



**American Lake – Lake Management District No. 1 Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2026, 4:00 PM
Council Chambers
6000 Main Street SW Lakewood, WA 98499**

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER

Kate Read, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

American Lake – Lake Management District No. 1 Members Present: Kate Read, Chair; Kurt Spingath, Vice Chair; Jeff Cox, Lake Resident; Erich Schmidt, Camp Murray; and Weston Ott, City of Lakewood

Five board members were present; a quorum was reached.

American Lake – Lake Management District No. 1 Members Excused: Todd Zuchowski, JBLM

Staff: Katie Foster, Associate Civil Engineer, Heidi Wachter, City Attorney, and Joanna LaVergne, Administrative Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kate Read asked if everyone had a chance to read over the minutes and minutes were approved as follows:

1. Weston Ott motioned to approve; all ayes. The June 4, 2026, meeting minutes were approved.
2. Weston Ott motioned to approve; all ayes. The July 9, 2026, meeting minutes were approved.
3. Weston Ott motioned to approve with one correction; all ayes. The July 30, 2026, meeting minutes were approved with a correction to the last paragraph on page 3.
4. Kurt Spingath motioned to approve; all ayes. The August 27, 2026, meeting minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Katie Foster gave a summary of the Listening Session. City Attorney Heidi Ann Wachter discussed the question of “rolling over” the current LMD into a new LMD. While it’s not possible to “roll over” the current LMD, Ms. Wachter gave a detailed explanation of ways that the board could make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the creation of a new LMD. This included the option of sending a letter to the City Council in October or November to let them know they were recommending the creation of a new LMD beginning in 2028 and stating that they would supply the Council with a detailed plan by January/February of 2027. Discussion ensued.

Board member Kurt Spingath asked if it was possible for the current LMD to broaden the work plan’s algae control treatment. City Attorney Heidi Ann Wachter stated that it was. Discussion ensued over the specific treatments allowed under the current LMD and which would have to be tackled by the next LMD.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Kate Read opened the floor for discussion regarding establishing regular meeting dates. Board member Jeff Cox motioned that the committee would meet every month on the 1st Thursday, at 4 p.m. here in City Council Chambers. All ayes; motion approved. Katie Foster will send the updated Resolution to Chair Read for signature.

Chair Kate Read opened the floor for discussion regarding the committee’s 2027 work plan. Discussion ensued. It was agreed that staff would update the work plan with the new meeting dates and then send the document to Board member Jeff Cox for further updating. Board member Cox will bring that back to the Committee at the October meeting, for any updates and/or final approval.

Board member Jeff Cox asked about adding contractors to the treatment list. Board member Weston Ott stated that opening up the bid process was always an option, but it would incur a significant amount of cost for both the advertising and clerical work involved, which may not be feasible for this LMD in light of their interest in expanding their treatments to the lake over the length of their term.

Board member Jeff Cox asked about remaining budget and submitting invoices to JBLM. Budgeting discussion ensued, specifically as it related to treatments and grant opportunities.

Chair Kate Read opened the floor for discussion regarding educational materials and what the board members would like to see the committee focus on. Discussion ensued. It was agreed the committee would look into partnering with the ALIC for their educational nights, board members could attend local

HOA meetings to start spreading the word regarding the ALMD, and the Stroll Magazine were all great places to start. Discussion regarding signage around the lake, such as the “Clean, Drain, Dry Your Boat” signs ensued. Board member Weston Ott suggested those might be more of a Parks Department purview, but the committee can recommend these ideas to them.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board member Jeff Cox stated he would love to get thoughts on the recommendations he submitted and use that discussion to draft the letter to the Council that was discussed earlier, in relation to the plan for the new LMD, for the October meeting. City Attorney Heidi Wachter stated that City Staff could draft a letter for the committee, based on these, and any other recommendations the board members wanted to send in, so that a discussion could take place at the next meeting.

Board member Weston Ott mentioned page 17 of the agenda packet, item iii, stating he would like to see more effort for coordination with JBLM, Camp Murray, and Veterans Affairs regarding the lake and future LMD efforts. Discussion ensued. It was agreed that Katie Foster and Weston Ott will work to pursue the establishment of interlocal agreements between Camp Murray and JBLM, and possibly the VA, as well. At an earlier time, board member Todd Zuchowski supplied an example interlocal agreement between JBLM and DuPont, for animal control services, which can be used as a possible template for moving forward for the new LMD.

Board member Jeff Cox made a motion to recommend that the ALMD join the Washington State Lake Protection Association (WALPA). All ayes; motion approved. Katie Foster will work on this.

BUDGET

This topic was covered during discussion of New Business.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting date is October 1, 2026, 4:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.


[Kate Read \(Oct 2, 2026 13:44:49 PDT\)](#)

Kate Read, Chair


[Katie Foster \(Oct 5, 2026 07:52:44 PDT\)](#)

Katie Foster, City Staff Liaison

09_03_2026 ALMD Minutes

Final Audit Report

2026-10-05

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