

LWPOA BOARD MEETING Minutes

July 8, 2025

3:30 PM (CST)

Wedowee Winery (Upstairs)

Wedowee, AL 36278

Call to Order –(Steve Blaskowski)

Approval of May 2025 Minutes –(Steve Blaskowski)

Membership – (Lorie Teal) As of July 7, 2025 we have 458 members.

- 303 members renewed their membership and 155 are new members for 2025.

Welcome to New Board Members: (Steve)- Board welcomed Loretta Coleman, Terri Conkle, and Sonya Miller.

See 2025 [LWPOA Board Member Contacts Here](#)

Old Business:

- **Reflections of 2025 Summer Picnic (Steve)**

- What went well- Location was fun for attendees.
- What needs improvement- Food was served late. It took 2 hours to get everyone's food. The owner only had 2 people working therefore they were cooking, serving and running the business. 2 members left without eating due to the time it took to be served. Turnout of members was disappointing. There were other competing events on this night.
- We will investigate what needs to change about dinners per survey data in the future.

- **Review LWPOA Survey Data (Steve)**

- [Raw Data with ALL Comments](#)
- [2025 Survey Graph](#)
- Board reviewed survey data. Steve Blaskowski suggested we look into improving our social meeting interaction with the public. He will look into other platforms to help with this. He has a potential person who could help with this. Pat also has someone who could help guide us. Steve Blaskowski will investigate this more. Additionally, we will look more into the following survey topics:
 - How to Improve frequency of activity with social media, while maintaining quality.
 - Revisit how we handle LWPOA dinners to encourage more to attend.
 - Determine if we can raise money and make donations to local schools?
 - Determine how to manage Zoom meetings, and allow members to presubmit questions that we can address in the meeting.
- Next Steps based on data received- Woody will summarize data to share with members via email. The goal is to show the members the results from the survey and that we are using the survey to make changes that will improve LWPOA. Woody will compile data and share with the board before sharing data with members for accuracy.

- **Review Draft of LWPOA Map for Realtors (Woody)**

- Draft Map What map should be used? Online and/or print.
Use AI Pwr Preserve Map?
<https://apcshorelines.com/recreation/the-preserves-harris-lake/>
Great info on hiking trails
-For now the map we have is the current map. We will continue to work toward finding a way to add lake communities on the map for future use with members.

- **Water Safety Update (Steve)**
 - Update of Signage Posted Need to contact Officer Brown
 - Update of Buoys Ordered Ordered 3. One for Fox Creek. Buoy Mile marker 10 is damaged and the light was removed.
- **Discussion LWPOA Monthly Meeting Day and Time (Steve)**
 - **LWPOA Monthly Meeting Time Change-** From this point forward we will meet for our monthly meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at noon upstairs of the Wedowee Winery. Next meeting will be August 8 @ 12:00 p.m.
 - Loretta Coleman will meet with Lorie Teal to review financials and determine needed changes for reporting to Board.

New Business:

- **Fall LWPOA Annual Meeting Plan**
 - Discussion of what, where and when
 - Our next member meeting is the Fall Meeting. Sonya Miller will check to see if we can hold this at the Wedowee Winery.
- **Discussion about expanding lake clean up - A meeting is coming up with Crystal concerning Lake Clean Up Planning. Crystal is working to set the date.**
 - Alabama Power has been contacted about hosting Roll-off
 - Contacted Eric at Wedowee Marine about Barge and pontoon boats
- **WLIA / LMRA - Crappie Rodeo Discussion-**
 - Terri Conkle will research vendors for a Crappie Rodeo and our ability to help with the local fishing tournament.
 - Steve Blaskowski will continue to investigate placing a QR code at gas pumps for donations to LWPOA of \$25 or \$35 via venmo.
 - Pat Lettieri will reach out to the tax accountant and discuss our status with taking donations and determine what is involved to change our status of being able to give tax deductible receipts to donors.
 - Review WLIA Weiss Lake Improvement Association and Lake Martin Resource Association
 - <https://weisslakeimprovementassociation.org/>
 - <https://www.lmra.info/>
- **Discuss and Determine Revision to Committee Chair / Co Chairs for 2025 (Steve)**
 - Boating/Lake Safety – **Frank Varisco**, Tom Lettieri
 - Hospitality – _____
 - Lake Clean-up – **Steve Blaskowski**, Frank Varisco, Bob May, Rob Perry
 - Membership – **Tut Smith**, Pat Lettieri
 - Publicity/Social Media – _____
 - Relicensing – **Barry Morris**, **Need to track Continuous Flow at Harris Dam**
<https://healththeriver.com/>
 - Water Quality – **Susan Urquhart**, Tom Lettieri, Tommy Bell, Steve Blaskowski

Legal Victory Requires EPA to Reconsider Outdated Industrial Water Pollution Standards
SAN FRANCISCO— The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals [ruled](#) today that the Environmental Protection Agency acted unlawfully in declining to update water pollution control standards for seven major industries. The industries include petroleum refineries, inorganic and organic chemical manufacturers, and factories that manufacture plastics, fertilizer, pesticides and nonferrous metals.

The court additionally determined that the EPA acted arbitrarily when it failed to consider the role that stormwater runoff plays in pollution from the plastics industry. The ruling also found that the existing standards for reducing plastic pollution are significantly less strict than the scientific information demonstrated they could be. As the plastics industry has continued to ramp up plastic pollution in this

country, an estimated 8 million tons of plastic enters our oceans every year, and it's expected to outweigh all the fish in the sea by 2050.

- Website/Email Broadcast –**Woody McClintock**, Susan Urquhart
- Facebook- **Woody McClintock**, Susan Urquhart
- Wake Surf Regulations- **Frank Varisco**, **Woody McClintock**

Fish Habitat? Out of state visitors over fishing spring Crappie?/

Stocking Lake Wedowee for better bass fishing.

Blueback Herring: The Game Changer for Bass Fishing on Lake Lanier

- **Adjourn** – The next general meeting will be held August 8, 12:00 PM, location is Wedowee Winery, upstairs. Terri Conkle made a motion to adjourn, the motion was 2nd by Sonya Miller. Meeting adjourned at 5:08.