

x President: Jodi Riddell
 x Vice President: Michael Dale
 x Secretary: Tina Dobson
 x Treasurer: Lisa Behrens
 x Director at Large: Dave Haggard
 x Director at Large: Larry McKinstry
 x Director at Large: Michelle Traxler

biglakecommunitycouncil.com



PO Box 520931
Big Lake, AK 99652-0931

General Membership Meeting – February 10, 2026 – 7:00 PM
Big Lake Lions Recreation Center

MINUTES

1) Call to Order/Determination of Quorum

By: Jodi Time: 7:02pm Quorum: Yes Attendees: 21

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Agenda Approval: Motion to approve: Lisa Second: Larry

4) Previous Meeting Minutes Approval (January 13, 2026)

Motion to approve: Michael Second: Michelle Copy signed: Yes

5) Treasurer's Report

Checking #1 (Community Revenue Sharing Funds): \$27,532.84
Savings #1 (Membership Dues): \$ 4,217.34
Money Market #1 (Jordan Lake Park Project): \$65,936.33

6) Membership Report

Voting Members renewed for 2026: 52 Associates (non-voting) renewed for 2026: 3

7) Presentation(s) (15 Minutes per presentation)

1. Hugh Leslie – MSB- Parks, Recreation, and Library Services:

He is reaching out to the community councils and community to let them know about the rec/library resources available to them. The Big Lake Library is next on the agenda to be renovated. Big Lake Library is the 1st or 2nd busiest libraries in the valley. The libraries help file PFDs, and so much more. 100K books were circulated through the libraries. Alaska has the highest juvenile drowning rate in the nation. Govt Peak Rec Area Chalet will be back under borough control by end of year and you'll be able to schedule events there. Crevasse Moraine cross-country trails are groomed when conditions allow. He discussed the MSB ice rinks, rec centers, libraries, pools, campgrounds, parks, motorized and non-motorized trails, public lake access locations (URL available), trails and winter grooming map (URL available), recent improvements, additions, and ongoing projects, and LRMD projects. Trail pass parking is enforced so you need to purchase a pass. (URLs are in the presentation on the Council website under Files and Resources).

8) Reports

1. Legislative (State House & Senate)

Senator Rauscher: None

Representative McCabe: Linn McCabe: Kevin is in Juneau. It's his 6th year in office. Newsletters come out every week to 10 days. Kevin is also on Substack. Governor's Fiscal Plan: they want the entire plan to go through. Budget cuts are hard to push forward from the minority position. He's on 8 different committees. Bills on his radar: *AIDA* (AK Industrial Development and Export Authority) issues (article in Substack), *House B 250*: Will make it a class B misdemeanor for officers to wear face masks. *Defined Benefits*: AK 8B in debt to past year's obligations to the program (article in Substack). *HB 1*: Gold & Silver: bill has not moved. 20 states have or are working on making gold legal tender, (Gold Backs). *Rail extension/gas line update*: there's a couple of senators in Anchorage trying to kill the gas line. Military have been looking at the port. Seattle decided they don't want to harbor the 2 ice breaker ships so Port Mac may be an option.

2. Assembly (District 5) Representative Gamble: On the Fish and Wildlife Commission, Port Commission, and Joint Assembly School Board Committee. *Lake Setback Ordinance* was voted down but has been taken up by the Assembly. *Lot Size Ordinance*, to reduce lot sizes from 40K sqft to 30K sqft, will likely die. *Property assessments*: avg increase is 5-7% but that doesn't mean your taxes will go up. 10 Acre lot approved for *Camp Maranatha* for expansion with a hotel-type facility and larger venue for more groups. Upgrading the road is part of that project. Borough will bond for the *Jolley Creek Drainage project* Phase 1 to Jordan Lake. Hoping construction will start this summer. RSA has the *problem reporter and road service clearing app* on website. *L&G pipeline*: is moving forward, don't know if it will get done. The Port is not contingent on the pipeline. Crowley, and a biomass energy co interested in getting facilities near port. Andrew Traxler now on Port Commission to help with these projects.
3. Fire Service (West Lakes Fire Department) Chief Fairchild: For the month of December: 83 calls, 10 structure fires, 8 outside fires, 2 vehicle crashes, 4 vehicle fires, 22 medical injury calls. The *prevention campaign* is helping to keep those numbers down. 31 teams in Iron Dog this year and they'll have medical coverage for that this Saturday. *Outside burning (doesn't have to be permitted until April)*: Even if there's snow on the ground, please don't walk away from your burn, due to underground fire possibilities. *Pond Hockey next weekend*: They'll be on the lake for that event. Watch out for snow machines on the ice roads, and snowmachine and drive responsibly.
4. Road Service Area (RSA 21): Andrew Traxler: There are 3 public construction projects this spring: *Susitna Ave. upgrade*, *Gold Streak*, and a small section of *Purinton*. They have 30 miles of unmaintained roads and are focusing on the least cost roads to fix under public construction that don't require engineering. Maintained roads: hoping to build *Horseshoe Lk 2nd entrance* including the bad spots, and may include paving a portion; *Echo Lake*; *Jolley Creek Drainage project*. *MSB Problem Reporter*: It's amazing what you can do on the app. Let Andrew know if you don't get feedback after reporting something.
5. Jordan Lake Park Committee: Keith Dobson: See detailed notes attached or on the Council website. The trail will be built and paid for by the borough, and the Pioneer sign at the park entrance. The next committee meeting is this Saturday, February 14, 10am at the Big Lake Library.

9) Correspondence

1. MSB Public Notice – Public Utility Easement, Jay Nolfi Park power pole: put street light at Casey.
2. Regulatory Commission of AK – Notice of Utility Tariff Filings
3. MSB Platting Board – Rafter Ridge, subdivide lot

10) Unfinished Business

1. 2025 BLCC CIP (Community Improvement Projects) Committee – Update: We won't know anything until end of July/August for budget.

11) New Business

1. MSB USDOT Build Grant for planning study for Burma Road/Purinton Pkwy Corridor – Letter of Support, due Feb. 16, 2026: Question to Bill Gamble: What does this have to do with the Port? 25M fed grant not for construction, only to do prelim and engineering work, has more to do with W Susitna Access, not the mining trucks coming through Big Lake. RSA wrote a letter of support for this grant. No one opposed, so the council will send a letter of support

12) Persons to be Heard (3 Minutes per person)

1. None

13) Audience Participation (3 Minutes per person)

1. None

14) Announcements

1. None

15) Board Member Closing Comments


1. Jodi Riddell: Chamber Fun Run, March 7, on Big Lake and Bingo may be coming to the community.
2. Michael Dale: Drive safe and kindly.
3. Tina Dobson:
4. Lisa Behrens:
5. Dave Haggard:
6. Larry McKinstry:
7. Michelle Traxler:

16) Adjournment

By: Michael Second: Tina Time: 8:10pm


Signature – Jodi Riddell, President – Big Lake Community Council

3/10/2026
Date


Attestation – Tina Dobson, Secretary – Big Lake Community Council

3-10-26
Date