



Lakes Committee Meeting Minutes

01/08/2026

10:00 AM

Lake County Central Permit Facility, 2nd Floor Medium Conference Room
500 W. Winchester Road Libertyville, IL 60048

1. Call the meeting to order

Alana Bartolai, Lakes Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

2. Roll call

Anna Niedzinski, DRWW Coordinator, Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) performed roll call. Members present: **Alana Bartolai**, Lake County Health Department (LCHD); **Rob Flood**, North Shore Water Reclamation District, Gages Lake Conservation Committee (entered at agenda item 5b); **Gerry Urbanozo**, LCHD; **Tom Morthorst**, Village of Third Lake; **Nick Huber**, Lake County Forest Preserve District (LCFPD); and **Dave Kraft**, Village of Lindenhurst (approved for Committee member position at agenda item 5a). A quorum was present.

Others present: Ashley Strelcheck, SMC; Brian Valleskey, Baxter and Woodman; James Fitzgerald, LCHD; and Sarah Skolozynski, SMC.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. *October 23, 2025, Lakes Committee Meeting Minutes

Morthorst motioned to approve October 23, 2025, Lakes Committee Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Huber. Motion passed with consensus vote.

5. New Business

a. *New Lakes Committee Member: Dave Kraft, Village of Lindenhurst

Bartolai shared Dave Kraft, Village of Lindenhurst, accepted the Lakes Committee nomination. Morthorst motioned to approve Kraft for a Lakes Committee member position, seconded by Urbanozo. Motion passed with consensus vote.

b. DRWW 2025 Annual Accomplishments Review

Niedzinski presented the 2025 Annual Accomplishments newsletter for Committee review. Kraft motioned to recommend the Annual Accomplishments as presented for approval by the Monitoring Committee, seconded by Morthorst. Motion passed with consensus vote.

6. Old Business

a. Update on Illinois Lakes Management Association (ILMA)

Bartolai provided an update on ILMA activities. The annual conference is February 16-18, 2026, in Champaign, Illinois. Registration is now open (<https://ilma-lakes.org/conference>).

b. Phosphorus Education Materials

i. Draft Phosphorus Education Library

Sarah Skolozynski, SMC, provided an overview of a draft Phosphorus Education Library webpage for the DRWW website. The webpage included previously discussed educational materials, as well

as a link to the DRWW 2025 Leaf Collection Survey Summary report (see October 23, 2025, meeting minutes) and University of Minnesota stormwater resources. The webpage will be a living document. Flood motioned to recommend the Phosphorus Education Library for approval by the Monitoring Committee, seconded by Morthorst. Motion passed with consensus vote.

ii. *Phosphorus Education Factsheet

Skolozynski provided a draft of the Phosphorus Education Factsheet for Committee review. The following three edits were proposed: adding “as a result” to the beginning of sentence two in the first section, adding “such as” to the end of the first sentence in section two, and rewriting the first Residential Tip in section five to be “Minimize or eliminate fertilizer use; native plants don’t require any fertilizer to flourish.” Should the Phosphorus Education Library and Factsheet be approved by the Monitoring Committee and Executive Board, the Factsheet will be added as a resource. Kraft motioned to recommend the Factsheet for approval by the Monitoring Committee with the discussed edits, seconded by Huber. Motion passed with consensus vote.

iii. Upcoming DRWW Lake Education Events

Bartolai provided an update on upcoming DRWW Lake Education Events. Bartolai shared LCHD will be hosting an event at Butler Lake this year, which is within the Des Plaines River watershed. Rob Flood, NSWRD, proposed having Committee members run an event that features their specific lake(s). Kraft shared that Lindenhurst has an upcoming event called “Cops and Bobbers,” which could provide an opportunity for DRWW to run a table with resources. Kraft also asked if there were existing presentations the Committee could use for these events, and Bartolai responded no. Urbanozo proposed the SMC Homeowners Association, Lake Fest at Loch Lommond, and the Northern Illinois Boat Show at the Lake County Fairgrounds as potential events for the Committee. Finally, members expressed interest in purchasing a tablecloth and banner for education events. Flood motioned to recommend the purchasing of a tablecloth and banner for approval by the Executive Board, seconded by Kraft. Motion passed with a consensus vote.

7. Member Remarks

None.

8. Meeting Dates:

- a. DRWW Lakes Committee Meeting: April 9, 2026, from 10:00am-11:00am, Lake County Central Permit Facility (500 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville, IL 60048, 2nd Floor Medium Conference Room)

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Morthorst, seconded by Kraft. Motion passed with unanimous vote, Bartolai adjourned the meeting at 10:49am.