

Colon Township Lake Board Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2025

Colon Township Hall, Colon, MI

1. Call to Order: Chairman J. Borgert called meeting to order at 10:00 AM
Motion by T. Tenney & second by T. Conklin to approve the agenda. All yes, Motion Carried.
2. Roll Call Board Members Present: J. Borgert, E. Bell, J. Crawford, T. Conklin, T. Tenney, J. Wenzel.
Absent: None
3. Roll Call Advisory Committee Members Present: J. Borgert, E. Bell, G. Costello, J. Crawford, P. Camper, D. Schneider, T. Taylor, T. Tenney. Absent: R. Gentz, S. Charles.
4. Motion by J. Wenzel & second T. Tenney to approve minutes of June 14, 2025 meeting. All yes, Motion carried.
5. J. Borgert read account balances as of 6/30/25. Checking has a balance of \$4,270.62. CD has a balance of \$330,628.85. Money market has a balance of \$69,102.99. Motion by E. Bell & second by J. Wenzel to accept the financial report ledger as presented. All yes, Motion carried.

CHECKING

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
06/01/2025	Beginning Balance			\$ 4,260.78
06/17/2025	Transfer to cover bills		\$ 1,018.07	\$ 5,278.85
06/27/2025	City of Three Rivers	\$ 540.00		\$ 4,738.85
06/30/2025	Jim Crawford	\$ 478.07		\$ 4,260.78
06/30/2025	Interest		\$ 9.84	\$ 4,270.62
06/30/2025	Ending Balance			\$ 4,270.62

BILLS SUBMITTED TO BE PAID

07/14/2025	PLM weed treatment Long Lake			\$ 4,432.50
07/14/2025	PLM weed treatment Palmer Lake			\$ 1,231.25
07/14/2025	Progressive Companies Swan Creek Study final payment			\$ 8,000.00
07/14/2025	Progressive Companies quarterly fee			\$ 3,000.00
BILLS TO BE PAID:				\$16,663.75

CD

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
08/30/2024	Beginning Balance			\$ 315,045.30
09/14/2024	Interest		\$ 3,756.38	\$ 318,801.68
12/14/2024	Interest		\$ 3,894.62	\$ 322,696.30
03/14/2025	Interest		\$ 3,898.88	\$ 326,595.18

06/14/2025	Interest	\$ 4,033.67	\$ 330,628.85
06/30/2025	Ending Balance		\$ 330,628.85

MONEY MARKET

Date	Description	Expenses	Income	Balance
06/01/2025	Beginning Balance			\$ 64,089.25
06/03/2025	Assessment Deposit		\$ 5,885.42	\$ 69,974.67
06/17/2025	Transfer to cover bills	\$ 1,018.07		\$ 68,956.60
06/30/2025	Interest		\$ 146.39	\$ 69,102.99
06/30/2025	Ending Balance			\$ 69,102.99

6. Old Business

- a) J. Borgert reported taking Secchi disk readings starting at the end of May. The readings have stayed fairly consistent, which corresponds to the algal counts remaining low and well below the 20,000 ppm requirement to start the phycomycin treatment. The Secchi readings on 7/8 and 7/9 were lower than previous readings and it is expected that will correspond to a higher algal count from the water sample taken the week of 7/8. PLM intends to start the phycomycin treatment on 7/16 if the water sample shows algal counts above 20,000 ppm. There was some discussion about the reason for the low algal counts this year with no real answer available.
- b) T. Taylor reported 75 responses to the survey included in the newsletter. There was a discussion about opening the survey to the public. It was decided that the survey would remain open only to those in the assessment district. T. Taylor also reported that the CD has been opened with Sturgis Bank, after a slight delay waiting for the township board to approve the request by the lake board to open the CD.

7. New Business

- a) The new 5-year assessment district will need to be approved in 2026. P. Hausler from Progressive Companies to provide information to the board about setting up public hearings and the assessment district at the September meeting.
- b) T. Tenney reviewed the results of the E.coli testing done 7/1/25. The lakes remain at low levels in the safe to swim range. There are elevated results in Little Swan Creek consistent with previous reading from this year. The Decker Road Bridge reading was slightly elevated and in the questionable to swim range.
- c) P. Hausler from Progressive Companies presented board members with a copy of the Swan Creek study conducted in 2023 and 2024. Overall, Phosphorous levels were lower than expected. Nitrogen levels were higher than expected. Suspended solids were about the same in both Little Swan Creek and Swan Creek, however, given the slower flow rates in Little Swan Creek it is believed that Little Swan Creek is contributing sediment at higher rates than would normally be expected. This result suggests that Little Swan Creek is experiencing more erosion than Swan Creek. E.coli results were variable in both creeks. Progressive Companies recommendations included:
 - i. Planting buffer strips in many areas along the creeks that currently have farmland very close to the banks. P. Hausler said there might be money available through the drain commissioner's offices to plant those buffer strips where the creeks are county drains.

- ii. Working with the conservation districts & drain commissioner's offices on grants to help create a watershed management plan.
- iii. Educate landowners about the use of fertilizers close to the water and the creation of buffer strips near the water to reduce runoff into the lakes and creeks.

P. Hausler is still waiting for responses from the drain commissioners and conservation districts about any grants/existing watershed efforts on going and will provide an addendum to the study results as soon as he gets a response from those offices.

Progressive Companies will be on the lakes next week to complete plant surveys, an acoustic survey, and water quality sampling.

- d) Public comments. J. Borgert asked P. Hausler from Progressive Companies about a chemical that can be used to reduce the gizzard shad population. D. Schneiter said he had read about a chemical that can be used at reduced rates to kill gizzard shad and not disturb most other fish. P. Hausler said he would do some research on that information to see if anything is available and if EGLE/DNR would approve any treatment. J. Borgert reported that the results of the fish study completed by the DNR in 2023 should be available in the spring of 2026. J. Wenzel asked about the lake levels since the last meeting. E. Bell and J. Borgert reported the levels have been much better in the last month. P. Camper asked for recommendations to help him keep leaves from blowing into the lake in the fall. J. Wenzel suggested using a silt fence along the lake shore. That type of fence is easy to install and could be installed/removed when needed.
- e) 2025 lake board meetings are scheduled for August 9, and September 13. All meetings are scheduled to be held at the Colon Township Hall at 10:00 a.m. Public welcome.
- f) Motion by E. Bell & second by J. Wenzel, to adjourn at 10:38. All yes, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Crawford
Colon Lake Board Secretary