Smallwood Lake Association, Inc.

Email: SmallwoodLakeAssociations@gmail.com

President: Stephanie Stephens

Vice President: Tim Saleski

Treasurer: Mark Mudge

Secretary: Donna Hendershot

Members At Large: Sean Cleland, Ron Travis-absent, John Hart, Mike Losey, Vince Muzzin, Donna Hendershot – excused

2026 Spring Meeting

Location: HAY TOWNSHIP HALL Date: May 23, 2026 Time: 10:00am

CALL TO ORDER

Stephanie Stephens called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

Roll Call

Tim took attendance. All board members present except for Donna Hendershot (meeting minutes done by Brandy Losey).

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes and Treasurer's Report

Review of minutes; Stephanie called to approve, Tim seconded, members approved.

Mark Mudge reported association bank balance of **$10,018.44**. **$1,055** reserved for cutting of weeds. Since beginning of year (1/1–5/19) collected **$1,050** in dues, paid expenses **$584**.

Stephanie made motion to approve Treasurer's report. Tim seconded the motion.

OLD BUSINESS

Four Lakes Task Force Update – Lake Refill Date

Stephanie is in contact with FLTF; she lives on Oren Court and has been seeing ~20 cars per day for workers. She reached out to FLTF about 2 weeks ago. We are set to refill second week of July. If all goes well (weather), should be boatable in August. Sanford was expected

boatable in 45 days but filled in 16 days; it depends on how much rain we get. The refill goes 1 foot at a time and review for erosion and then restart fill for another 1 foot.

Lakebed weed/tree status

Urgency is now. When the water comes, the stumps and trees will "pop" (buoyancy) to dislodge and float away. Expect lots of debris. If you can safely secure it, then secure it and dispose of. There will be booms by the dams and FLTF will be clearing this on daily/weekly basis as needed. If stumps/logs are too large to secure/remove, then push out to the water. Booms will stay in place as long as needed. A lot of debris went down already. We are focused on safety concerns. If neighbor has not cared for beachfront, safety concerns will be addressed but not clearing dock area… only safety areas. If there are safety concerns, email the Smallwood Lake Associations for help. Weeds will die off with the water, but trees will not.

Joel from Secord, and Pete from Hay. Joel has been working diligently to clear up river. Stephanie thanks Joel for his help. Joel reports Secord is working with PLM. Reminder that anything that is sticking up will make the lake bottom hazards; may need water shoes. Secord Township has spent >$10k to cut lake bottom on Smallwood.

Mosquito Control

Pete from Hay Township – it's been a bad spring. APM is the company hired to do spraying; residents can call APM to come to property and it is a free service. Report low areas with standing water, and APM will treat the larvae. On Sunday or Monday (5/24, 25) will start, and hit 2x's this next week, and then weekly. This is test-pilot program; funded by state cannabis funds; other townships have reported great results. If review is favorable, then millage will be voted on in township. APM will respond within 24 hours. If you are having an event, call APM 24 hours.

Red stakes are no-service area. Green stakes are off-road program for houses on over 1 acre. Call APM or Pete for questions on township or spraying.

Boat Launch Status - Tim gives update

Marina – talked with owner several times and still not getting anything in writing. He has been provided a simple language and legal contract, and has not been able to take delivery. Stephanie will go in person to talk with him. Lake bed was cut last year, and funds are allotted to provide gravel and this is backup option.

Bar – owner (George) planned to repair boat launch and bar patio; at one time, expected one more approval from EGLE; however Gladwin County now has requirements with permits and fees, which has stalled the project. Tim to find out what is being required to

determine if it is feasible. George is starting fundraiser for $50 for a brick; not sure how it is going. Unsure if boat ramp will be feasible by August.

Stephanie emphasizes that marina is best option and is confident that it will be able to complete. There may be a small fee to the Marina. In past the marina has charged a one-time fee or yearly pass. The boat ramp will be gravel only.

The boat launch by the dam will never be public because it is dangerous being so close to the dam.

The county has no interest in a boat ramp, and will not discuss in a general meeting.

Stephanie has contacted other sources, and has on horizon for 2–3 year project and grants to have a "public" launch. Smallwood has never had public launch.

NEW BUSINESS

Smallwood Lake Association stickers

Tim S. procured Smallwood Lake Association, Inc. stickers. These are for sale for $3.00, available at the meetings and if there are any events. Money raised will go to the general fund.

Weed Control update and schedule for 2026

Mike Losey – PLM sent out a mailing for weed control information. Mike Pickala was supposed to be here today but was delayed. Handout available with schedule of weed treatment, and also available on Smallwood Lake website. Schedule may change as water comes up. QR code to PLM website for more details.

