LCWA May 17, 2026

Vice President Janet Schillinger called the meeting to order in President Lewis Flinn's absence. The August 31, 2025 meeting minutes were read and approved.

A message from President Lewis Flinn was then read to members by Jaime. In the message, Lewis welcomed everyone to the first membership meeting of 2026 and thanked committee members and volunteers for their continued involvement over the winter months. He reiterated the mission of LCWA to preserve the lake's natural resources and foster goodwill within the community.

Dam Update

Lewis provided an update regarding the Dam Reconstruction Project. LCWA was ultimately disqualified from the 2024 FEMA HHPD grant program because Tunkhannock Township did not yet have an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in place at the time the application was submitted in 2024. Although frustrating, Lewis noted that the situation may have been beneficial in the long run, as the estimated project cost has since increased to roughly $740,000 and FEMA's completion timeline would likely have been unrealistic.

In November 2025, LCWA applied for a Local Share Account (LSA) grant for the full project amount. The Association worked with a grant writer through the Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission, with letters of support submitted by state representatives and county commissioners. Results are expected sometime this fall. LCWA is also exploring another FEMA grant opportunity as a backup.

Revised dam plans were submitted to DEP in November 2025 following several meetings between engineers, the Dam technical team, and the Board. LCWA is currently waiting for DEP comments or approval to move the permitting process forward. Lewis also emphasized that nearly all membership dues go toward annual dam inspections, insurance, taxes, required compliance work, and updates to the Emergency Action Plan (EAP).

Treasurer's Report

Deb Tierney reviewed financial reports:

- Bank Accounts:
  - Checking (General): $5,953.91
  - Checking (Special Projects): $1,816.96
  - Grand Total: $7,770.87

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- Growing Greener Accounts:
  • GG3 Floating Islands: $5,146.94
  • GG4 Alum: $14,766.78
- Lake Carey Dam Association Accounts:
  • Checking (General): $23,185.48
  • Dam Checking: $65,426.14
  • 6-month CD: $54,418.36 (renewed February 2, 2026 at 2.92%; renewal due August 2, 2026)
  • Grand Total: $143,029.98

Taxes were filed, and the LCWA audit was completed successfully. Auditor Lynne Bierly stated records were found to be in very good order.

Committees:

Membership

Patty Publik reported membership was at approximately 174 paid members as of the meeting, with around $8,800 collected in membership dues so far this year. Patty noted that moving the membership drive to January has improved participation and earlier renewals.

Fundraising

- **Yard Sale:** May 23rd-24th. Barb Scanlon asked members to donate saleable items only and avoid dropping off unusable items.
- **Golf Tournament:** This years tournament is on June 8th. Deb reported that the 2025 Golf Tournament raised about $19,000 after remaining payments received.
  - Nearly full tournament field
  - All major sponsorships sold
  - We have sponsored $10,000 cash hole-in-one contest
- **Lake Carey Day:** July 25th
  - Food vendors and music planned
  - Evening barn event will not be held this year
  - New Lake Carey flags and pottery mugs will be sold- discussion for smaller flags for boats
- **Night at the Races:** August 22- Barb Scanlon encouraged everyone to attend and expressed interest in having Doug return as MC due to his success at last year's event.

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Each of these fundraisers support our lake as a community, the yard sale and night at the races funds our water quality initiatives while the gold tournament and lake Carey day support LCDA dam replacement fund.

Communications

Patty Publik reported the LCWA Facebook page grew from approximately **990 followers in February to 2,450 followers** as of the meeting date. Patty encouraged members to keep submitting photos and stories for "Throwback Thursday" posts.

Water Quality

Jessica Fiore summarized AquaLink's 2025 lake report. Testing showed Lake Carey is considered borderline mesotrophic/eutrophic, with the largest concerns being:

1. Internal phosphorus loading
2. Eurasian watermilfoil

AquaLink reported that water quality is best in June and declines through the summer months as algae increases. The report emphasized that the upper and lower lakes behave very differently and may require different management approaches.

Potential treatment ideas discussed included:

- Continued water quality testing
- Bioaugmentation and algae treatments
- Possible aeration feasibility studies
- Herbicide treatments for milfoil
- Preserving native shoreline vegetation to reduce nutrient runoff

Discussion also focused on the importance of reducing fertilizer, grass clippings, and leaves entering the lake. Some members believed the money raised for testing could be used for treatment plans instead.

A proposal for continued AquaLink testing and plant surveys for 2026 was discussed, but ultimately tabled until the June meeting so the committee can explore options for reducing costs and increasing volunteer involvement in sampling.

Safety Committee

Rob Baskin discussed:

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- Adding markers or buoys near the bridge/causeway area
- Marking water clearance levels- Ed Hetzl volunteered to help
- Continuing the lake's Good Neighbor Policy and safe boating/walking practices

There were also concerns about fishing near the bridge and how difficult it is for drivers when fishers are out at night, in the street, and in dark clothing.

Other Business

Ed Hetzel thanked volunteers who participated in the Earth Day lake cleanup efforts.

There being no additional business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Publik
Secretary, LCWA

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