



Lakes & Waterways Board Regular Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2025 at 12:00 PM

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

Ed Webman, Justin J. Vermuth, William H. Swartz Sr.

Absent

David F. March, George T. Vietor, Matthew Johnson, Clark Sprinkel

Staff Present

Director of Natural Resources and Sustainability Gloria Eby, Assistant Director of Public Works Don Marcotte; Public Works Engineer Shannon Monahan, Lakes Manager Joseph Cordell, Lakes Specialist Daniel Barber, Administrative Assistant Victoria Tabor

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:06

2. Consent Agenda

Quorum not met.

- a. Approve the minutes of March 11, 2025

Quorum not met.

3. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda)

4. Public Hearings (Public participation and comment on these matters must be in person).

Quorum not met.

- a. Seawall Application (SAP-2024-0022) 721 Virginia Dr.
- b. Boathouse/Dock Application (BLDR-2024-0723) 2150 Fawsett Rd.

5. Action Items

6. Non-Action Items

7. Staff Updates

- a. Winter Park Police Department
- b. Lakes Management

Mr. Barber and Mr. Cordell reviewed lake updates.

Water Quality - The charts of monthly samples for each lake were presented. TSI is

rising in the data set of lakes. Lake Berry experienced a spike in phosphorus in November 2024, but staff believes this is inaccurate and will be removed.

Treatments - Spot treatments for hydrilla were conducted two months ago in Lake Baldwin. Staff will reassess. Phase one of the Lake Baldwin treatment for hydrilla has been executed, focusing on a knockdown in the center of the lake to reduce the biomass. A collaboration was created with UF to monitor the effectiveness of a systemic, long-term, low-dose treatment for hydrilla.

February 2025 Biobase – Sonar is recorded using equipment on the boat, and its GPS is coordinated to process it through a program that provides a visual representation of the plants and the lake bottom. This information will also appear on the dashboard of Lakes new webpage.

The state has just awarded our department an innovative technologies grant of \$2.1M for a nano-bubbles project on Lake Virginia. This grant will fund a one-year initiative to remediate the soils by extracting water and infusing oxygen into the bottom layers. It will involve a floating container. A detailed discussion about this project will take place soon.

Plant of the month - A very small plant, *Salvinia minima*, is a floating, rootless aquatic fern. The structures that resemble roots are actually leaves. It is an invasive species from Central and South America. It does not reproduce through seeds and grows by fragmentation. Mr. Cordell noted that a related species is highly invasive. The few introductions in Florida have been eradicated. If the much larger version is spotted, please report it to the staff.

Upcoming events were announced, noting that 330 pounds of trash were picked up during the Great American Cleanup.

Mr. Cordell acknowledged that certain docks do not comply with code and must be condemned. The staff will follow up on these matters. Given that the structures are situated on a waterbody, building and code enforcement are incorporated into the process.

c. Past & Upcoming Events

Great American Cleanup - 4/5 9am @ Lake Baldwin Park, MLK Jr. Park, Ward Park, Downtown Winter Park, & Howell Branch Preserve

Gardening Day - 4/12 9am @ The Meadows

Run for the Trees/Earth Day Block Party - 4/26 8am @ Ward Park

Shoreline Restoration - 5/3 9am @ Lakes Temple & Tuscany

Gardening Day - 5/3 9am @ The Meadows

Ballroom Dance Lessons - Monday Nights 7pm & 8:15pm @ Winter Park Community Center

d. Stormwater Management

The CIP update was displayed. The significant update is that the Palmer Avenue/Old England permit application has been submitted, and a request for additional information has been received from the permit agency.

The drainage ditches dredging and the Lake Spier projects are progressing. Six trees within the access area are being removed for the Lake Spier drainwall project.

Weather stations are being installed in all major drainage basins. They measure the amount of rainfall and compare how all the systems react to certain rainfalls. The locations of the weather stations were displayed. Ms. Monahan noted that the data is continuously measured and reported. The weather station data will also be a feature on the new Lakes webpage dashboard.

Arbor Park Drive drainage improvement is complete.

8. Board Comments

Mr. Swartz notified the board that he was an original founder of the annual tree run scheduled for April 26, 2025. He encouraged the board to participate and support the event, which has distributed 40,000 trees since it began.

- a. Discussion of Public Comments Received

9. Upcoming Agenda Items

- a. Discussion of Upcoming Agenda Items

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Approved by the board on May 13, 2025

/s/ Bahiyyah Layton, Board Coordinator