

The Hogan Whitney Pond Association (HWP) Inc.
2025 Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Oxford Rec Center
223 King St, Oxford, ME 04270

President – Tom Donovan 154 Hogan Pond Lane (Oxford, ME)	Vice President – Bruce Wilson 36 Dunn Lane (Oxford, ME) Vice President – Norm David 58 Oak Lane (Oxford, ME)
Treasurer – Rich Auren 184 Hogan Pond Lane (Oxford, ME)	Secretary – Mark Young 158 Hogan Pond Lane (Oxford, ME)

I. Greetings & Pledge of Allegiance (Tom)

Tom opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

The body was led in reciting the Pledge of allegiance by Vice President Norm David.

II. Call to Order (Tom)

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Donovan at 9:07 AM.

III. Introductions name, pond (Group)

All in attendance were asked to introduce themselves and state which pond they lived on.

IV. State of Maine Legislation Update (Senator Richard Bennett – written)

President Donovan (Tom) presented a report from State Senator Bennett, (who was unable to attend this year's meeting) which described the actions taken by the Maine State Legislature in the recent legislative cycle on a number of bills affecting water quality and use issues related to Maine's lakes and ponds. That written report is incorporated by reference herein (refer to attachments).

V. Town Report from Town Manager (Adam Garland – written)

Tom then provided a report from Oxford Town Manager Adam Garland on the grade control system which has been installed in the waterway leading from the ponds to the Welchville Dam. That report, which was in the form of a letter, is incorporated by reference herein (refer to attachments). Tom made one point of clarification regarding that letter. That is that the monitoring system used by VHB (the company which installed the grade controls) to record the water levels at the grade controls is done electronically by the use of cameras. That's in contrast to recording of the water levels on each of the ponds which is done manually by Norm David on Whitney and Tom Donovan on Hogan.

A brief survey by show of hands was taken to assess how those in attendance felt about the current (on June 28th) water levels on the ponds. About 10 people thought the current levels were okay, the majority would like them to be higher. No one wanted them to be lower.

VI. 2024 Meeting Minutes (Mark)

The minutes of the 2024 Annual meeting were presented (having been placed on the HWP website) by Secretary Mark Young. Approval of the minutes was moved, seconded and passed without opposition.

The Hogan Whitney Pond Association (HWP) Inc.
2025 Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Oxford Rec Center
223 King St, Oxford, ME 04270

VII. Treasurer Report (Rich)

Rich Auren presented the Treasurer's report.

a) 2024 Report - vote to approve

For Calendar year 2024 (1/1 2024-12/31/2024):

INCOME:

Association Dues	8,940.63
LEA Grant	9106.00
Watershed Grant	2,000.00
Total Income	20,046.63

EXPENSES:

Bank Charge. (PayPal statements)	21.00
Gifts Given (Website Webmaster)	300.00
Milfoil	6,976.40
Post Office Box	102.00
Watershed	1,000.00

Total Expenses	8,399.40
-----------------------	-----------------

Resulting Balance for the Year	11,647.23
---------------------------------------	------------------

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report, which passed without any objections.

b) 2025 budget overview - no need to approve

Rich then presented the projected operating Budget for 2025 which was made without prior approval.

Expenses

Projected Revenue	41,474
Projected Expenses	37,037
End of year Balance	4,437

Revenue

The Hogan Whitney Pond Association (HWP) Inc.
2025 Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Oxford Rec Center
223 King St, Oxford, ME 04270

2024 Bank Balance	15,598
2024 Key Bank Balance	1,700
Projected 2025 Dues	9,000
2025 DEP Grant	15,176
Total	41,474

Annual Expenses

2024 Water Quality Testing	2,100
Brochure Mailing	500
Misc Watershed Expenses	1,387
Leadership Retreat	1,000
Water Level Monitoring Purchase	850
DASH Invasive Work	26,100
Association Grant Contribution	4,553
501(c)3 Registration	35
Annual Meeting Hall	50
Annual Meeting Refreshments	60
PO Box	103
Website Maintenance	300
Total Expenses	37,037

c) 2026 budget proposal - vote to approve

Rich then presented the proposed Budget for 2026.

