

# **Wapogasset Bear Trap Lake Association**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **April 11, 2026**

President George Hauser opened the meeting at 8:30am with 30 people present. He warmly welcomed us back together and thanked everyone for coming. George then asked for any guests in the room to introduce themselves. Mark Oman and Jacob Oman (with Shoreline & Landscaping Specialists) Sean Austvold, Chuck Stern, Lisa Turek Shay, and Jeff Weidmann all stood and introduced themselves.

#### YMCA Welcome - Georgia Ellingson

Georgia the YMCA Camp Director, then took the floor and reminded us of housekeeping and safety points. She thanked us for being here and said she is so happy to be part of our group. Georgia reports the YMCA camp has a busy summer ahead with camp being 97 percent full. Camp Icaghowan will now offer day camp passes. The YMCA will also be partnering with the Lake Association for the 4th of July celebration as well. Plans include bringing back the spaghetti dinner the night before the 5K, and the children's games will be held at the YMCA Camp.

#### Secretary's Report - Mary Kupfer

Mary reported the September minutes were taken by Jim Andersen and were emailed to everyone in September and again early this spring as well as right before the meeting. The financial reports and committee reports were sent with the minutes as well. There were no questions or comments on the September minutes, Mark Jacobson motion to approve minutes as written and second by Linda Belland all in favor.

#### Treasurers Report - Pat Tieken

Pat presented the 2025 budget reports asking for a motion to accept Mark Jacobson made a motion and John Mahoney second, all in favor. She then presented the Jan - Mar 2026 Statement of Activity by month, a motion by Jim Andersen to accept the budget reports as presented, Don Springer second, all in favor. Finally she went over the Treasurer Report mentioning that we will be paid the Sanitary District \$4,874 in 2023 and \$11,125 this month.. She paid for a 3 month subscription to Quick Books for bookkeeping assistance. Licenses and taxes have also been paid.

#### Presidents Report - George Hauser

George noted the meeting dates for 2026. April 11, May 16, June 13, July 11, August 8 and September 12.

He shared that the Advisory Committee is working on the Comprehensive Lake Plan. The plan will be available by the first of July.

Mike & Roxy Callan have taken over the membership volunteer position from Don Springer. We also need a new Directory and Communications Chair, Jim Andersen has been doing both for quite a while. Sandy Noonan will be stepping away from the Communications Committee. A suggestion of forming committees instead of having one person volunteer for a position as well

as a memo with the vacancies in the Lake Scene were suggested hoping to spark some interest in these positions that have been held by so many for so long.

The Spring Social is June 6 from 1-4pm at Waterside. George pointed out Jim did a nice job updating the Trustee Handbook over the winter. George mentioned the Lakes and Rivers meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2026 at 10am. The meeting is open to anyone interested.

George gave the floor to Mark Oman, project coordinator of the Bible Camp shoreline erosion repair. Mark showed pictures of the project while Jake Oman explained the process of removing snow from the lake so the ice could freeze through, allowing 15 dump trucks of rock to be delivered on the coldest (-50 windchill) days of the winter! Vegetation is also being planted hoping the roots will take and close the opening even more. Karen Ohm generously donated lilac plants to be planted as well. Discussion of signage for snowmobiles keeping them from the project was brought up. Writing an article for the Lake Scene was also suggested.

George verbally went over all of the committee reports, Mark Jacobson reports they are working on the comprehensive plan. There are fish nets on the lake set out by the DNR. Every 6 years they count the fish population, so far 55 walleye and 15 muskies were clipped on Bear Trap.

John Mahoney reports the dam is looking good. He says it's flowing nicely and he has been removing the weeds regularly. He mentioned there is a tree fallen in the spillway. The Omans will look at (address) it.

John is hoping someone else will take over the dam duties as he has been doing it for 20 years.

Social Committee - Karen Ohm

Karen shared the spring social is scheduled for June 6 at Mix Up Waterside from 1-4pm.

George stepped in and reminded us all that last year we budgeted \$1800 for the event. Liz went out of her way, above and beyond with food & drink which in turn yielded a huge turnout, with that, we ended up raising our contribution to \$2500.00 George had spoken with Liz and she offered to host a similar social event again this year. There was much conversation regarding charging for the spring social and what is the purpose of it - a social or membership drive. Topics were brought up about charging, donating and how to handle the guests. A motion was made by Dave Nelson and second by Jim Andersen to charge \$10 per person for the spring social, paid guests would have a wrist band. \$10 per member or \$10 per guest. All in favor. We will pay Liz \$10 per person/wrist band.

George said the survey resulted in 160 responses. 13 or 8% said the spring social should be a priority. Many chimed in on their thoughts as to who and why people show up to such an event.

Karen went on to report the spaghetti dinner will be back this year (at the Y Camp) on Friday the race will be Saturday followed by the boat parade starts at the narrows at 3pm

Karen suggests the Fall Social location be moved to the Bible Camp from Wolters Supper Club, the group agreed with the suggestion and with that, the fall recognition dinner will be Sunday September 13th at 2pm at Camp Wapo.

Ryan Hanson made a motion to bring the fall social back to the lake with the Bible Camp and YMCA Camp alternating on hosting the event. Don Springer second, all in favor.

Membership - Don Springer

Don showed the blue placards that will be given to members, Don also reports our mailbox is always full of memberships!

To date:

214 returned membership forms

Basic 54

Bronze 28

Silver 48

Gold 84

Linda Belland shared a flier she received from Music on the River asking for a donation. She said we have an application on our website for support from the Ways and Means Committee. And she will relay that to those asking.

Kathy Mortenson provided the Lake Scene due dates for submissions. It was reminded that Lake Scenes should be delivered to residents' doors. Plastic delivery bags are available if needed. George said the survey relayed 99 percent of responders receive and enjoy the Lake Scene. 1 percent do not read it.

Communications - Jim Andersen

Jim went over the lake scene deadlines. Other Communications notes are in the Presidents Report above.

Nominating Committee - Marty Noonan

No Report

400 Club - Linda Belland

Bumping up to 500 tickets was brought up, Linda is not in favor, Don Springer said there is a big interest in the tickets at the spring social. There was some discussion back and 4th we will discuss it again next year as it may be a little late to make such a change this year and the raffle is running smoothly.

Old Business: Lake Safety sub-committee - Marty Noonan

No report at this time.

Bible Camp Shoreline Erosion -

Jim Andersen and Ryan Hanson have attended meetings on Shoreline Ordinances, Jim highlighted some of the ordinance changes that will be adopted shortly.

#### New Business:

The survey results from October were sent out by George earlier this Spring. George thanked all for filling out the survey's. With the 539 association members 32 percent paid \$100 or more for membership, 110 people paid \$75 or more, 126 people paid \$50 or more. It was mentioned that we have approximately 690 people on the lake.

Thirty percent of the membership responded to the survey. George was happy with that response.

He went over several of the results The top 5 topics of interest were:

Water Quality

Shoreline Erosion

Fireworks

Fish Management

Boat Safety

Results will be published on the website.

#### 2026 Budget

Pat and George worked together on proposed changes. Changing the Spring Social allowance from \$2500 back to the original \$1500 (which we will eliminate because of the wristband sales discussed earlier). We will increase the YMCA Camp donation \$300 and be decreasing the waterski show donation back to the original amount of \$1000. George educated the group on using a software program for membership and the benefits it will have. Perhaps the program could tie in with the Sanitary District technology as well. Motion by Dave Nelson to adjourn the meeting, Don Springer second. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Kupfer