# 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: September 16, 2026**

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| **Josh Estreen: Chair/Commissioner** | **x** | **Don Putnam: Treasurer/Commissioner** | **x** |
| **Chris Olsen: Secretary/Commissioner** | **x** | **Doug Edwardsen: Commissioner** | **x** |
| **Eric Pelle: City of Rice Lake Rep** | | **Bob Anderson: Barron County Rep** | |
| **Randy Bina: Commissioner** | **x x** | **Carol Kettner: WQ&LP Committee** | **x** |
| **Christina Solie: LD Coordinator** | **x** | **Nate Emerson: Operations** | **x** |
| **Guests:** | | | |

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:**<br>a. Acknowledge posting of meeting minutes and agenda. | a. 8:30am |
| **2. Roll Call & Introductions:** | |
| **3. Pledge of Allegiance:** | |
| **4. Public Input: (limited to five minutes) No Board action will be taken** | |
| **5. Consent Agenda:**<br>a. Secretary's Report Approval of minutes of 08/19/26<br>b. Treasurer's Report Approve as presented 09/16/26<br>c. Approve the payment of bills as presented | a.<br>b.<br>c. |
| **6. Motion to approve Consent Agenda** | a. Bina/Edwardsen- Approved |
| **7. Consent Agenda Items pulled for further discussion and/or action:** | a. |
| **8. Old Business:**<br>a. Town of Rice Lake property agreement discussion – Estreen/Putnam | a. None |
| **9. New Business:**<br>a. Resolution for cost share grant - Solie, See Addendum A<br>b. Resolution of support to name unnamed island in Clearwater Bay – See Addendum B<br>c. 2027 Budget presentation and preparation for approval at Annual Meeting October 21, 2026 | a. Olsen/Edwardsen - approved<br>b. Bina/Edwardsen - Approved. Olsen recused himself from voting.<br>c. Putnam/Edwardsen: Motion to present proposed budget to electorate at annual |

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| | meeting in October 2026. Approved. |
| **10. Standing Committees:**<br>a. Finance-Putnam<br>b. Lake operations-Bina/Emerson<br>c. Lake Protection/Water Quality-Solie/Kettner<br>d. Inter-governmental – Anderson, Pelle<br>e. Lake District Coordinator-Solie | a. Motion to designate all monies in Money Market account for future capital purchases. Putnam/Bina - Approved.<br>b. See addendum C<br>c. Planted 330 plants along Orchard Beach where yellow iris was removed. Turned in pre-grant for chemical treatment on Lakeshore Drive.<br>d. Questions were raised if RLLD owns landing at end of Bundy St. Not determined<br>e. CBCW completed with 400 hours. County working on app for CBCW. Working on newsletter. Annual meeting ready to go, speaker confirmed. Attended BC Lake Coalition meeting. |
| **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. If needed |
| **12. Open Session –** Motion to reconvene into open session to take any action resulting from the closed session. | a. If needed |
| **13. Commissioner Comments** | a. |
| **14. Future Agenda Items:** | a. |
| **15. Set next meeting date/time:** | Monthly Meeting: November 18, |

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| | 2026<br>Annual Meeting October 21, 2026 |
| **16. Consideration of Adjournment:** | Putnam/Edwardsen - Approved |

Addendum A:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-09-16**

# AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION

*Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Cost-Share Grant*
*Application, Agreement, Reporting, and Reimbursement Authority*

**WHEREAS,** the Rice Lake Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District (the "District") is a public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district organized under Chapter 33, Wisconsin Statutes, with taxing authority, and is an eligible applicant for cost-share financial assistance from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ("DNR"); and

**WHEREAS,** the District is interested in obtaining and receiving reimbursement under cost-share grant(s) from the DNR for the purpose of lake protection, lake rehabilitation, aquatic plant management, aquatic invasive species prevention and control, water quality improvement, Clean Boats, Clean Waters, and related lake-management activities as described in application(s) submitted to the DNR; and

**WHEREAS,** the District attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in such application(s); and

**WHEREAS,** an Agreement/Contract with the DNR is required to carry out the project(s); and

**WHEREAS,** the DNR requires an Authorizing Resolution, approved by the governing body, identifying the officers or employees authorized to sign and submit the grant application, enter into the Agreement/Contract, submit required reports, submit reimbursement request(s), and sign and submit other required documentation; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Rice Lake Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District will meet the financial obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project(s) and hereby authorizes and empowers the following officials or employees to submit the following documents to the DNR for financial assistance that may be available:

| Task | Title of Authorized Representative | Email / Phone (if alternative is used) |
|---|---|---|
| Sign and submit application | **Chairperson or Lake Coordinator** | |
| Enter into an Agreement/Contract with the DNR | **Chairperson** | |
| Submit required reports to the DNR to satisfy the Agreement/Contract, as appropriate | **Lake Coordinator or Secretary** | |
| Submit reimbursement request(s) to the DNR per the Agreement/Contract | **Treasurer or Chairperson** | |
| Sign and submit other documentation as necessary to complete the project per the Agreement/Contract | **Chairperson, Treasurer, or Lake Coordinator** | |

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the District will comply with all local, state, and federal rules, regulations, and ordinances relating to this project and the cost-share agreement/contract.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that authorization is given by title of office or position, not by individual name, so that this resolution remains effective in the event of a change in the person holding any such office or position.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this resolution shall remain in effect until repealed or superseded by subsequent action of the Board of Commissioners.

