

Minutes

January 13, 2026- Board Meeting

On January 13, 2026, the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Public Water District met in a regularly scheduled meeting at the hour of 5:30 p.m. in the conference room of the District, 500 –17th Street, Zion, Illinois. Chair Ruchti called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. Upon the roll being called, Trustees Ower, Torres, Ewert, Smith, Latif, and Onan were present. Also present were General Manager Jeremy Thompson, Administrative Assistant/Board Secretary Karen Johnston, and Attorney Bryan Winter.

Chair Ruchti indicated that he would entertain a motion to use the consent agenda for the following items:

- 5a) Approval of Regular Session Minutes of December 9, 2025
- 5b) Disbursements for January, 2026.
- 5c) Treasurer’s Report for December 31, 2025
- 5d) Budget Report for December 31, 2025
- 5e) Monthly Operation Summation as of December 31, 2025

Trustee Smith made a motion to use the consent agenda for items 5a through 5e, which was seconded by Trustee Onan. Chair Ruchti asked if any additional discussion was required, as there was none, and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved.

Ayes:	(6)	D. Ower; W. Torres; T. Ewert; K. Smith; S. Latif; A. Onan
Nays:	(0)	None
Absent:	(0)	None

Chair Ruchti then indicated that he would entertain a motion to accept the consent agenda and read the items into the record. Trustee Ewert made a motion to accept the consent agenda, which was seconded by Trustee Latif. Chair Ruchti asked if any additional discussion was required, as there was none, and upon the following roll call vote, the motion was approved, with Chair Ruchti reading the above items into the record.

Ayes:	(6)	D. Ower; W. Torres; T. Ewert; K. Smith; S. Latif; A. Onan
Nays:	(0)	None
Absent:	(0)	None

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OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT January 2026 – Disbursements

ACCT. #	VENDOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT DUE
2920	FICA Withholding Taxes (EE Portion)	Nov-25	3,808.23
2921	Federal Withholding Taxes	Nov-25	4,487.30
2922	IL Department of Revenue	Monthly Remittance	1,151.66
2923	WI Department of Revenue	Monthly Remittance	1,126.62
7205	FICA Withholding Taxes (ER Portion)	Nov-25	3,808.23
7255	Correll Co.	Nov-25 Pension	8,507.54
7235	AARP - Health	Health Insurance - Diane Fragassi - Feb-26	479.00
7235	AARP - Prescription	RX Coverage - Diane Fragassi - Feb-26	138.60
7222	Ace Hardware	Misc. Supplies	331.83
7222	Amazon Capital Services	Misc. Supplies	38.05
7232	AT&T	Telephone Service	1,120.08
7235	Blue Cross/Blue Shield	Feb-26 Health Insurance	15,233.37
7239	Clear Loss Prevention	Security System Maintenance	2,000.00
7211	Commonwealth Edison	Nov-25 Electricity	133.30
7251	Daily Herald	2026 Meeting Date Legal Publication	98.90
7231	DeLage Financial	Feb-26 Copier Lease	161.76
7211	Direct Energy	Electricity	21,029.53
7235	EM Benefits(Delta Dental)	Feb-26 Dental/Vision	683.47
7242	Fuqua Winter Ltd.	Legal Services - Nov-25	2,430.00
7222	Grainger, WW	Misc. Supplies	663.13
7225	Hansen Associates, Inc.	Feb-26 Copier Maintenance	69.55
7221	Hawkins	Chlorine Shipment	2,187.60
7235	Madison, Jim	Deductible Reimbursement	6,839.53
7221	Nalco	Nalclear Shipment	6,484.29
7236	Napa Auto Parts	Vehicle Maintenance	76.94
7215	Pace Analytical Services	Sample Testing	183.00
7223	Peterson Plumbing, Ernie	Test & certify backflow preventers	190.00
7235	Principal Insurance	Feb-26 Disability/AD&D	803.06
7232	Verizon	Telephone Service	595.94
7241	Your Payroll Dept.	Payroll Fees - Nov-25	325.40
		Total	\$85,185.91

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FIRST BANKCARD

	Acct. 7222	Misc. Supplies	45.69
	Acct. 7223	Maintenance & Repairs	376.85
	Acct. 7234	Office Supplies/Postage	721.04
	Acct. 7236	Transportation	128.40
	Acct. 7237	Meetings/Seminars	3,791.20
		Total First Bankcard	5,063.18
		Grand Total - Operations	\$90,249.09

