

**Spring Lake - Lake Board Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2026**

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

1. **Call to Order:** 4:04pm
2. **Roll Call:** 8 in attendance. A quorum was present.
Present - Josh Brugger, Joe Bush, Rick Soldo (via Zoom), Michelle Hazekamp, Jim Walters, Carly Scholtz, Dave Billingham, Roger Vanderstelt.
Absent - John Nash, Stephanie Barrett.
3. **Additions to/Corrections to/Approval of Agenda:** Carly Scholtz moved to approve the agenda. Joe Bush second. **Motion carries.**
4. **Review/Approval of Draft November 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes:** Jim Walters moved to approve the meeting minutes from November 25, 2025. Roger Vanderstelt second. **Motion carries.**
5. **Financial Report (Soldo/Bush):**
 - i) Accounting Services - Sent an RFP to 3 firms and the tribune. Only two responde, and one submitted a complete proposal -\$17,080. This did not include any audit services would be an additional \$5,000-\$12,000. Ottawa County quoted \$10,700, including audit services and we will be continuing with Ottawa County. A contract has been drafted regarding their services by our legal aid at the Spring Lake Board for Chairman Burgger's signature. Joe Bush moves to accept the contract from Ottawa County. Jim Walters second. **Motion Carries via roll call vote; 8 yes/0 no.**
 - ii) Rectify 2023 budget: (table until March). Rick Soldo presented the current budget and financial report. Carly Scholtz moved to accept the finance report. Michelle Hazekamp second. **Motion carries.**
6. **Consultant Report (Hausler & Laughlin):** Plant control and water quality sampling plan for 2026: Samples will begin late March/early April. There is a 95-97% reduction in the basins, but plant surveys are typically done in May. We are bidding out harvesting work to a company out of Illinois and are working with the Army Core of Engineers for a permit to harvest. There is no cost for the permit, and we may not need one.
-Joe Bush asked what the ice will do for algae blooms, etc. Paul Hausler responded that the ice can delay onset of algae and hopefully the alum will grab most of the algae settled on bottom in the meantime.
7. **Technical Committee Update Report (Soldo/Walters):** Still waiting to see what we get from grant funding.
8. **Update from WMP/Watershed Council Grant Proposals (Sara Bowman):** Sara stated that they are doing field source monitoring and have begun to draft a community survey. We should find out if we are approved for the grant sometime in the spring. Final budget adjusted slightly by \$1500.00 due to working with GVSU for analysis work, surveys and disbursement of surveys. So far data is showing E.Coli, Phosphorus and Chlorate hot spots. Jim Walters moved to authorize up to \$11,550.00 to be paid to the Ottawa County Conservation District for preliminary WMP work. Joe Bush second. **Motion Carries by roll call vote. 8 yes/0 no.**
9. **Communication Committee Establishment Vote:** Joe Bush moved to create and establish a communications committee that includes 1 member of the board, the board consultant and 2 community

Spring Lake lake front property owners within the special assessment district at large. Roger Vanderstelt second. **Motion carries.**

~Website Refresh - Gerad Loughlin: Progressive has done refreshes to the website and is currently doing another one. They decided that they could do it for the normal cost. Gerad showed an example of a possible website format and is user friendly, similar to the Long Lake Improvement Board platform. (LLIB). Joe Bush moved to change the website to a similar format as LLIB. Michelle Hazekmap seconds. **Motion carries.**

~Spring Lake New Resident Communications - Gerad Loughlin: Gerad created a "New Homeowner Packet" explaining care and procedures to new homebuyers regarding lakefront property. The board will review the material and give input and suggested changes at the next meeting.

~Social Media Posts - Carly Scholtz: Meeting dates/times have been posted to the Facebook page and shared with many local informed groups.

10. **New Business**: Invoices - None.

11. **Public comment**: Sue Halter.

Board comment: Roger Vanderstelt - Mentioned the commercial tugboat on circle drive that leaked out diesel fuel into Spring Lake and Fruitport contained it with hazmat. It's cleaned up, but now figuring out who pays for what.

12. **Next Meeting**: March 25, 2026 at 6:00pm.

13. **Adjournment**: 5:11pm.