

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 20, 2026

Josh Estreen: Chair	x	Don Putnam: Treasurer/Commissioner	x
Chris Olsen: Secretary		Doug Edwardsen: Commissioner	x
Eric Pelle: City Rep	x	Bob Anderson: County Rep	x
Randy Bina: Commissioner	x	Dave Blumer (LEAPS): Consultant	
Christina Solie: LD Coordinator	x	Carol Kettner: WQ&LP Committee	x
Guests: Linda Zillmer	x	Nate Emerson: Operations	

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. Call to order by Chair: Acknowledge posting of meeting minutes and agenda.	Call to order: 8:32am
2. Roll Call & Introductions:	Introductions for new city rep.
3. Pledge of Allegiance:	
4. Public Input: (limited to five minutes) No Board action will be taken	a) Linda Zillmer from Sawyer County Lakes forum (Birch Lakes). She spoke at the Barron County meeting urging the opposition of WI AB1033. She encourages the RLLPRD to also oppose AB1033. Linda is speaking at various LDs and associations to assess and support the opposition of wakeboats before legislation has their decisions in play for the next two years.
5. Consent Agenda: a) Secretary's Report Approval of minutes of 04/15/26 b) Treasurer's Report Approve as presented 05/20/26 c) Approve the payment of bills as presented	
6. Motion to approve Consent Agenda	a) Bina/Edwardsen- approved
7. Consent Agenda Items pulled for further discussion and/or action:	

8. Old Business: a)	a)
9. New Business: a) Boat(harvester) launch party b) Town of Rice Lake property agreement	a) Edwardsen, Solie, Emerson, Bina met to discuss details of event. Time and day is contingent on harvester's arrival. Edwardsen made motion to have RLLPRD pay for food and other expenses for launch party. Anderson seconded -Approved b) Town is still looking for a location in town to dump debris. If found, they are open to sharing this location with RLLPRD.
10. Standing Committees: a) Finance-Putnam b) Lake operations-Bina c) Consultant/Grants-Blumer/Solie d) Lake Protection/Water Quality-Solie/Kettner e) Inter-governmental – Anderson, City or RL f) Lake District Coordinator-Solie	a) Current balances: Money market - \$12917.27, Checking – \$33554.31 b) See Addendum A c) Notices for 2026 chem treatments have been in paper. HWM will be treated no later than June 15 with concentration testing to follow. YFI mapping, treatment, and native planting will occur in June. Planning grants have been signed, submitted, and are underway. d) Kettner has done work at the beachwalk and natives are flowering. She informed Mrs. Olsen. Water clarity is good (approx. 8feet in south and 5ft in north and central basins. Water temp is around 58°. Getting together a workgroup to clean up areas of native plants around RL. e) City approved 2 floating docks with potential for 3 rd . Locations at Narrows and near sculptures. Sculpture dock has kayak launch. City plans to repurpose old roll away docks. See Addendum B. f) CBCW has about 60 hours in at Veterans and Stien. Attended round table meeting and made connections with Ripley Lake to teach them water sampling

	techniques. Website transfer (townweb to SO) should be happening June 1 st . TownWeb prematurely charged us for 2027 but reimbursement (\$1124) was sought and given.
11. Closed Session – 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.	a) Not needed
12. Open Session – Motion to reconvene into open session to take any action resulting from the closed session.	a) Not needed
13. Future Agenda Items:	Town of Rice Lake Property agreement.
14. Set next meeting date/time:	Monthly Meeting: June 17, 2026
15. Consideration of Adjournment:	a) Anderson/Bina-Approved 9:57am

Submitted: May 20, 2026
Chris Olsen - Secretary

Lake Operations Report 5-20-2026

Lake: 120 tons of weed biomass to date compared to 263 ton last year. Weeds are just expressing themselves now, navigation channels are relatively clear, shallow water has curly leaf. Both north and south basin are manageable with only 2 harvesters, scouting continues. Eurasian Milfoil presence is strong. Application of Lake Protection Product by our applicator is scheduled and dependent on weather. Application should be made prior to June 15th. Applicator states that our harvesting Milfoil should not negatively affect projects efficiency, however has suggested that we delay harvesting strongly infested areas such as Nuto Bay, Clearwater Bay and Northshore. Now that the weather has warmed we are prepared to log more hours on the 2 harvesters potentially equaling the hours operated by 3 harvesters.

Have removed several obstructions including logs and bogs.

Equipment: New harvester does not have a date for delivery yet. Inland suggests that we are 3 weeks yet from delivery and cannot guarantee a date for that delivery, perhaps by the end of this week.

Other 2 harvesters are functioning well, one has had some minor interruptions on GPS tracking. Big Red had an alternator pulley problem leading to a serpentine belt failure and causing some down time.

Nate is concerned about diesel pricing and budget.

A harvester launch committee will update Lake District on scheduled harvester launch.

Staff: Harvesting hours are down because of cold weather, less weed pressure and 2 harvesters. Veteran staff are in place for the season.

Other: Nate received an email from a resident near the Delta, John Strange inquiring about the installation of a no wake sign suggesting jet ski activity causing shoreline damage.

Water samples taken.

Randy spent time at Curriers Motel with owner and staff looking at shallow water bay, weed, muck and wind drift issues negatively affecting water craft and guest mobility. Shared DNR information on what home owners can do without a permit.

Randy Bina

Nate Emerson

Addendum B: Intergovernmental Report

Briefing Report**Item 4d**

To: Mayor and Common Council
From: Community Services Director Siebert
For: Regular Meeting of May 12th, 2026
Subject: Acquisition Approval for Floating Docks

A. Issue:

The issue before the Council is whether to approve Community Services Department (CSD) to proceed with the purchase of new docks.

B. Background:

A request for proposal (RFP attachment A) was advertised in the Chorotype on April 1st and 8th. The RFP was also on the City website. The dock replacement is budgeted in fund 42-55210-890-102 for the amount of \$65,000.

C. Analysis:

In the RFP, CSD asked for a proposal for two 40-foot dock with steps on each. With not knowing what the bid prices would be, we wanted to make sure we were covered within the budget and had quotes that were similar in nature. This way we weren't isolating a manufacturer as some docks are custom made and others are customizable to any formation.

Three bids were received (attachment B) with Shell Lake Marina having the low bid for \$36,952. Staff reached out to Shell Lake Marina about an additional quote for a kayak launch (attachment C) as that has been requested by our Park Board to have by the sculptures on Lakeshore Dr.

The dock system that Shell Lake Marina quoted was PolyDock. PolyDock has multiple different options we have if we so choose in the future. These docks are being proposed to be installed at Narrows Park and on Lakeshore Dr. The docks will also be able to stay in the water year-round with the exception of the ramp. This will help Staff greatly at Narrows Park as the hill makes it extremely dangerous and difficult to remove and install docks each year. A dock with a kayak launch on the north end of lakeshore will also give the public another way to access the lake other than by City Hall. The proposed cost will be \$59,600 and under budget by \$5,400.

The two docks that are currently at Narrows Park will be installed elsewhere along the lake or river.

D. Options:

A. Approve Community Services Department to proceed with the purchase of docks from Shell Lake Marina for a cost of \$59,600.

B. Decline the request and provide an alternate direction.

E. Recommendation.

It is recommended that the Council adopt **Option A**.