

Colon Township Lake Advisory Committee—Meeting Minutes (Draft)  
8-12-2023

**Call to Order:** Chairman Tim Taylor called meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

**Roll Call:**

Lake Board Members Present: Jim Borgert, Ed Bell, Tom Tenney, Jim Crawford.

Advisory Committee Members: Tim Taylor, Stan Charles, Phil Camper, Gerald Costello, Royal Gentz.

It was noted that information was received from Brent Franks regarding Michigan public meeting agenda and minutes requirements. Michigan does not require a meeting agenda, but does require minutes. However, it is good practice to provide a meeting agenda.

1. Motion was made to approve the minutes of July 8, 2023 Lake Advisory Committee meeting as presented. Borgert/Bell/motion carried.
2. Fishing reported as fair to mediocre at best.
3. Lake conditions:
  - A. Water Clarity / Secci Readings: Long Lake-3 feet, Palmer and Lepley Lakes-No report.
  - B. Water temperatures (degrees F): Palmer-67.7 degree F.
  - C. Stump/Log issues: None reported.
  - D. E. Coli readings: Tom Tenney presented E. Coli readings taken July 10 & 24, 2023, and they are as follows in chronological order:  
Beach-4.1/14.1, Lake Street-46.5/105, Inlet LSC-224.7/290.9, Long Lake Bridge-42.6/12, BSC @ Needham Road-517.2/435.2, Decker Bridge-980.4/517.2, Hagelgans Road-648.8/325.5, Lindley Road-387.3/1986.3, Outwater Road-980.4/920.8, M86 Bridge-106.7/866.4, and Langwell Road East of Babcock Road-648.8/248.1 .  
PLM readings taken 7-18-23 are as follows: Palmer lake SE-Less than 4, Beach-less than 4, Palmer channel north end-128, and Long Lake (E, W, & N) all less than 4.  
It was also noted that Three Rivers testing costs have risen from \$35 to \$45 per sample.
4. SeScript was on the lake approximately July 20<sup>th</sup>. Discussion of findings will be presented by PLM in the Lake Board meeting today.
5. EcoSystems discussion tabled to Lake Board meeting.
6. Several public feedback, comments, and questions were provided as follows:
  - 6a. Question: Are farm applications and biologic run-offs contributing to current lake conditions, and what can be done if this is the case? Answer: Farm applications are very unlikely to runoff into water ways. A complaint could be filed with EGLE, but it is very unlikely they would find the need to take action. It was further noted that most of the watershed runoff comes from Branch County.
  - 6b. Compliments from a riparian noted the buoys are in and looking much better. Asked if we are treating lily pads. Answer: We can only treat lily pads in the fall when they take up nutrients to over-winter. Will attempt to be deal with it September.
  - 6c. A riparian suggested that our website could be used educate lake riparians.
  - 6d. It was noted that there has been a significant increase in rental properties on the lakes, and that renter ignorance of boating laws and customs may contribute to boating issues on both lakes.
  - 6e. A riparian asked if we have considered aeration as a method of weed treatment. Answer: One riparian in the past dredged and removed their lake bottom soil in front of their property, but the lake bottom filled in the excavated spaces within one to two years. It was deemed very expensive and unproductive.
7. Motion was made to adjourn meeting at 9:57 AM. Camper/Bell/Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Stan Charles, Secretary