



# Lake Killarney Board Regular Meeting Minutes

**May 7, 2025 at 10:00 AM**

City Hall Commission Chambers  
401 S. Park Avenue

## **Present**

Carolyn Minear, David L. Dickerson, Ellen Hencken, Jason K. Ellison, William Voecks, Brian King, Jeanne Wall

## **Staff Present**

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

## **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 am.

## **2. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approve the minutes of March 5, 2025

**Motion made by Mr. Ellison to approve the minutes with review by staff, seconded by Mr. Voecks. Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.**

*Upon review, it was clarified that Mr. Cordell explained the map showing the inflow from Lake Bell down through the canal to the north lobe, and from there, the outfall returns through Lee Road and then up to Lake Gem.*

- b. Approve the minutes of April 2, 2025

**Motion made by Mr. Ellison to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. King. Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.**

## **3. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda): Three minutes allowed for each speaker**

Mike Barko, 2064 Lake Drive, was in the process of removing half of an oak tree from the lake when he stated he contracted cyanotoxin poisoning in April. Advent Health could not provide a diagnosis, so he spent three days in the hospital undergoing tests and receiving numerous antibiotics. A friend with a master's in freshwater biology informed him that contact with blue-green algae can cause meningitis-like symptoms. Mr. Barko expressed gratitude to the Lakes department for providing the board with the addresses currently on the alert list. He will personally inform the residents of Rippling Ln. and Lake Dr. to register for notifications. Additionally, he noted that Lake Killarney is absent from the Orange County lake alert list.

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

**5. Action Items**

**6. Non-Action Items**

**7. Staff Updates**

a. Orange County Update

Nidia Volpe was not present.

b. Lakes Management

Mr. Cordell provided an overview of the Lake Killarney updates included in the agenda packet concerning lake elevation, water quality, herbicide treatments, maintenance, and efforts.

Update on Hazardous Algal Blooms: The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has reported that the most recent sample, collected on April 28, indicated no detectable levels of harmful algal blooms. Consequently, the Department of Health has lifted the alert for Lake Killarney. It was recommended to call one of the resources discussed in the last meeting if anything abnormal is observed in the water.

Ms. Eby reported on hurricane preparedness as a reminder of the upcoming season, which starts on June 1. Staff engage in ongoing reviews of plans and protocols throughout the year, enhancing and updating them as necessary. In preparatory efforts, ensuring the laboratories are accessible for sampling and coordinating with the Water & Wastewater Department on various matters.

The intensification of forthcoming storms has been observed; the city offers advanced notifications for flood-prone and designated flood hazard areas via messaging from the Communications department. The Vulnerability Assessment study has highlighted specific areas within the city that are susceptible to flooding. This facilitates the identification of capital improvement projects and the incorporation of the study's findings into the public works capital improvement project list. Upon the completion of the Vulnerability Assessment study, we may potentially receive grant funding through the DEP Resiliency Program... Ms. Eby displayed the hurricane preparedness guide and the flood management guide, along with their locations on the city's website.

Further discussion on the following points:

- All of the Winter Park lakes have telemetry stations; a weather station was installed by the drain wells at Lake Killarney.
- The board was directed to the recording of the Lakes Board for the presentation of the new Lakes Division website launching in fall.
- All of the NRCS grant-funded work pertaining to outfalls has been completed. Several photographs were presented.

- Recognition of the basin coordinated management program implemented in collaboration with the St. Johns River Water Management District to enhance flowways, infrastructure, grant opportunities, and communication within the Winter Park basin.
- The vulnerability study and the basin study have mutually complemented one another in identifying the vulnerable areas of the city. The Public Works department has compiled a list of projects resulting from the basin studies. Staff are tasked with pursuing grant funding.

The prioritization list is included in the packet, and the activities have been tracked. The four pending items on the list are related to the basin studies. The studies can be marked as complete, but the associated projects are ongoing. It was confirmed that any issues regarding the basin studies affecting Lake Killarney will be presented to the board.

