forum.

ARTICLE XI DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1: DISSOLUTION

The Forum may be dissolved by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors. After payment of all liabilities, all assets of the Forum shall be distributed to appropriate 501(c)(3) organizations or charities approved by the Board of Directors.

Sawyer County Lakes Forum Bylaws ~~January,~~
~~2024~~ **February 2025**