Adopted this 16th day of September, 2026.

**Addendum B**

## RICE LAKE LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT

Barron County, Wisconsin

## RESOLUTION NO. _____

**Supporting the Proposal to Name the Unnamed Island in Clearwater Bay "Olsen Island"**

WHEREAS, there is a privately owned, currently unnamed island in Clearwater Bay on Rice Lake, legally described as Outlot 232, Outlots City of Rice Lake, Barron County, Wisconsin, Parcel 276-5006-11-000; and

WHEREAS, the island has no official name in the Geographic Names Information System and no single generally accepted official name in local use; and

WHEREAS, Christopher T. Olsen and Mary J. Olsen, owners of the island, have filed a Geographic Name Proposal (Form 2200-124) with the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council requesting that the island be officially named Olsen Island; and

WHEREAS, the proposed name commemorates Peter E. Olsen (1855–1936), a Rice Lake pioneer and Postmaster of Rice Lake from May 12, 1897, until February 1916, a tenure of 18 years and 9 months and the longest recorded Rice Lake postmaster term; and

WHEREAS, Peter E. Olsen has been deceased since February 4, 1936, and the recommended form "Olsen Island" follows Wisconsin Geographic Names Council policy (surname only; no possessive); and

WHEREAS, the island lies on Rice Lake within the territory of this District, and an official name will aid identification of the feature in lake records, maps, and public communication; and

WHEREAS, a member of this Board is a co-owner of the island and a co-applicant on the naming proposal, and that member shall vote or recuse as the Board determines under applicable law and District practice; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution expresses support for the naming proposal and does not convey District ownership of the island, alter riparian rights, or commit District funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Rice Lake Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District as follows:

1. The District supports the proposal that the unnamed island in Clearwater Bay on Rice Lake, Parcel 276-5006-11-000, be officially named Olsen Island.

2. The Chairperson is authorized and directed to certify this Resolution and to transmit a certified copy to the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council, Department of Natural Resources – WY, dnrwgnc@wisconsin.gov, and PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921, with reference to the pending Olsen Island proposal.

3. A copy may also be provided to the City of Rice Lake and to Barron County for use in any local comment requested by the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026.

**RICE LAKE LAKE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION DISTRICT**

_____
Chairperson

_____
Secretary

*(signature only; the Secretary does not certify this Resolution)*

_____
Commissioner

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned Chairperson of the Rice Lake Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District, certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners at a meeting held on the date stated above, at which a quorum was present and voting.

Dated: _____, 2026

_____
Chairperson

Rice Lake Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District

*The Chairperson shall transmit the certified Resolution to the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council.*

**Addendum C**

Rice Lake District Operations Report September 16, 2026

Lake: Weeds growth has started to relax. Floaters especially Wild Celery continue to need attention. Recent rains and cooler temperatures is helping with floating sediment and green coloration of water. 2 harvesters have been able to keep up with removals, boating channels and calls.

Weed biomass removed to date 1,072,000 pounds compared to 1,208,000 last year.

Yellow Iris: Cason Land and Water Management from Berlin Wisconsin has been contracted to do the application. Application will be done starting on September 21st. Of the 97 homeowners identified with yellow iris we have 7 no thank you I will spray or remove my own, approximately 70 yes I would like to spray, 3 waiting for a response, and the balance to be contacted yet with a call or visit. Some properties have been treated already by our previously hired applicator.

Personnel: Nate and Russ have done all the harvesting for the past several weeks, while Jeff has been hauling. Nate has assisted in the yellow iris permission forms. The 2018 Aquarius harvester (oldest) has been out of the water and the main apron chain on the head of the machine has been just replaced. The cost of the chain was just over $5,000 and it is the first time it has been replaced since it being new. When an identical chain was replaced on an old harvester now trade-in the cost was less than $2,000. That replacement was 4 years ago.

Equipment: Above chain replacement. Some minor work on transport truck.

Moon Lake: Water is still to low to launch harvesters in Moon Lake.

Other: Will be pricing 2 shorter buoys, perhaps lighted to be used in the future for bog safety.

Attempting to meet with Chetek and Cumberland operational staff to witness their operational processes.

Have permission and some experience with dumping weeds near Lumbering Hall of Fame. Hope to use this site next year as a much closer removal site.

Randy Bina Nate Emerson

**Submitted September 16, 2026**
**Chris Olsen - Secretary**