

WAUKEWAN WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Committee Meeting

January 6, 2026

Minutes

Members Present: Cheryl Van Veighen, Liz Cody, Bronwen Donnelly, Cindy Voltz, Donna Murphy, Jamie Irving, Tim Whiting, Frank Murphy. Members Excused; Andy Akers, Jim Weiler, Tony Sabutis, Richard Kosinski

Invited Guest; Jason Bordeau, Superintendent Meredith Water Dept.

Chair Donna called the meeting to order at 9:00AM. First order of business was approval of the previous meeting's minutes. The minutes were presented, a motion to accept was made and seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Bordeau informed the Committee of an increasing pattern of large commercial tank vehicles randomly removing thousands of gallons of water from the lake, with no notification to the Water Dept. This is occurring regularly with vehicles at the boat ramp and if the ramp is busy, moving down the street and extending hoses under the guard railings. The vehicles noted are in varying physical condition and represent hydroseeding firms, landscaping companies, pool water service vehicles etc. There is no awareness of backflow prevention devices or check valves on these trucks, and as such the potential for retrograde pollution flushing back into the lake is high. Jason stated he has been in contact with appropriate state agencies, specifically DES and awaits their reply.

The Committee shared Mr. Bordeau's concerns and individual members offered to contact relevant personal contacts to express their deep concerns. Donna will also follow-up with Select Board contact.

Mr. Bordeau also described his concern for the apparently expanding boat mooring field at the southern end of the lake. Active discussion followed and members related to Mr. Bordeau like concerns expressed at previous meetings.

Donna and Frank spoke to recent discussions with DES, FBE and UINH with anticipated mutual cooperation in our water quality testing, analyses and reporting. FBE has completed creation of a data reporting template meant to integrate the various test reporting data streams into a timely and relevant report, possibly quarterly or semi-annually. Funding for this came from the Town Managers office earlier in 2025.

Donna mentioned the current status of the LC Center Harbor camp application to the Center Harbor ZBA for a permit for a shooting range at their property/camp at the Snake River and Lake Waukegan. Recent ZBA vote was four to one to deny, but another appeal is anticipated.

There is an effort before the Meredith Planning Board to decrease the lake-front required setback from 65 feet to 50 feet. After Committee discussion members will address the well recognized storm water runoff pollution potential inherent in such a change at the next Planning Board meeting.

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Our 2026 draft budget was accepted by the Town and awaits formal passage at the annual Town Meeting. Solicited contributions from New Hampton and Center Harbor also await passage and acceptance by these towns.

New Business:

The upcoming winter water quality testings, through ice, are upcoming. Ice thickness and weather issues are controlling variables, as is the inherent difficulty in members walking to the testing sites with extensive equipment. The possibility of exploring the potential rental of a snowmobile for these testings was discussed. A motion was made and duly seconded to rent a snowmobile for each day of through-ice testing. The motion carried unanimously.

Frank informed the Committee of the availability of a DES Cyanobacteria Training Grant, up to \$15000 which could be applied to any incidental costs from UNH to establish a student 'intern' position working with this Committee and the Water Dept. The motion was seconded, discussed and unanimously passed. Frank will initiate interaction with FBE and UNH and report back to the Committee.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30AM. Next meeting will be Tuesday February 3rd.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank Murphy

RESOLUTIONS PASSED:

Authorize a one-day rental of a snowmobile to facilitate Winter through-ice water quality testing efforts on Lake Waukegan, for each water quality VLAP test .

Contract with FBE to prepare and submit a DES Cyanotoxin Monitoring Equipment and Training Grant. Proceeds of said grant to establish a student-based relationship with UNH and offset tuition, stipends or other such costs incurred on behalf of UNH and the Committee.