

Colon Township Lake Board Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2025

Colon Township Hall, Colon, MI

1. Call to Order: Chairman J. Borgert called meeting to order at 10:00 AM
Motion by E. Bell & second by T. Tenney to approve the agenda. All yes, Motion Carried.
2. Roll Call Board Members Present: J. Borgert, E. Bell, J. Crawford, T. Tenney, J. Wenzel. Absent: T. Conklin
3. Roll Call Advisory Committee Members Present: J. Borgert, E. Bell, G. Costello, J. Crawford, P. Camper, R. Gentz, D. Schneider, T. Taylor, T. Tenney. Absent: S. Charles.
4. Motion by T. Tenney & second J. Wenzel to approve minutes of July 12, 2025 meeting. All yes, Motion carried.
5. J. Borgert read account balances as of 7/31/25. Checking has a balance of \$4,287.29. CD has a balance of \$330,628.85. Money market has a balance of \$52,566.56. Motion by E. Bell & second by T. Tenney to accept the financial report ledger as presented. All yes, Motion carried.

CHECKING

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
07/01/2025	Beginning Balance			\$ 4,270.62
07/15/2025	Transfer from M.M.		\$ 16,663.75	\$ 20,934.37
07/21/2025	#1243 PLM for weed treatment	\$ 5,663.75		\$ 15,270.62
07/22/2025	#1244 Progressive	\$ 11,000.00		\$ 4,270.62
07/31/2025	Interest		\$ 16.67	\$ 4,287.29
07/31/2025	Ending Balance			\$ 4,287.29

BILLS SUBMITTED TO BE PAID

08/09/2025	City of Three Rivers for E.coli samples			\$ 495.00
08/09/2025	PLM for Long Lake Weed Treatment			\$ 337.50
08/09/2025	PLM for Palmer Lake Weed Treatment			\$ 13,587.50
08/09/2025	PLM for Phycomycin Treatment			\$ 32,465.00
BILLS TO BE PAID:				\$ 46,885.00

CD

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
07/01/2025	Beginning Balance			\$ 330,628.85
				\$ 330,628.85

		\$ 330,628.85
		\$ 330,628.85
		\$ 330,628.85
07/31/2025	Ending Balance	\$ 330,628.85

9/14/25 expected interest \$3,350.13

MONEY MARKET

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
07/01/2025	Beginning Balance			\$ 69,102.99
07/15/2025	Transfer to pay bills	\$ 16,663.75		\$ 52,439.24
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07/31/2025	Interest		\$ 127.32	\$ 52,566.56
07/31/2025	Ending Balance			\$ 52,566.56

6. Old Business

- a) J. Borgert reported algae samples taken weekly starting the first week of June.
- b) There were no significant algae counts on Long Lake until 7/17 and that count was only half the count required to start the phycomycin treatment. Because the counts were low on Long Lake, samples were taken on Palmer Lake. The limnothrix algae counts on Palmer Lake were over 409,000 and flagged as potentially high threat level. The sechi disk readings on Long Lake started to show signs of high algae counts around 7/17. On 7/23 another aglae sample was taken that showed the total algae levels were above the threshold to treat, 20,000. PLM discussed the results with EGLE and had the treatment permit adjusted to allow treatment for total algae counts over 20,000 rather than just limnothrix. PLM conducted the first phycomycin treatment on 7/29. The treatment reduced algae, but not as much as anticipated. The Sechi disk reading improved after the treatment but also much less than anticipated. A second phycomycin treatment was done on 8/5. Again, the algae counts were reduced but less than anticipated. The Sechi disk readings also improved, but not as much as anticipated. G. Costello discussed the Sechi disk readings may not have improved much even though the algae were reduced because there were still enough algae in the water to restrict clarity. The testing results did show the water was improved as it moved through Long Lake, but still less than anticipated. A discussion was had about the goal for the treatments which was to improve water clarity to help establish rooted plant growth. There was very little water clarity improvement based on Sechi disk reading, the rooted plant growing season is coming to an end, and cooler temperatures will reduce the algae growth so it was decided that no further treatments would be done this year.
- c) With the rapidly fluctuating types and amounts of algae in the water column and the very high algae counts in Palmer Lake, contact was made with Progressive Companies, SePro, PLM, and the county health department. SePro sent two research papers back regarding limnothrix algae and its relationship with other algae. W. Bishop from SePro felt the algae bloom on Palmer Lake only presented an issue if algae matting started. W. Bishop also felt the likelihood of matting from the type of algae present was very low. The results of all sampling, Sechi disk readings, and research papers were shared with the county health department. L. Zimmerman & K. Moore from the county health department also believed there was only danger if the algae started to mat on the surface of the lakes.

- d) J. Crawford asked about the possibility of treating Southwest part of Palmer Lake with phycomycin next year with hopes the clearer water would stay in the lake longer. The board thought it was worth asking PLM and Progressive Companies about that. J. Borgert was not sure EGLE would approve further treatment because of the results from this years treatment on Long Lake.

7. New Business

- a) T. Tenney read the e.coli results taken on 8/4. Both lakes are in the safe to swim range. Little Swan Creek still has several areas in the elevated range, but over all the e.coli counts were lower than the previous sampling in most locations.
- b) Progressive Companies did the aquatic plant survey on 7/15. They recommended treating .25 acres of milfoil and 4 acres of algae on Long Lake and 1.75 acres of milfoil, 13.75 acres of mixed exotic plants, and 1.75 acres of stary stonewart on Palmer Lake.
- c) PLM treated the identified areas on 7/24. PLM did not treat the algae on Long Lake pending the start of the phycomycin treatment on Long Lake on 7/29.
- d) Andy from PLM and Paul from Progressive Companies will be at the September meetings to discuss the treatments done this year, including the phycomycin treatment, the Swan Creek Watershed project, plant type & density, and recommendations for next year.
- e) A discussion was had about moving money from the CD to the money market account to pay the bills remaining for this year. J. Crawford reviewed the expected bills.
Motion by T. Tenney and second by J. Crawford to have Colon Township move \$50,000.00 from the CD to the money market account. T. Taylor was authorized to contact the township to initiate the transfer.
- f) G. Costello asked if the lake board was passing information on to the health department regarding the high algae counts on Palmer Lake. G. Costello believes the health department would be responsible for any restrictions placed on the lakes and wanted to make sure the health department was aware. J. Borgert responded that the health department was fully aware of all testing results and did not feel there was any danger at this time. Another riparian said he appreciated the robust discussion about future treatment and the reasoning that went into the decision to stop algae treatments on Long Lake. He also asked about sewers around the lake in the township. T. Tenney explained that he has reported the results of the 2025 survey that showed support for sewers by the respondents to the township board. A question was posed about sheriff patrols on Palmer and Long Lakes. J. Wenzel said he would talk to the sheriff about increasing the number of patrols.
- g) 2025 lake board meetings are scheduled for September 13. All meetings are scheduled to be held at the Colon Township Hall at 10:00 a.m. Public welcome.
- h) Motion by J. Wenzel & second by E. Bell, to adjourn at 11:00. All yes, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Crawford
Colon Lake Board Secretary