

Spring Lake - Lake Board Meeting Minutes
May 27, 2026

Barber Street School
102 W. Exchange St.
Spring Lake, MI

1. **Call to Order:** 4:02pm.
2. **Roll Call:** 8 in attendance. A quorum was present.
Present - Josh Brugger, Joe Bush, Rick Soldo, Michelle Hazekamp, Jim Walters, Carly Scholtz, Dave Billinghamurst, Stephanie Barrett.
3. **Additions to/Corrections to/Approval of Agenda:** Stephanie Barrett moved to approve the agenda. Joe Bush second. **Motion carries.**
4. **Review/Approval of Draft November 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes:** Carly Scholtz moved to approve the meeting minutes from January 28, 2026. Rick Soldo second. **Motion carries.**
5. **Financial Report (Soldo/Bush):**
 - Rick Soldo presented a report with the current revenues/expenditures. The first bond payment is due June 1, 2026. All townships have paid assessments except for Fruitport Twp.
 - Chairman Brugger asked to have the budget placed on the next meeting's agenda as a topic of discussion.
 - Ottawa County Treasurers dept. has some concerns regarding liability of providing both accounting and audit services for the board, as they do not want liability for audits. Joe Bush will talk to the treasurers dept. regarding a quote for separate auditing services and Rick Soldo will issue an RFP.
 - Stephanie Barrett moved to accept the financial report. Jim Walters second. **Motion carries.**
6. **Consultant Report (Hausler & Laughlin):** *Report given by Rick Buteyn*
 - iii) Aquatic Plant Control Update - The first survey was done in October (2025) and the first treatment completed in May. Petty's Bayou had an increased amount of algae. The next survey is scheduled for June 9, and can be found on the Lakeboard website.
 - iv) Mechanical Harvesting Update - After public comment closed on May 26, we are continue to wait for the mechanical permits from the Army Corps of Engineers. We will plan to start harvesting in late July after the Coast Guard Festival, contingent on approval of permits.
7. **Technical Committee Update Report (Soldo/Walters):**
 - a.) Update on Watershed Council Grant - No current news on grants. Completed surveys have recently been sent to EGLE.
 - Rick Soldo commented that he spoke with EGLE regarding Stevens Creek and Stahl Bayou and looked at 20+ years of various reports, as residents are very frustrated over the now degraded bayou.
 - Sara explained that the recent sampling data shows high levels of E. coli cfu (colony forming units) per 100 milliliters of water in the Norris Creek watershed. This represents 300%-1,000% higher than the safe swimming contact level, but this does not directly represent the levels in Spring Lake itself, which were not shown to be above this cutoff in sampling. Microbial source tracking shows the presence of the human genome in the E. coli indicating probable septic tank leakage as a source of the E. coli. Norris Creek showed high phosphorus concentrations, and high total suspended sediment, while Stevens Creek showed low phosphorus concentrations. Results will be included in the watershed management plan.
 - b.) Update on previously funded items - none.

8. Communication Committee: (Scholz & Buteyn)

vi) Carly Scholz asked to send her anything they want posted on the FaceBook page. Rick state that fact sheets and data are on the website.

vii) Addition of committee members - look into further legality regarding whether they have to be board members or not.

9. New Business:

Invoices - None.

Member Status - Will be discussed at the next meeting.

10. Board Member Comments: None.

11. Public comment: Ann Smith.

12. The next meeting is July 22 at 6:00pm.

13. Adjournment: 5:12pm.