

A sunset over a body of water with mountains in the background. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a bright reflection on the water. The sky is filled with orange and yellow clouds.

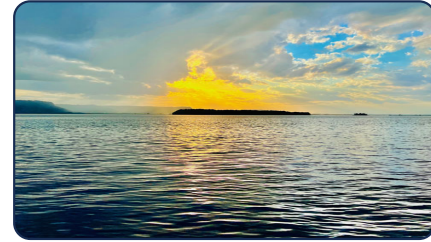
# Lake Onalaska Rehabilitation Coalition (LORC) Meeting

Location: Red Pines Bar & Grill  
8/20/2024 6:30 p.m.

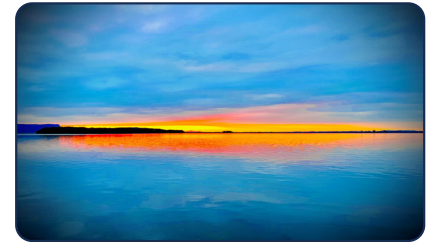
*All Photos are Lake Onalaska Sunsets,  
Courtesy of Krista Engholdt*


# Agenda

- Highlights from Last Meeting
- Organizational Structure
  - What makes our advocacy distinctive
- Projects List
- Technology Support for LORC
- Next Steps

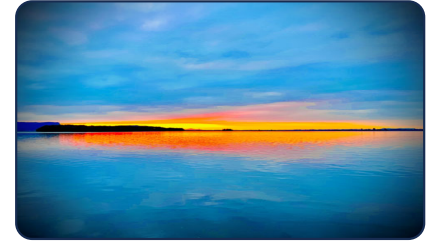


# Highlights from Last Meeting



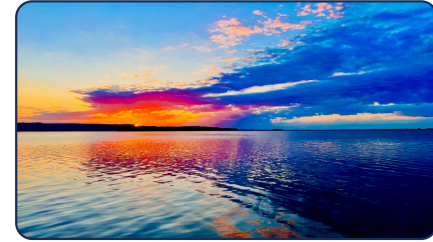
- Lake Onalaska Rehabilitation Coalition (LORC)
  - *Vision* : To help ensure a healthy Lake Onalaska for Fish, Wildlife, and People
  - *Mission* : Preserve, protect, and restore the ecological health and recreational value of Lake Onalaska and its surrounding habitats
- Monthly Meetings → 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
- Call for additional Board Members and Officers → 
  - 2-year terms
- Emphasized one of our objectives → transition fundraising efforts from Brice Prairie Conservation Association (BPCA) to LORC
  - BPCA's primary mission focuses on *education*
- Jeremiah to add technology support for LORC → social media, website, email list
- Key comments
  - LORC is not only advocating for property owners but for broader community enjoyment
  - LORC must develop profile and timelines, clearly communicated
  - Lake Onalaska is complex body of water requiring coordination between local, state, and Federal agencies

