

DML Board Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2025

Microsoft Teams

Board Members in Attendance: Amy Juers, Ryan Knox, Mike Schafhauser, Michelle Schoeder, Mike Kellar, Tom Rooney, Holly Huso

1. Welcome (Amy)

- Meeting called to order 7:05 PM

2. WDS / Surface Water Grant Update (Ryan/Amy/Mike S)

- Build-out: Doors need redone; insulation to be added (no sheetrock due to condensation). Heater still needed. Outdoor cabinet planned.
- Operations: Approx. 37–38 hours of use, ~800 decontaminations to date; forecasting 1,000 by fall.
- Utilities: 90 gallons propane used; forecast 120–130 total. Electricity ~\$300. Issues: GFCI nuisance tripping continues despite replacement. Considering insulation/heating fix. Noise complaints from early morning pontoon spraying and use of 2-stroke outboards. Possible restriction: decontamination between 10 AM–5 PM.
- Wake boat decon: one poor, one successful. Jet ski rental companies using station.
Signage: Temporary sign in place; new design to be developed over winter.
Budget: Build-out nearly \$30,000. Operating costs ~\$1,800–2,000 annually.

3. Camera System / Surface Water Grant Update (Ryan/Amy)

- Parts purchased; more to order. Goal: partial installation this fall.
- Installation timing depends on weather and winterization. Ryan may need help but uncertain on schedule.

4. 2025/2026 Fundraising (All)

- Apparel Store: 16 orders (56 products), avg. \$106/order, \$280 raised (down from ~\$460 previously). Reminder post before closing Sept. 15.
- Meat Raffle: Sept. 13 at Brandi's, 2 PM. Concern about Brandi's staffing/posting; may reassess venue viability after this event. Strategy: adjust ticket sales if needed. Petty cash \$250 starting,
- State renewal paperwork due Sept. 30.
- Golf Tournament: Potential summer 2026 at Voyager; Adam Burnett checking on format.

5. Finance Update (Mike S/Amy/Tom)

- Balances: Checking \$6,275.44; Savings \$16,738.12 (includes \$1,000 advance for insurance).
- Expenses: Insurance advance; utilities modest. Pre-buying propane debated; likely not worth it.

- Audit: Proposal for neutral member from each association to review WDS project spending post-build. Currently self-auditing with duplicate checks and records.

6. Insurance Update (Mike S/Amy/Ryan)

- Insurance cost: \$1,100+ paid Sept. 6. Coverage confusion remains (property vs. D&O).
- Discussion at partner meeting: attorney suggested restructuring incorporation to reduce liability; may remove need for D&O. Attorney willing to assist pro bono. Amy/Mike/Ryan to pull together notes from partner meeting that was held on Labor Day weekend and will share with board so that we can revisit at the next board meeting.

7. Education Topics (All)

- Future need for WDS training videos.
- Education on decontamination remains priority.
- Possible wake boat ordinance education for spring 2026.

8. Membership Drive (Ryan/Mike K/Holly)

- Outreach ongoing; Amy contacting individuals from Ryan's list.
- One member indicated renewal by check (not yet received).

9. Lake Regulations Update (Holly/Tom)

- Violations: 13 decontamination violations reported; citation status unknown. Amy to follow up with Emily.
- Wake Boats: No new developments. Cooperative relationship with Milbert family; their new boat expected to remain on Des Moines Lake only.
- Concerns persist about teenagers operating boat, wave impact, and near-shore use.
- Michelle to use drone to document weed disturbance as educational evidence.

10. Fishing and Water Quality Update (Holly)

- Positive news: August reading showed 19 ft depth clarity (good fall level). Weeds not as heavy this year.
- Holly to gather details from Chris Franken for newsletter.

11. Website/Social Updates/Communication (Ryan/Mike K/Michelle/Amy)

- Website (Michelle): Updated outdated content; cleaned up meeting minutes archive; simplified page layout.
- Social (Mike K): Engagement good; upcoming live video from meat raffle.
- Video Archiving: Facebook deletes lives after 30 days. Too much work to manually archive. Only preserve special live recordings going forward.

12. Land Use Update (Mike K/Tom)

- Boat landing: gravel added in spring; caused trailer depth issues. Members expressed interest in upgrades.

- Township has no budget; grant or fundraising would be needed.
- Board agreed to research winter 2025–26 for cost estimates and options; possible member survey.
- Concerns raised about increased traffic/easy access with improved landing.

13. Comments and Discussion (All)

- General agreement to balance ambitious projects with volunteer bandwidth.

14. LaRocks Recognition (Holly)

- Discussion of recognition for annual fireworks efforts. Options: apparel, cooler, or award.
- Motion approved to allocate up to \$200 for recognition gift(s).
- Holly to coordinate with Amy and bring options back.

15. Adjourn (Amy)

- Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.