



MEMORANDUM

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

MEETING NOTES OF THE COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE Tuesday, August 18th, 2026

Attendees: Dave Vold, Bob Hervig, Tom Furey, Randy Schumacher, Ted Hansen, Jerry Grundtner, Mike Miron, Gary Kramlich.

Others: President Jackie Anderson, Emily Heinz, Brad Jernberg, Adam Hjelm, Aidan Read

Watershed Update:

Dave Vold brought the meeting to order. Aidan Read, Land Management Specialist, provided an update on District programs and projects. Updates included the status of the cost-share program, the recent ordering of projects, and the ongoing AIS work. On the topic of flowering rush, Jerry Grundtner asked if there were any recent developments in management that the District could be using. The long-term management of flowering rush has seemed to suppress growth but has not limited the infestation as much as hoped. Mr. Read described the difference between a control and manage strategy for invasive species and stated he would follow up with AIS staff on the topic.

Randy Schumacher asked how much the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for the Shallow Pond property cost, and why the property was being donated by Audubon. Emily Heinz, Planning Coordinator, provided the cost of the ESA as \$4500, and that the property was being donated as the Audubon Society no longer wanted to cover routine maintenance of the property. Mr. Schumacher also asked for more information about the most recent Eurasian water milfoil delineation. Mr. Read offered to supply updated information after following up with AIS staff.

Watershed Champions Award Review

Adam Hjelm, Education and Outreach Coordinator, solicited three volunteers from the CAC to review Watershed Champion Award nominees. Members Ted Hansen, Tom Furey, and Mike Miron volunteered to participate.

Budget Discussion

Emily Heinz led off the discussion about the budget with an overview of recent Board discussion. The levy range that is being considered was displayed to the CAC and the Committee discussed. Board of Managers President Jackie Anderson provided additional context on the budget discussion. Some of the conversations included questions about the public hearing at the 9/10 Board Meeting. Ted Hansen asked a question regarding the



MEMORANDUM

Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

inclusion of levy dollar amounts, but not percentages in the public notice. It was discussed that this is the typical format, with Committee members noting that including percentages would be more useful for members of the public to understand.

President Anderson asked Emily Heinz to elaborate on savings that staff identified in next year's budget, and Brad Jernberg, Business & Operations Manager, added some details on specific cost savings identified. Importantly, President Anderson noted, no further borrowing is planned in future budget years.

It was asked what the best way for the public is to follow the monthly budget. Mr. Jernberg noted that cash flow statements are available at monthly board meetings as well as updates on operational expenses and the balance sheet.

Closing

Tom Furey was elected Chair for September 15th, Gary Kramlich for October 13th, and Bob Hervig for November 17th.