Stephanie – once water comes back, what are the plans for coves or any other changes. As answers are found, answers will be on Smallwood Lake website and Smallwood Lake Facebook.

Trees and safety update

Stephanie – expect water will be murky, and expect debris moving – be safe if out on the water because stuff under water will shift.

DNR Fish survey and shore control

Stephanie and Pete working to get DNR in the lake to survey the fish, and trying to get restocked by the DNR. DNR representative (first name is April) will help with fishery, check for erosion and seawalls. She has tried to get into the water, but unable to launch boat so

far. If she is able to get into the water, then April will be invited to September meeting to review findings.

Bylaw updates

Sean – reviewed changes to the bylaws.

Bylaws in past have been very simplified and need more topics covered so there is updated.

- Mission statement updated.
- Membership meetings – change regarding notification of meetings now sent by email, and posted social media and association website. Will provide mailing if notify you still need mailing.
- Section 5 Membership Dues – can now be paid online, mail or in person at meetings. QR code available for payment.
- Section 6 Membership – property owners are members and associate member within same household. Property owner can vote. If you live in same household, 1 associate member can vote. Supporting member who appears on weed control assessment is also eligible to be a member and vote. Membership is also extended to anyone else but will not be able to vote, if not paying for weed assessment.
- Who is the member – dues paid current.
- Subsection B – who can be on board of directors – property members and associate members in good standing.
- Provision for removing board members from board of directors – if moved or not attending meetings.
- Subsection to form special committees – can create subcommittee with members.

Stephanie thanks Sean for his legal opinion and review of the bylaws.

Stephanie made motion to approve; Tim and Vince seconded the motion. Members voted and approved.

OPEN FORUM

Water Fill Celebration

Stephanie – suggest water fill celebration – will not be in time for this July 4th. Maybe something at local bar. Water fill end of July/August. Looking for committee to organize. Email Stephanie and association if interested. This is fundraising opportunity.

Meeting Location

Stephanie – association needs to find a larger meeting location; looking for suggestions – email Stephanie and association. Joel says Secord Lake township hall holds 100 people. Joel can take that before Secord board for approval; also have large screen TV for presentations.

PARKING LOT

Weed treatment of coves when water level is up. Mike Losey to ask in detail to PLM. Will the treatment address the cattails? Cattails will be treated also; Mike to confirm.

Mosquito control: 989-426-2420, or call township.

State land across from property owner – on Center in Secord Township – needs to be cut on lakebed. Stephanie requests member to email. Question if it is ok to go on state land to cut. This is ok to do. – Vicky Messner.

Chemical spray – does it kill ticks? Cannot be registered as killing ticks because of different licensing process but chemical does have an effect on ticks. Secord Township has "Barrier Product" that you can call the township and request it to be sprayed along wooded areas to treat ticks. APM will "backpack" spray area as requested. Most effective spraying time is 7pm to 3am, so APM may be on site during middle of night.

County – why not interested in boat launch but wants permits for bar – these are different departments within the county.

When are membership dues due? – yearly JAN–DEC. Mostly pay at spring meeting.

County land with lake bottom trees and junk. Do not expect help from county or state. Volunteers spent a lot of time cutting north of 61, cove off to the left. Vince – county and state responsible – we don't have equipment and budget to cut. Volunteer group went out in winter. Hay Township helped with the association fund. Things are better but expect there will be some areas that are not safe. Water is down 15 feet, so once water comes up then most will be far down. (Joel) County does not have budget for lake bottoms; Secord Lake works with association and volunteers.

Lake level – will it be the same as before – YES, however when there is rain, there will only be 1-foot variance (unlike before when there was a drastic change during heavy rain). Spillway will work when over 1 foot.

Neighbors that have not cared for lake bottom – don't walk on neighbors' property but lake bottom is community. Help where you can, but no obligation to clear other's dock if they haven't done it.

Water Testing – EGLE will test water which is part of budget for FLTF. Testing is because of water coming up.

Water Level – friend on Sanford reports water is 6" lower than previously (Sanford previously higher than legal level) – legal level may have changed in 6 years. Also flooding caused erosion which may affect lake level. EGLE is learning from Sanford.

Meeting Schedule – only have 2 per year; are we increasing? Secord has monthly meeting but more permanent residents. Board meets once a month. Considering adding a 3rd meeting mid-summer when most folks are in town. It won't be this year but will consider for next year.

Stumps – if you secure it safely, then do so; otherwise let it float out to be caught by the booms at the dam – especially for large stumps.

CONCLUSION

Stephanie adjourned meeting at 11:12am, second by Mike Losey.

Next meeting: Saturday September 5, 2026 at 10am.