

UPPER HAY LAKE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 27, 2026

Welcome and Call to Order: 5:04 pm

Attendance

- Members;
 - Present: Brad S., Neil, Brad, Dennis, Greg, Clare, Jack
 - Absent: Maddie and Whitey

Reading/Approval of Minutes from Meeting on Sept 11, 2025.

The Minutes were not approved due to an error regarding the residential map. It was agreed at the Sept. meeting of the intent to post the link to the residential map in the newsletter but not on the website. The Minutes do not correctly state this. Dennis will obtain and correct the Minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Total of \$52,500.00 in checking, savings and CDs.

Motion to accept report: Claire. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Weed remediation:

- Dennis had reported in September that he suspected some milfoils weed might be present on the east side of the lake. Neil checked it out and could not find any.
- Brad S. reports that he spoke with a representative of the SOLitude organization last fall, who stated it would cost about \$40K over three years to remediate the weeds in three lake locations using a non-chemical procedure to deal with the muck (and would require DNR approval). It was decided at the fall Board meeting to see if milfoils weed was present, which Neil had later determined was not.
- Chuck Hadley asked for consideration to remove some of the weeds from the outlet to the front of the bridge. He had seen someone harvesting aquatic weeds at Pelican Lake and wondered if the same thing could be done from the outlet at the mouth of the creek to the bridge. This would open it up, could improve the flow, and may prevent the sediment from piling up. Jack noted that the DNR can permit the clearing of a six-foot wide path. Jack and Neil agreed to work together and contact the gentleman who was working at Pelican Lake to determine the scope and potential cost and then contact Kevin Martini at DNR to determine if a permit can be granted.

Website updates:

Webmaster Suzie has updated and streamlined the website, including excellent links. As the 2025 annual meeting dates and information get changed to 2026, we need to make sure the information gets to her for updates. Brad S. will contact her to check on it and explore if she would be interested in working with Maddie to take over the newsletter.

Shoreline Grants and Information:

Dennis reported that he worked with the webmaster to update the pages on the website by removing repetitive language and adding bullet points. The original Shoreline Restoration Grand Application called for one form to be submitted before the work began with another form to be submitted upon completion of the work. However, these forms are identical except for the dates. Brad S. has proposed the use of just one form to be submitted upon the completion of the restoration work. Dennis will send an updated version of this form to the Board for input and approval.

U.S. Mail distribution of UHLA newsletter:

The UHLA board approved that beginning this year, members will be charged an additional \$15 per year to receive the UHLA newsletters via U.S mail. In the 2026 membership form, members can opt out of the fee by having the newsletters emailed. There are 26 members currently listed who have requested U.S mail. Half of them have not paid dues in the past two years. He will contact the others to check if this is what they really want to do and, if so, to include the additional \$15 payment with the yearly \$25 application. Brad S. will contact the webmaster to have this placed on the website.

Walleyes restock.

Mike Knapp, (Crow Wing Fisheries), recommends that we stay with stocking our lake with 184,000 walleye fry, which has a five percent survival rate. If not, the next step is to go with walleye fingerlings. These must be purchased through a private fishery, ranging in cost from 50 cents to three dollars, and must be permitted. Knapp noted that the fingerlings do not have good success rate either and advised it'd likely be a waste of money. However, the bigger fish (5 and 6 inches, costing \$5 to \$7 each) do have a better chance of survival. There are a lot of lakes that stock bigger fish every other year.

Motion: Claire (second Dennis) To present to membership at the annual meeting the cost of removing the weeds along the outlet creek and present a proposal on how a spend of \$2500 could-help stock the lake with bigger fish. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Board expresses its appreciation for the work done by Maddie Nelson, who is resigning her position as UHLA secretary.
- A new Board member will be needed. Brad S. will ask webmaster Suzie if she would be interested in the position.
- Dennis has volunteered to serve as secretary, as he has more than ten years' experience in the position at a previous HOA in Florida.
- The annual UHLA meeting will be held at 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at the Pequot Lakes American Legion. It will take place in the backroom, and meals will be off the menu.
- Dennis volunteered to be a speaker at the annual meeting, discussing his experience as a broadcast meteorologist in Minnesota at KSTP and KARE.
- The Annual Boat Parade is set for July 3rd at 3:00 pm.
- Brad S. discussed articles for the Spring 2026 Newsletter, including the 2025 UHLA Year-End Financial Summary, the results of jet ski hours survey to expand the hours for jet skis to start earlier the day and stay later in the evening - the overwhelming response was "no", and include the change in mailing policy for the newsletter.
- Brad S. will talk to Suzie about taking over the newsletter.
- Annual funding requests from Crow Wing County Lakes and Rivers (\$50) and Minnesota Lakes and Rivers (which we do our website through) (\$185) and \$110 for the website last year. Motion to make the same contributions again. Approved unanimously.
- UHLA Board will meet again on June 1st to discuss what it learned from the weed removal guy and the stocking of fish.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.