Projected Revenue	39,298
2025 Bank Balance	to be determined at end of 2025
2024 Key Bank balance	same
Projected 2025 Dues	9,000
2025 DEP Grant	13,000
Total Revenue	tbd, see above
Projected Expenses	20,840
2024 Water Quality Testing	1,200
Misc Watershed Expenses	1,000

The Hogan Whitney Pond Association (HWP) Inc.
2025 Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Oxford Rec Center
223 King St, Oxford, ME 04270

Dash Invasive Work	18,000
501(c)3 Registration	35
Annual Meeting Hall	50
Annual Meeting Refreshments	60
PO Box	110
Website Maintenance	385

Total Expenses	\$20,840
----------------	----------

End of Year Balance	TBD
---------------------	-----

A Motion to approve the Proposed 2026 budget was moved, seconded and approved without objection.

Mike Wise made a motion to approve another gift of \$300. To Dan MacElreavy for his work on the Website. The motion carried Unanimously.

A suggestion from the floor was made that it would be preferable for Association members to have a copy of the Proposed Budget prior to Annual Meeting. Leadership will make an effort to provide that next year.

Mike Wise then made a proposal that the Association should form a Committee to explore how we can raise more money than simply from Dues and Grants. Discussion ensued and a Committee was formed. Mike Wise will Chair that Committee and other members will include Penny Pateneau, Dot Keenan, Debbie David, Brendan LeClerque and Steve Podgajny.

d) Invasive report 2024 and plan for 2025 - no need to approve

Rich then made his Invasive Report.

For 2024 we spent \$8583 for the DASH boat and \$120 for the trailer.

We had in kind dollar contributions of \$3512.40 by a diver, Surface support and Survey.

For 2025:

New England Milfoil is currently on Hogan. Having started on June 21, they'll be on the Pond for 3 weeks. 100 plants were removed from the Channel last week. There are gallons of plant just to the left of the Channel opening.

The Hogan Whitney Pond Association (HWP) Inc.
2025 Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Oxford Rec Center
223 King St, Oxford, ME 04270

Rich reports that we'll have to go back to laying mats. He will need help, especially taking the mats out.

Last year the head of NE Milfoil was on Hogan and suggested the possibility of using a chemical (ProcellaCOR). It causes disintegration of the Milfoil but it doesn't affect other plants or wildlife. Application of the chemical must be performed by a licensed person and the work has to be monitored by the DEP.

Cobbosseecontee Lake started in 2019 with first application.
Arrowhead in 2023.

In 2024, Collins Pond in Windham (which is ¼ the size of Hogan) treated their entire pond for \$40k. The cost was mostly paid by the owners on the pond and the Milfoil hasn't regrown. We fit the profile for chemical treatment. That is, a small pond which is underfunded. Given the problems with Winterbrook and the southern end of Hogan, we will still need the DASH work to continue.

Requirements and constraints of contemplating use of the chemical.
We spend most of our DASH boat time in the north end of the pond to prevent it spreading to Whitney. When would we do the treatment? Summer season or off season?
Milfoil needs light to grow, so it doesn't grow in deep water. A question to be answered is how would the treatment affect camps (like Two Lakes) with a water filter system?

Tripp lake flows from there to Hogan through Winterbrook. Tripp lake had 11 beaver dams removed with approval. Beavers in the Winterbrook area have either been relocated or moved themselves, so they are less of a problem now.

VIII. Watershed Report (Bruce)

Bruce then gave the Watershed report.

a) DEP Phase II grant – completed

We had 2 2 year grants thru the DEP and Federal EPA with a total value of \$230,000. The ratio was half grant, half local match. 25 projects have been completed to reduce the flow of erosion. This reduces the amount of phosphorous in the ponds which is good because phosphorous promotes Milfoil growth.

Additionally, we conducted 4 workshops, promoted a 4th grade study project, expanded the website, and created and distributed a brochure.

The Hogan Whitney Pond Association (HWP) Inc.
2025 Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Oxford Rec Center
223 King St, Oxford, ME 04270

b) Water level and temperature weekly reports – see www.hoganwhitneypond.org

Further, we are now measuring the water level and water temperature weekly on both ponds.

c) Every other year water quality report prepared by Scott Williams

Scott Williams biannually does a thorough water quality check. A major component of this measures the concentration of oxygen in the water. Fish and marine life need the oxygen to live, so this is important to know. Water clarity is also tested.

d) Water clarity reports – twice a month in summer – see www.hoganwhitneypond.org

Sylvia Wilson brought up the development of a new program which is a statewide initiative called LakeSmart. This is an education and outreach program that rewards lakefront owners who manage their property to protect water quality. Information about LakeSmart can be found on the Hogan Whitney Pond Website.

