

Minutes from the LWOC Board meeting Wednesday, February 25, 2026

Call to Order: President Carey Winkler, 5:55 pm, Big Red Keno, Lincoln, NE

Present: Carey Winkler, Judy Winkler, Donna Nissen, Shawn McGill, Jennifer Christensen, Joshua Michon, Vicky Sorensen, Natalie Sokolik.

Absent: Zach Knaub, Laurie Stithem

Guests: none

Additions/Corrections to Agenda: Carey Winkler asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda and there were none.

January Minutes: Carey Winkler asked the board members if had a chance to review the January board minutes that were emailed with the agenda and if there were any additions or corrections. No board members had any revisions and Carey accepted the minutes as written and submitted by the secretary.

Treasurer Report: Donna Nissen reported that the general account balance was \$21,305, and the fundraising account was at \$18,392. She informed the board that all tax information was shared with Burch & Associates and on schedule.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Carey Winkler informed the board that Jodi McGill had nothing to report this month.

Foundation: Judy Winkler informed the board that she had nothing to report this month.

Fundraising: Carey Winkler informed the board that there was no report on the fundraising committee this month.

Lodge: Carey Winkler informed the board that Ken Stithem had nothing to report on the lodge committee this month.

Reservations: Carey Winkler informed the board that Sharon Kimmons had nothing to report on the reservations committee this month.

Social Media/Website: Carey Winkler informed the board that there was nothing to report on the social media/website committee this month.

Social/Fellowship/Programs: Carey Winkler informed the board that there was nothing to report on the social/fellowship/programs committee this month.

Youth Activities: Carey Winkler informed the board that Linda Leatherman had nothing to report on the youth activities committee this month. Carey then talked about the Big Gum Drop speaker at the last general meeting and their mission to get the youth out into nature. Board members discussed the need to collaborate with this organization due to their established involvement with youth events. Multiple events were considered during the conversation.

Memorials: Carey Winkler informed the board that there was nothing to report on the memorials committee this month.

SCOYF: Carey Winkler informed the board that there was nothing to report on SCOYF this month. Shawn McGill informed the board that SCOYF rep Jodi McGill indicated that Leroy Sievers would soon be sending out a report on the progress of the Optimist ballfields campaign.

Unfinished Business

Recognition of Donors Ad-Hoc Committee: Natalie Sokolik gave a report on the progress of the recognitions. She talked about the language needed in preparing a document that would be simple to understand and follow. She also requested the need for a list of last year's donors and the amount that was donated. She indicated that she is getting close to finishing the project. Shawn McGill agreed to help get her the information she needs.

Membership Applications: Carey Winkler passed around a hand-out for the board members to review her progress on the additional information request for new member application. She talked about the need to get new members involved and how to get current members to interact with them. She is looking for ideas from all of the board members and for them to send her any information after the board meeting as well.

NG&P Lease: Carey Winkler informed the board that she will be following up with Ron Kallhoff on the progress with extending the lease on the lodge and campground at the Nebraska Game and Parks Branched Oak Lake. She will keep the board informed as needed.

April Voting: Carey Winkler started the conversation on who might be good candidates for three new board members and a president elect. Natalie Sokolik, Shawn McGill, Jennifer Christensen, Josh Michon, and Carey all had recommendations. Carey said she would follow up with all of these potential candidates. She also informed the board to send her any more ideas that they may have after the meeting.

New Business

New Members: Carey Winkler introduced the membership application for Lynette Ziemann sponsored by Angie Birkett. Her application was passed around the table for everyone to review. After a brief discussion Jennifer Christensen motioned to approve of Lynette's member application pending the background check. Judy Winkler seconded the motion. Carey asked if there were any more questions or concerns and there were none. Carey called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Club Financial Audit: Carey Winkler talked to the board members on the need to find someone to conduct an audit on the club's finances. A few names and organizations were mentioned and Carey agreed to follow up with the recommendations.

President Maximum Expenditure: Judy Winkler introduced a recommendation to give the president an approval for small expenditures to eliminate the need to get board approval every time. The board members had an in-depth conversation on the matter. After many ideas it was agreed that this was a good idea. Judy Winkler made a motion to allow the LWOC president to approve expenditures up to \$250 per request, with the understanding that this authority will be reviewed when a new president takes office. Carey Winkler asked if there were any more questions or concerns and there were none. Carey called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously with zero no votes.

Carey Winkler asked the board members if anyone had anything more to discuss and there were none.

Carey Winkler adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.
Respectfully submitted, Shawn McGill, Secretary