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P.O. Box 176
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Secord Lake Association

Board Meeting – Secord Township Hall

September 13, 2025

Phil Dast called the meeting to order at 10:00am

ROLL CALL: Phil Dast, Chuck Sikora, Jeff Sorenson, Paul Gorans, Ken Wells, Brent Wilson, Kim Carlson
Absent: Mike Szuch, Marti Drabing

Introduction of Guests:

Joel Vernier – Secord Twp. Supervisor, Sue Morgan – Borrett Twp. Supervisor, Fred Schaefer – Secord Twp. Fire Rescue

MINUTES: August 16, 2025 SLA meeting minutes were approved
Jeff made a motion to accept the minutes; Ken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Brent provided an overview of the association's financial status, noting the current bank balance of \$87K, CD holdings of \$62K

- Budget Allocation: Jeff reviewed how we will be spending the \$66,000 that has been allocated for Retake the Lake initiatives, goose management, fireworks, Four Lakes Housing Fund, Dam Recreation Planning, etc.
- Four Lakes Housing Fund Contribution: The association donated \$5,000 to the Four Lakes Housing Fund. This donation will be matched by another donor, doubling the impact.
- Permit-Related Recreational Plan: Brent described the requirement to develop a recreational plan around the dam as part of the lake refill permit, with Mike and Ken leading collaboration with Eagle, Spicer Engineering, and the Four Lakes Task Force.

Jeff made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Paul seconded the motion, Motion carried.

Housekeeping:

- Membership Term Adjustment: The board approved a motion to change the membership term to match the fiscal year, so memberships now run from September 1 to August 31, with current members extended through next August.

Phil made a motion to support the membership term change, Kim seconded it. Motion carried.



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- Board Position Term Alignment: A second motion was passed to align board position terms with the fiscal year, ensuring current board members serve until August 31, 2026, and maintaining staggered three-year terms.

Jeff made a motion to support the board position change. Chuck seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Sandy reported 380 voting members to date

Construction update:

- Dam Construction Progress: Chuck reported that the old gates have been removed, and demolition is underway for phase three.
- Concrete Plant Relocation: Chuck explained that the concrete plant was moved to another project in Ohio, as the current phase requires less concrete, and future concrete needs will be sourced locally.
- Lakebed and Boat Ramp Cleanup: Ken Wells and Phil headed up cleanup efforts at the DNR boat ramp and along the lakebed, including contracting for tree removal and organizing volunteer cleanups at Tire Island and other areas. They also helped a family that was unable to do their own cleanup.
- Boat Ramp Improvement Planning: Ken, Paul, and Mike have been meeting with contractors to assess and plan improvements for township boat ramps, aiming to coordinate work during the limited window before water returns.

Community Events and Fundraising Activities:

- Golf Outing: Brent stated that the golf outing is sold out.
- Chili Cook-Off: Paul shared that we have 15 of 20 entries fulfilled, then asked the attendees to consider entering a chili, and/or donating an item for our silent auction through our website: [2025 Chili Cookoff Secord Lake Association](#)
- Booze Raffle Organization: Kim is coordinating two booze raffles, one for the golf outing and one for the chili cook-off, accepting donations up to the October 15th
- Sponsorship and Silent Auction: Paul and Jeff highlighted the success in securing over \$8,000 in sponsorships, Walbridge, Secord Marina, Bruce Townley.
- Fireworks Celebration Fundraising: The association has allocated \$6,000 for the fireworks celebration
- DNR Goose Roundup Ban: Phil explained that the DNR no longer allows goose roundups, so the association is relying on deterrents such as reflectors and strings, which appear to be working this year. People on Ross Lake have been using green laser deterrents.
- Hunting Permissions: Phil clarified that hunting geese is permitted in certain areas with proper distance from homes, and the association may facilitate access for hunting groups through the marina.
- Four Lakes Housing Fund Assistance Program: The fund is managed by two entities: one handling finances and Mid-Michigan Community Action conducting applicant screening, with no special assessment funds involved—only private donations.
- Association's Contribution and Matching: The association's \$5,000 donation will be matched by another donor, doubling the impact.



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- **Communication and Application Timeline:** Members are encouraged to read the distributed materials and inform neighbors about the program, with applications expected to open in December.

Update from Fred Schaefer:

- **Rescue Boat Capabilities:** Fred described the rescue boat as a full-service ambulance and fire response vessel, equipped with medical gear, a fire pump, and a drone for search and rescue operations, all funded by donations.
- **Mutual Aid Agreements:** Fred explained the mutual aid system with neighboring townships and counties, allowing for coordinated emergency response without financial transfers, and the use of 800 MHz radios for inter-county communication.
- **Boater Safety Education Expansion:** Fred plans to expand boater safety classes to additional townships, focusing on educating youth and new boaters about regulations, with class schedules to be posted on the township website and communicated via association channels.
- **Emergency Response Logistics:** Fred addressed questions about response times and logistics, noting that the rescue boat can be deployed from various locations depending on the emergency, and that EMS will meet the boat at shore for medical transfers.

Jeff made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Chuck seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:15am