Mike Wise asked about the availability of mulch which the Association used to make available to pond owners to help minimize erosion. The answer is that we don't currently have money to pay for it anymore.

IX. Open issues/items

Next on the Agenda was Open issues/items:

a) Dam (grade control) evaluation plans (refer to Town Manager report)

Tom referred to the current plan for Dam removal which is scheduled for 3 years from now. Tom's feeling is that if the grade controls work, we should remove the Dam sooner to prevent backup in the ponds during the winter.

b) HWP web site update: www.hoganwhitneypond.org (Bruce)

The next item was the HWP Website. Bruce provided a tutorial on what's to be found. There are tabs on the Website above a picture of the 2 ponds with tons of information available. The Website is getting lots of use; there have been 1000 hits in the last month alone.

c) Tax Exempt 501(c)(3) Renewal (Tom)

Next up was a report on the Association's 501(c)(3) status. Retaining that status requires annual filing. Leadership is aware of the requirement and the filing fee will be budgeted each year going forward.

d) July 19 annual statewide loon count (Gabi Mercier)

The Hogan Whitney Pond Association (HWP) Inc.
2025 Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Oxford Rec Center
223 King St, Oxford, ME 04270

Next was a report from Gabi Mercier about the annual Loon count. 3 or 4 people on each pond are needed to count the number of Loons on the Ponds on July 19 between 7 – 7:30. Last year we only had one.

X. New business

a) Officer Elections

Next on the Agenda was the election of Officers for the Association. Tom was unopposed for President and Bruce Wilson and Norm David were unopposed as co -Vice-Presidents.

Regarding the Treasurer, there was discussion about keeping Rich (current Treasurer) in charge of the Milfoil effort. Rich emphasized the importance getting matching gifts to continue receiving Grants from the DEP.

A Motion was moved and seconded to have co- Treasurers. Such an arrangement would have the benefit of dividing the various traditional responsibilities of the Treasurer while allowing Rich to continue his considerable involvement in coordinating the Milfoil effort. That motion carried. Subsequently, Rich and Penny Pateneau were elected to the joint roles.

Mark stepped down from the role as Secretary and Gabi Mercier was nominated and elected to fulfill that role.

b) Question/answer session

Under New Business, the question was raised about the upcoming construction on Rabbit Valley Road, which is due to begin on July 7. There was no good answer for that. Bruce will speak to the Town Manager about it. The concern is that the construction will result in lots of debris will end up in Winterbrook compromising the water quality of the Ponds.

XI. Guest Presentation (Scott Williams): Maine Lakes in the Era of a Warming Climate

The Business portion of Annual Meeting concluded a little early around 11 AM. That was followed by a presentation by Scott Williams entitled Maine Lakes in the Era of a Warming Climate.

XII. Adjournment (Tom)

Official adjournment of the Annual Meeting was 11:58 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Young



Richard A. Bennett
Senator, District 18

THE MAINE SENATE
132nd Legislature

3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

June 28, 2025

Hogan Whitney Pond Association
Attn: Tom Donovan, President
Oxford Rec Center
223 King Street
Oxford, ME 04270

Dear Hogan Whitney Pond Association Members:

Thank you for the invitation to attend your meeting once again this year. I regret my schedule does not permit me to be there in person.

As you know, Maine's lakes are among our most treasured natural assets. From the quiet coves of Sebago to the pristine waters of Rangeley, Maine's lakes are not only a vital part of our environment, but also central to our identity, our economy, and our way of life. I want to thank you for your dedication to their preservation.

Per your request, please find enclosed a list of important lake-related bills, including brief descriptions and their current disposition, which were considered by the legislature this past session.

I encourage HWPB to engage with the Lake Protection Coalition, a new policy-focused coalition whose primary goal is to get more sustainable lake funding in the next legislative session. Enclosed with this letter you will find more information about the Coalition and see how to sign up.

