

SLIA Meeting Minutes - 2/18/2026

Countryside Fire Dept

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm.

Board members in attendance: Laurie MacKay, Jeremy Vale, Ed Meltzer, Sarah Owen, Kim Del Bene, Josh Erickson, Phil Moreton, Peter Lind

Approval of the October 2025 minutes, motion by Ed, seconded by Josh

Community members present: None present

President's Report

- Nothing to report

Vice President's Report

- Still gathering insurance information

Treasurer's Report - P. Moreton

- 110 out of 190 have paid their assessments
- We have just under \$240K in our accounts
- The second \$50K payment to Freemont Township has gone through

Lake Management Report - A. Casey

- Lake Management Plan: I have been working this winter, with the help of my lake committee, on a lake management plan. The board will vote on the Lake Management Plan at our March meeting. Two main reasons for having a plan: 1) It will put all the recent data and info on the lake in one place and set some medium and long-term goals so we have continuity for the next few years. 2) If we ever want to apply for a grant or other assistance (like the free water monitoring program we just got accepted into, more info below), they usually require a lake management plan.
- Water monitoring program: Through my contacts with the LCHD and a local nonprofit called Lake County Lake Lovers, I've gotten Sylvan Lake into a free water quality monitoring program for 2026. The program provides free access to advanced water testing equipment every two weeks throughout the lake season (roughly late April through October). This will give us a lot more info on the health of our lake and what specific issues we can try to address. I've recruited two volunteers to help test the water biweekly, and am going to try and get one or two more volunteers.
- Scientific Aquatics sent me their 2026 quote for algae monitoring and plant/weed management. It went up, in part because of how much time and money they spent treating our algae last year. (They tried to raise their prices last year but I negotiated the same price as the year before. Not sure I have leverage to do that this year as they spent a lot of time on our lake last year and algae monitoring is a flat fee for the season.) They did extend the algae monitoring season from May 1-Sept 1, to now it is May 1-Sept 30th. Pricing for this year:
 - Algae monitoring & treatment: \$4,920 for (last year was \$2,680 for a slightly shorter period)
 - Weed treatment \$650 per acre (last year was \$550)
 - Lily pad treatment \$2100 per application (last year was \$1900)

- I will look into a few other companies, but I think everyone's prices are going up.

Recreation Report - L. MacKay

- Nothing to report

Beach Report - Josh Erickson

- Looking for a solution to the broken piers. We want them fixed before the summer.

Parks and Easements Report - Sarah Owen, Kim Del Bene

- Planted bushes down W Sylvan. Took care of buckthorn
- Native planting done between the beach and the sailboat pier
- Red Bud was planted to replace the oak tree that was removed by the dam
- June 5th will be the summer bash
- The restoration of Schwerman Park has been difficult and slow. We're looking into options to move more quickly.

Unfinished Business

- No unfinished business

New Business

- A community member requested to reserve Schwerman Park for a private event. The board discussed the need to set guidelines. Insurance needs to be consulted to see if there is any SLIA liability.

Closing of meeting: Motioned by Sarah, seconded by Kim

The next board meeting will tentatively be March 18,

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Vale, Secretary