**By consensus, the board agreed to a work session on May 28, 2025, at 11:00 am for 90 minutes to update the prioritization list.**

Mr. Cordell proceeded to list the past and upcoming events included in the packet.

c. Past & Upcoming Events

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

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

Gardening Day - 5/3 9am @ Winter Park Meadows at Margaret Square

Fix It! Don't Pitch It - 5/17 9am @ Events Center

Ballroom Dance Lessons - Monday Nights @ Community Center

d. Stormwater Management

Ms. Monahan presented the stormwater updates:

- The full CIP was provided in the packet.
- The Killarney Drive pipe replacement items will arrive on 5/13. Work begins on 5/19/25 and will occur in two phases, completing the project in sixty days by August.
- The pool repairs at the current lakefront construction may have been completed; however, confirmation is necessary. The other two construction projects remain ongoing and have not reached expiration.
- The MLK parking expansion plan for 33 additional spaces was displayed. Ms. Monahan noted that the latest plans enlarge the swale on the north side. Soil testing was conducted as required. Concerns were raised about library window damage and soil movement. Mr. Marcotte assured that the window issues are unrelated to soil shifting. There was a discussion on excluding the park maintenance building from the plans. Mr. Marcotte explained that it's outside the

parking lot project but will share a single revised copy with Mr. Voecks. Ms. Monahan was asked about the number of dog stations at Lake Island. Staff clarified that they are providing the parking plan but will inquire further with the relevant party on the dog stations.

- Mr. Marcotte had a conversation with Orange County Public Works; the revised plan has not yet been received, and they are still reviewing the documents regarding the outfall at John Mitchell's property.
- Mr. Ellison asked for a copy of all lift stations in the city. Information about public lift stations may be excluded from public records. Ms. Monahan will consult the appropriate authority regarding this. The Hubbard building's bubbling is generated by its HVAC system, which is a closed system that intakes and discharges lake water. This system was installed when the building was constructed in 1978.
- Ms. Wall requested that Ms. Monahan provide a Gantt chart detailing the updates on the outfall conditions to be incorporated into the agenda packets moving forward. Ms. Monahan clarified that once the camera truck is received, the staff will schedule assessments for all the outfalls across the lakes. This document will subsequently be shared with the board.

## **8. Board Comments**

### **a. Discussion of Public Comments Received**

Mr. Dickerson inquired if Mr. Barko was aware of how he came into contact with the toxins. Mr. Barko responded that it was from open wounds and potentially from lake water entering his eye. To prevent this in the future, Mr. Barko will pretreat with an algae treatment that he uses in Delaware.

Ms. Eby indicated that a clear distinction exists between public health advisors and lake managers. Entering the natural environment and engaging in various activities poses certain risks. Mr. Ellison recommended the use of waders combined with protective boots while conducting work in the lakes.

The discussion highlighted the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) grants, focusing on Winter Park's receipt of a \$2.1 million research grant. Ms. Eby clarified that this grant is dedicated to studying nano bubble technology in Lake Virginia, which, if successful, could also benefit Winter Park's other lakes and lakes in general. The funding for grants has risen in response to the increasing incidents of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs), like the one that affected Lake Killarney. The staff carefully examines and applies for available grants.

## **9. Upcoming Agenda Items**

### **a. Upcoming Agenda Items**

**Motion made by Ms. Wall to include the NPDES report in the agenda packet; seconded by Mr. Ellison. The motion carried unanimously by a 7-0 vote**

The updates on the John Mitchell property will be added to the upcoming agenda.

b. Summary of Meeting Action Items

- Follow up on the John Mitchell property
- Ms. Monahan will provide the NPDES report and the prior presentation on the overview of the program
- Review of the March minutes
- Ms. Eby will distribute the prioritization list
- Ms. Tabor will send out the invite for the work session
- Ms. Monahan will work on a list of private exfiltration systems via map, noting the associated water bodies draining into Lake Killarney and create a Gantt chart for the outfall conditions that have historically been a follow-up item

Ms. Monahan will follow up on the doggy stations. However, she suggested that interested board members attend the Parks & Recreation Board meeting on May 21 at 5:30 p.m. to ask questions directly to the appropriate board.

The June meeting will select the Chair and Vice Chair.

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Approved with correction by the board on June 4, 2025  
/s/ Bahiyyah Layton, Board Coordinator