

# Minutes

## Rice Lake, Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District

Posted: Town of Rice Lake Municipal Building,  
City Hall of Rice Lake, Rice Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

**Place: United Presbyterian Church, 20 W. Messenger St., Rice Lake, WI  
54868 (Handicap Accessible)**

**Time: 8:30 AM**

**Date: May 21, 2025**

<b>Josh Estreen: Chair</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>Don Putnam: Treasurer/Commissioner</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Chris Olsen: Secretary</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>Peter Gallagher/Commissioner</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>D Puthoff/City Rep</b>		<b>Bob Anderson/County Rep</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Randy Bina/Commissioner</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>Dave Blumer (LEAPS) Consultant</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Christina Solie (LD Coordinator)</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>Carol Kettner /WQ&amp;LP Committee</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Guests: Pat Brown</b>		<b>Nate Emerson: Operations</b>	<b>x</b>

Notice: A quorum for the City or Town of Rice Lake, or other municipal bodies may be present but, no actions will be taken.

Agenda Item:	Notes:
1. <b>Call to order by Chair:</b> Acknowledge posting of meeting minutes and agenda.	Call to order 8:30am
2. <b>Roll Call &amp; Introductions:</b>	
3. <b>Pledge of Allegiance:</b>	
4. <b>Public Input: (limited to five minutes) No Board action will be taken</b>	a) None
5. <b>Consent Agenda:</b> a) Secretary's Report Approval of minutes of April 16, 2025 b) Treasurer's Report Approve as presented c) Approve the payment of bills as presented	a)
6. <b>Motion to approve Consent Agenda</b>	a) Anderson/Olsen - Approved
7. <b>Consent Agenda Items pulled for further discussion and/or action:</b>	
8. <b>Old Business:</b> a)	a)
9. <b>New Business:</b> a) Scheduled draft review of Plant Management Plan – Dave Blumer	a) Presentation by LEAPS of draft version of Plant Management Plan that will be submitted to WDNR.
10. <b>Standing Committees:</b> a) <b>Finance-Putnam</b> b) <b>Lake operations-Bina</b> c) <b>Consultant/Grants-Blumer</b> d) <b>Lake Protection/Water Quality-Gallagher</b> e) <b>Inter-governmental</b> f) <b>Lake District Coordinator-Solie</b>	a) Paid back \$91k on loan. \$50k in checking and money market b) See addendum 1 c) Presentation – Summary of AIS and management plan that will be submitted to DNR for approval.

	<p>d) L&amp;L Excavating fixing rain garden in BC Fairgrounds. Expected to be done late June. Arnold Rain Garden clean up next week. 2 more potential locations for native plantings.</p> <p>e) Kayak launch to be installed by BC by redbarn. Paid for by grant.</p> <p>f) Earth Day – 60 Volunteers. Water Quality testing started. Reached 1000 followers on facebook. Yellow Iris treatment will happen in late June now that permit is approved. Native plants will go in to replace the invasive species. Website will be moved to Odell Hosting. Governors opener went well. Table set up with Barron County.</p>
<p>11. <b>Closed Session</b> – Motion to convene into Closed Session pursuant to WI ss19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility and WI ss19.85(1)(f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par.(b) applies which, if discussed in public, would likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.</p>	<p>a) N/A</p>
<p>12. <b>Open Session</b> – Motion to reconvene into open session to take any action resulting from the closed session.</p>	<p>a)</p>
<p><b>13. Future Agenda Items</b></p>	<p>Update to Plant Management Plan</p>

<b>14. Set next meeting date/time:</b>	Monthly Meeting: June 18, 2025
<b>15. Consideration of Adjournment:</b>	a) Anderson/Gallaher - Approved

**Submitted May 21, 2025**

**Chris Olsen – Secretary**

## **Addendum 1 – Operations update**

Operations Report May 2025

### **Lake**

145.5 tons of weeds removed as of Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>. 12 ton of Milfoil, 30 ton of floaters and the rest curly leaf. Curlyleaf Pondweed is in all the same places and appears to be a level 4 this year compared to last year a level 5. Big Bay, Lake Shore Drive, Whiskey Bay, entrance to Bay off C, Northshore are the focus this week on the north basin. Hanson Bay, Bayview and Clearwater Bay are the concentrations on South Bay. Preparation for Memorial Day Weekend and Fishing Derby are on the radar.

Buoys are in and a sign on the South Basin side of the bridge has been installed.

One dead muskie so far has been removed, no chip.

Scouting done twice, water samples have been taken and all equipment is in the water. 2 weed samples have been submitted to identify nutrient content to calculate removal based on weed biomass.

### **Personnel**

All staff are thankful for the raises they received. Dan Streuli joined Nate, Russ and Jeff on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Experienced and skilled staff.

### **Equipment**

All is functioning well except the oldest harvester. The hydraulics that run one of the paddle wheels is not functioning. The section of the main hydraulic pump that controls the drive motor on one of the paddle wheels is not operating. The remaining 11 drive motors and hydraulic cylinders are operating fine. Nate has removed and delivered for repair the pump with it expected back on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Costs of repairs are estimated to be \$2,000-3,000.