# Highlights from Last Meeting

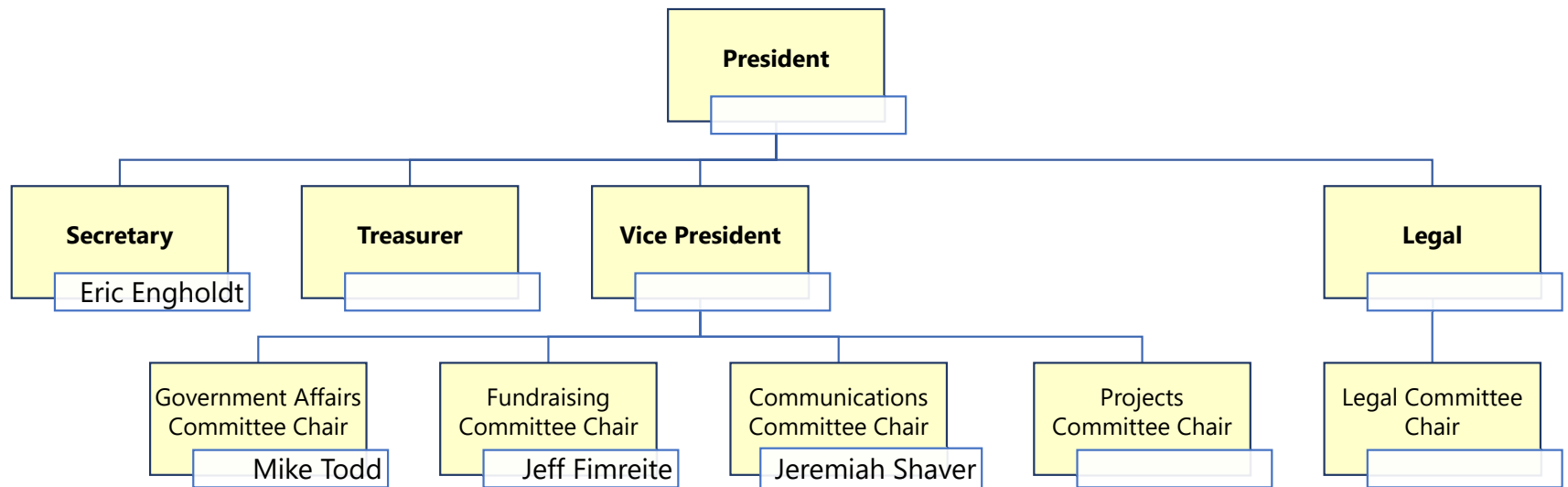


- Dredging Project Update
  - Over 55% funded!
  - Mike has all initial permits for *this* project (any other projects may need additional permits)
  - Mike met with US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) leader in St. Paul to discuss this and other projects, in particular using Rose Bud island's containment area so as to reduce our costs → ACoE expressed concerns about wetland layer, plants, soil so more investigation is required
  - US Fish & Wildlife (USFW) administers Lake Onalaska on USACE's behalf (USACE owns land under the water) → LORC's challenge will be to coordinate with USACE, USFW, and Wisconsin DNR
    - LORC could benefit from having a USFW and/or Wisconsin DNR person to help champion projects (e.g., connect with new regional director for West Central district)
    - Grants are available from Wisconsin DNR for up to \$250,000 for dredging, cutting

# LORC Organization Structure

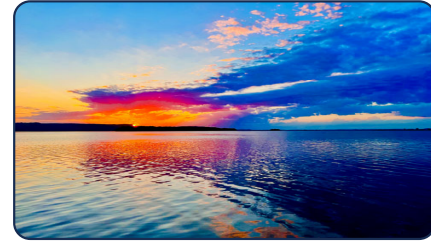


- Board – seven members (currently 3 vacancies)
  - Eric Engholdt, Jeff Fimreite, Jeremiah Shaver, Mike Todd
- Officers – five members **bolded** here



# LORC Organization Structure

- Why is LORC different from the “Lake District” organization?



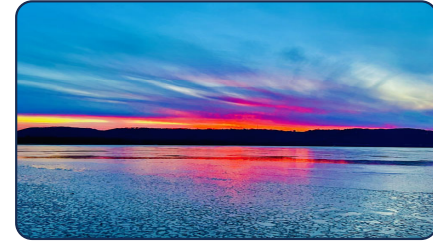
# Projects – Active, Potential

- Active
  - Dredging northern Lake Onalaska areas for fish over-wintering
- Potential, priority and timelines to be determined
  - Blackdeer Slough
  - Fred Funk Landing
  - Brice Prairie Channel
  - Extension of Brice Prairie Channel
  - Sommers Travel Corridor
  - Channel Deepening by Rosebud
  - Halfway Creek Outlet
  - Extension of Dredged Areas
  - Spillway Landing/French Slough Culvert
  - Create a beach at the Engholdt's house



BPCA Proposal  
Update

# LORC Technology Support



- Website
  - Need domain name (preferably .org since desire non-profit focus)
    - [www.lakeonalaskarehabilitationcoalition.org](http://www.lakeonalaskarehabilitationcoalition.org) (too long)
    - [www.lakeonareco.org](http://www.lakeonareco.org) ?
    - Cannot use [www.lakeonalaska.org](http://www.lakeonalaska.org) (this is "Lake District" site)
    - [www.lorehabcoalition.org](http://www.lorehabcoalition.org) ?
  - Some ideas to include funding tickers showing status of each project's funding, links to BPCA's funding links for current dredging project
- Social Media
  - Facebook (FB) page, used as secondary site since many do not use FB
  - Email – primary communication tool, consistent / synchronized messaging with FB and website → we have growing list of constituents already !



# Next Steps

- Discussion
  - Board and Officers start laying out tactical and strategic direction
  - Next meeting, each committee lead shares status update?

