

# **Otter Lake Water Commission**

## **Regular Meeting Minutes**

December 9, 2025

Chairman, Jake Rettberg, with all Commissioners present, convened the regular meeting of the Otter Lake Water Commission at 5:00 pm. Others present included Joe Hogan, Scott Hunt, BJ Czech, and Laura Sommerfeld.

### **MINUTES:**

Dave Skinner made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on November 12, 2025. John Gudgel seconded the motion. The motion carried with a 6-0 vote, with Mike McCarty and John Ulery both voting present.

Dave Skinner made a motion to approve the executive session minutes from the regular meeting on November 12, 2025. Terry Davis seconded the motion. The motion carried with an 8-0 vote.

### **AUDIENCE TO VISITORS:**

Scott Hunt and BJ Czech from WHKS, gave a construction update on the current Route 104 water main replacement project. The contractor is currently working on the final flushing and testing. Once satisfactory bacteriological tests are obtained they will start switching over water service lines. Once water services are switched over the final 5 tie-ins will be completed. Final grading and seeding will occur in the Spring of 2026.

### **BILL LIST:**

Larry Mouser made a motion to approve the bills totaling \$278,829.78 for payment. Mike McCarthy seconded the motion. The motion carried with an 8-0 vote.

### **RECREATION:**

Park Financial Report:

Total income for November was \$77,149.55 with a year to date of \$613,255.71.

The total expense Otter Lake Park owes the Water Commission for November is \$20,177.00. With a total owed to date of \$0.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None to report

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Joe Hogan presented the Board with the Budget for 2026. After some discussion. David Skinner made a motion to approve the 2026 Budget as presented. John Gudgel seconded the motion. The motion carried with an 8-0 vote.

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Joe Hogan reported:

- **Campground Projects**- Austin and Morgan officially closed the gates to the campground on December 1<sup>st</sup>. They will now work on various winter projects and maintenance items until March 1<sup>st</sup> when the campgrounds reopen. They put new roofs on the public restroom at the boat launch, a new roof and ceiling in the overnight camping area, perform annual maintenance on all equipment, as well as a standing worklist.

- **319 Grant Application**- We have unofficially received word that our project application will be funded in 2026. The application was from early 2024. If word becomes official, it will be a 2-year project, consisting of approximately 3,000' of shoreline stabilization on Otter Lake. The grant is a 60/40% match, with projected costs totaling \$292,478.
- **ISAWWA Position**- I am on the ballot for the position of Vice Chair. I am currently on my second term as a District Trustee for the section. If elected, I will serve 4 more consecutive years as Vice Chair, Chair Elect, Chair, and Past Chair, all positions being a one-year term.

#### **OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:**

Denzel Jines reported:

- **Water Quality**- November 2025 saw an average lake temp of 54 degrees and an average pH of 8.0. The lake level was recorded at 618.5'. MIB and Geosmin sample results are listed below. We are currently operating the UV system in DIS mode only.

##### **MIB and Geosmin Sample Results**

November 9, 2025, Raw Geosmin 7.2 ng/L and finished Geosmin <2 ng/L

November 9, 2025, Raw MIB 5.1 ng/L and finished MIB 3 ng/L

- **New Service Tap**- We picked up a new customer in Glenarm on Glenway Dr west of Wayside Meadows Rd. The crew plumbed in a new service line, meter, and meter pit November 17<sup>th</sup>.
- **Distribution System Leaks**-
  - # 1 – We experienced a water main break on Kennedy Rd approximately 100' south of West Divernon Rd. The crew cut out a 66" crack to restore service.
  - # 2 – The crew cut out a leaky valve on Kennedy and Dickey John Rd. The valve was relocated out of the intersection to the east on Dickey John Rd.
  - # 3 – The crew repaired a water main break on Rt 104 east of Purdon Rd. The crew utilized a 30" repair clamp to cover a hole.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

None to report

At 6:17pm Mike McCarthy made a motion to adjourn. John Ulery seconded the motion. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was unanimously adjourned. The next Commission Meeting will be at the Commission Office - 6475 W Montgomery Road in Virden on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 5:00 PM

*Laura Sommerfeld*

***Minutes approved by board on 1/13/2026***