R&R

ACCT. #	VENDOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT DUE
7270.03	Clark Dietz	FY26 Intake Stone Placement - Prof. Services	3,018.75
7300.42	Clark Dietz	FY26 Roof Replacement Proj. - Prof. Services	888.75
		Total	\$3,907.50

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Application** – The General Manager, Thompson, reported that Baxter & Woodman has completed the Lidar scans of the Raw Water Pump Station and the Main Plant, and is currently working on the development of the drawings. General Manager Thompson stated that he had reached out to Mr. Mark Siefert of Baxter & Woodman for an update on the progress. Mr. Siefert indicated that the drawings are scheduled for completion by the end of this month, following which they will move forward with the mark-ups. He further indicated that their engineers have begun collaborating with vendors to establish pump sizing and specifications. The upcoming milestone in the project timeline is a 30% design review scheduled for late February. Discussion of this subject followed.
- **2025 Intake Stone Placement** – General Manager Thompson stated at this time, there are no updates regarding this project, as he is waiting for the finalized bid specifications from Tom Foley (Clark Dietz).
- **Community Solar Subscription** – General Manager Thompson indicated that he had a discussion with Adam Hoover from NIMEC last week concerning this matter. Mr. Hoover was unable to find any availability for the District to engage in the Community Solar Program this month; however, the District is prioritized for the next opportunity. Mr. Hoover expresses confidence in delivering something by the meeting in February. Discussion of this subject followed.
- **Roof Replacement Project** – General Manager Thompson stated that Clark Dietz has submitted the legal advertisement to the District for the Roof Replacement project bid, scheduled for publication on Thursday, January 15. In accordance with Illinois statutes, the District must advertise for a

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minimum of ten business days (two weeks). Tom Foley of Clark Dietz intends to schedule the bid opening for Tuesday, February 3. However, it has been determined that the bid will be postponed to March 3, with the expectation that the District will attract additional bids. After the bid opening, Mr. Foley will evaluate the bids and make recommendations prior to the March board meeting. At that meeting, General Manager Thompson will ask the board to approve the lowest, responsible bid. Discussion of this subject followed.

- **Discussion of Annual Financial Reporting with Illinois State Comptroller's Office**– General Manager Thompson reported that he and Secretary Johnston spoke with Ms. Jamie Wilkey Lauterbach & Amen last week. She stated that she is waiting for the County Administrator's response before contacting the Comptroller. General Manager Thompson reported that he and Secretary Johnston had a Teams meeting schedule with Ms. Wilkey on Monday, January 8. Discussion of this subject followed.

General Manager Thompson indicated that he is awaiting clarification on the comptroller issue before proceeding with the RFP for auditing services.

NEW BUSINESS

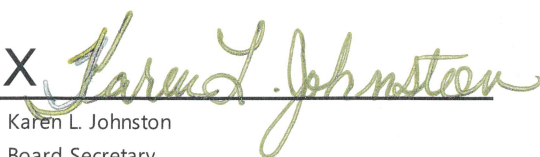
- **Consideration of Early Redemption of Lake County Public Water District, Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2015** – Secretary Johnston informed the board that she had communicated with Mr. Steve Trout of Wintrust concerning the potential for settling the outstanding balance on the 2015 Series Water Revenue Bonds. The final payment is scheduled for May 1, 2026. Given the limited timeframe, Mr. Trout recommended that we move forward with the final payment on May 1. The District would not realize significant savings, and amending the current bond documents would involve substantial effort and fees, rendering the process more cumbersome than beneficial.

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Committee Assignments for Fiscal Year 2027** - Chair Ruchti engaged in a discussion regarding the forthcoming committee assignments with the board. He provided an overview of the various committees and expressed his desire for the board members to make their own choices this year, rather than being assigned roles. A discussion on this subject ensued.
- **Correll Quarterly Reports** – General Manager Thompson included the quarterly reports from Correll Co. in the board packet. Several board members asked how the funds were chosen, and how the fees were calculated. Discussion of this subject followed.

Trustee Smith made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Trustee Torres. Upon the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

X



Karen L. Johnston
Board Secretary