Thank you for your continued dedication to protecting our lakes and all they provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard A. Bennett".

Richard Bennett
Senator

*Housing and Economic Development Committee * Government Oversight Committee
State House (207) 287-1505 * Fax (207) 287-1527 * Toll Free 1-800-423-6900 * TTY 711
Richard.Bennett@legislature.maine.gov * legislature.maine.gov/senate*

Lake-Related Legislation from the 132nd Maine Legislature

[LD 1763 – Prohibit Non-Water Dependent Floating Structures](#)

This bill bans floating structures that aren't functionally water-dependent—like floating camps—helping protect Maine's lakes and coastal waters from inappropriate development.

✓ Signed into law by the Governor. A major win for lake and coastal stewardship.

[LD 1550 – Update Septic Rules to Protect Water Quality](#)

Ensures septic systems are better designed in vulnerable soils, helping towns avoid costly groundwater contamination and long-term cleanup liabilities.

✓ Signed by the Governor. A key water quality and municipal health win.

[LD 296 – Appropriate Funds for Lake Water Quality Restoration](#)

Provides \$50,000 annually over two years for projects that improve lake health, protecting tourism, property values, and local economies.

✓ Passed House and Senate on June 25.

[LD 173 – Exempt Small Motorized Watercraft from Registration](#)

Proposed removing registration requirements for small boats—raising concerns about enforcement and revenue loss.

✓ Died after hard-fought floor debate, which is a win for clean lakes.

[Lots to learn from the house debate](#) (starts at 6:04)

[LD 1904 – Establish Municipal Shoreline Protection Legal Fund](#)

Would create a state-backed legal fund to help towns hold violators of shoreland zoning laws accountable—ensuring fairness and reducing municipal legal burdens.

□ Carried over to January. Key opportunity to partner with municipalities.

[LD 171 – Enhance Protections Against Invasive Aquatic Plants](#)

Requires DEP and IFW to improve inspection and notification protocols in infested inland waters—reducing invasive spread and future mitigation costs.

✓ Passed House and Senate, went into law without the Governor's signature.

[LD 646 – Study Commission on Unregulated Stormwater Pollution](#)

Establishes a commission to study how Maine can better manage unregulated stormwater pollution—a key driver of lake and stream degradation.

□ Placed on study table. Carried over to January.

[LD 1435 – Allow Lake Groups to Post Info at Boat Launches](#)

Would have required DIFW to make space at boat launches for lake associations to share water protection info.

✗ Voted Ought Not to Pass at committee.

Courtesy of Sen. Rick Bennett

Adam Garland

From:townmanager@oxfordmaine.org

To:tdono1234@aol.com

Cc:Adam Garland

Tue, Jun 24 at 9:25 PM

Tom,

I hope all is well and it looks like summer is here in full force!

Regarding the Hogan Whitney Pond grade controls and the Welchville Dam.

First off, a big thank you to Dave Cloutier of VHB as he has done a wonderful job keeping us all in the loop.

As you are aware the grade controls were installed last summer, and the dam gates were fully opened at that time. Fast forward to this summer and the Town's contract with VHB for the water monitoring is underway. On 06/20/2025 VHB installed the water monitoring equipment and will begin reporting their findings to the Town. I believe VHB also agree to keep you in the loop on the water levels.

I am also working with the Town Clerk who is maintaining the Town's website to add a "Welchville Dam" tab so we can post the water level information on the website for public consumption.

In my communications with Cloutier, he feels the grade controls are working as designed. He did state he feels some adjustment may be needed to bring things to 100%. Right now, the water levels are still rather high, once the water levels go down Cloutier will review and see what he feels needs to be done for adjustments. Cloutier and I will have further conversations about this once he has more to report.

The Town's plan is to continue to monitor the water levels and overall success of the grade controls. The results of the water studies will dictate what steps the Town takes next regarding the planning of the dam removal. As results begin to show the effectiveness of the grade controls, I will be having further discussions with the Selectmen regarding next steps, timelines, and future plans for the dam site.

It should be noted the dam gates will remain open as planned during the water study period.

I hope this is helpful and you are enjoying summer.

Thank you,

Adam Garland, MSMHR

Oxford Town Manager