

Meeting Minutes
Hess Lake Improvement Board
Regular Meeting
August 11, 2026
9:30 A.M.

Board Members Present: Bart Calvi, Dale Twing, Mark Slocum, Grant Bryan

Board Members Absent: Lori Tubbergen-Clark

Also Present: Steffani Clayton, Rick Buteyn, Nancy Calvi

1. The meeting was called to order by Calvi at 9:32 a.m.
2. Approval of Agenda
Motion by Twing, seconded by Slocum to approve the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.
3. Approval of 5/18/2026 Meeting Minutes
Motion by Calvi, seconded by Bryan to approve the 5/18/2026 meeting minutes. All ayes, motion carried.
4. Public Comment 2 minutes
None
5. Treasurers Report
Motion by Twing, seconded by Slocum to approve the financial report. All ayes, motion carried.
6. Progressive AE update
Buteyn adds multiple documents to the packet. He states Progressive is basically done for the season. On August third they did an inventory of aquatic plant life and found Illinois Pond Weed which is a good and native plant. The beginning budget was around \$30,000 and the board has only spent about \$10,000. Buteyn also states it is good to rotate the chemicals used so the plants do not get used to it.
7. Old Business:
 - a. Fish stocking- Calvi has quotes from easy pro which was added to the packet. Last time the board stocked perch and crappies. Regular Bluegill was added to the quote for this round. Bryan asks Buteyn about the efficacy of fish stocking. Buteyn answers that he does not have a definitive answer, but Progressive can offer a fish survey which will cost about \$5,000 to \$7,000. Small discussion amongst the board about efficacy. Bryan is not in favor of fish stocking since there is no data to base the decision. Bryan will coordinate with the lake association to see if they are interested in putting some funds toward stocking regular Bluegill.
Motion by Slocum, seconded by Calvi to stock more fish. Slocum, Calvi, and Twing, all ayes. Bryan, nay. Motion carried.
Motion by Calvi, seconded by Slocum to spend \$10,000 to stock perch and crappies. All ayes, motion carried.

- b. Fish sticks- Buteyn leads a discussion on Jute rope which is used to hold the fish sticks in place and temporary rabbit wire will be installed as cages to try to establish plant life. He explains the EGLE permits for these projects will be in the landowner's names. The permits are good until 2030. The cost for fish sticks on both properties is around \$8,000 to source logs, float them to the location, and install them by the end of November. Other lakes are having success with fish sticks. Buteyn will be present for the install.
- c. Incentives- Clayton explains there are two landowner incentives that she has questions on. John Hubbard has not sent in his pump card, Clayton called twice and left voicemails with no response. The board will try to reach out to him. The second question is whether a rebate should be issued on a sledgehammer system. The rebate is for Reynolds. The board does not think it is appropriate since the system was only inspected, not pumped. Clayton to send a letter to the landowner with this information.
Short discussion amongst the board regarding extending the incentive beyond the September 30th deadline. Motion by Slocum, seconded by Calvi to extend the incentive until the \$10,000 cap is reached (100 rebates). All ayes, motion carried. Calvi will ask Mary Spicer to inform the residents via Facebook.

8. New Business:

- a. 2026 Assessment amount- Motion by Slocum, seconded by Bryan to keep the assessment amount the same as 2025, \$80,500. All ayes, motion carried.

9. Correspondence/Bills

None

10. Miscellaneous

None

11. Public Comment 2 Minutes

None

12. Adjournment

Motion by Calvi, seconded by Slocum to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 a.m. All ayes, motion carried.