

# THE BIRCH BARK

White Birch Lakes Recreational Association  
4730 Lake Road Farwell, MI 48622  
Office: (989)588-7169 Clubhouse: (989)588-2853  
Web: [www.whitebirch.org](http://www.whitebirch.org)

## May 2026

### 2024-2025 Board of Directors

President	Tim Boos	<a href="mailto:timboos@yahoo.com">timboos@yahoo.com</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Dawn Holzer	<a href="mailto:muleman2318@gmail.com">muleman2318@gmail.com</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Donnie Stanley	<a href="mailto:Donovan.Stanley@gmail.com">Donovan.Stanley@gmail.com</a>
Director	Marie Sherry	<a href="mailto:marie4wblra@gmail.com">marie4wblra@gmail.com</a>
Director	Eric Olson	<a href="mailto:eolson13@yahoo.com">eolson13@yahoo.com</a>
Director	David Muniez	<a href="mailto:Maniezrepair@gmail.com">Maniezrepair@gmail.com</a>
Director	Kevin Dombrowski	<a href="mailto:kd460@sbcglobal.net">kd460@sbcglobal.net</a>

### WBL Staff

Manager	Michelle Waters	<a href="mailto:admin@whitebirch.org">admin@whitebirch.org</a>
Secretary/Treasurer	Lisa Trojanowski	<a href="mailto:ecoffice@whitebirch.org">ecoffice@whitebirch.org</a>
Clubhouse	Georgia Romine	Kathy Jerred
Maintenance	Mark Mozak	
Maintenance	Joe Worrall	
Campground	Claudia Pelfery	
Safety	Bob Pelfery	



**AFTER HOURS MAINTENANCE/SAFETY (989) 588-7066 IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR ANY REASON OTHER THAN AN EMERGENCY, THE MAIN TELEPHONE NUMBER IS, 989-539-7166**



Per WBLRA policies, Members must be "In Good Standing" (current on assessments) before using any of the amenities. If a Member is NOT in "good standing," our employees with direction from the Board will turn them away. If a Clubhouse Attendant turns a Member away, it is based upon a list which is updated Every Friday afternoon before 4pm.

### HOURS OF OPERATION SUMMER CLUBHOUSE HOURS Starting May 21, 2026

8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Monday, Tuesday & Thursday  
Closed Wednesday  
8:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. Friday & Saturday  
10:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Sunday

### SECRETARY-TREASURER OFFICE HOURS

8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday  
Closed Wednesday  
8:00 A.M. to 9:45 A.M. the 2nd Saturday of the month  
Closed Sunday

### MANAGER HOURS

8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
Closed Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday

### SWIMMING POOL HOURS

9:00 AM TO 7:30 PM Monday, Tuesday & Thursday  
Closed Wednesday  
9:00 AM to 8:30 PM Friday & Saturday  
10:00 P.M. to 3:30 PM Sunday

**POOL ALWAYS CLOSSES ½ HOUR BEFORE THE CLUBHOUSE CLOSSES**

**IF YOU HAVE A  
MEDICAL OR FIRE  
EMERGENCY, PLEASE  
CALL 911**

**COFFEE  
TALK  
Every  
Friday  
In the  
Clubhouse  
9am to  
11:00am  
Donuts  
\$1.00**



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Deadline for Letters of Intent June 1, 2026

Board Meeting	June 13	10:00 am Clubhouse
Yard Sale	May 23	9 am—3 pm
Bingo	May 16	1 pm-3 pm Clubhouse
Memorial Day Activities	May 23	Campground 6 pm



**Campfire and Seasonal Wood**  
If you see any downed trees or limbs on the side of the roads, they can be taken by the Members for campfires or seasonal firewood. Please do NOT enter other Members lots unless you have permission from the owner.

**Fire Danger**  
Please use extreme caution and follow the Danger Rating system posted by Smokey at the Entrance/Exit

### What should you do if you see injured wildlife within WBLRA?

Call the Clare County Sheriff Department at their non-emergency line at 989-539-7166 and **THEY** will provide assistance.



**Trespassing**  
Please be aware that, by leaving WBLRA by any other means other than the Entrance/Exit, you are trespassing on private property. Please be aware that by opening trail, you are encouraging others who do not own property to come in on these unauthorized trails. The only lawful means of ingress & egress into our Association is the Entrance/Exit gates on White Birch Lane at the front of our Association. We encourage all Members to use the gates exclusively, as intended. Please DO

## Recreation

A current copy of the DNR ORV handbook is available in the office. Let's all have a great time and enjoy ourselves, safely. Slow down at stop signs and watch for others. Remember children 15 and under must have adult supervision. Please refer to [Michigan.gov/DNR](http://Michigan.gov/DNR).



"Slow down you move to fast, you gotta make the moment last."



### ATTENTION MEMBERS

Please mark your lots with the lot number to help other Members and/or potential Members to locate lots or in case of emergency such as fire or medical. If you need further information, please contact the office.

# Information Station

*"Your Destination for Information"*

This link should be good for all meetings! Also, because video takes too much data and we would like you to hear the meeting, our meetings are audio only.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://meet.goto.com/335630101>

Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://meet.goto.com/install>

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***When Donating food items for the Food Pantry please make sure that the items have not expired.***

*With the ever-changing weather, maintenance may be working out on the roads. Remember these machines are large and do not stop immediately. If you don't see them, they don't see you. Let's be respectful, as they have a job to do.*

*Drop your speed to match road conditions. Please give the appropriate space. For those in the back...  
**SLOW DOWN!!***

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- **Brine is scheduled for May 18, weather permitting.**
  - **Porta Jons were placed the first week of May.**
  - **The dumpsters in the campground are back. Please put your trash inside the dumpsters, not on the ground nor on the closed dumpster lid. Thank you for your cooperation!**
  - **Campers should be out of storage no later than May 18<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Reminder if your fees are not paid / or non-compliance of rules will result in storage not being available for the following year**
  - **PLM will be out on May 18, weather permitting to do a survey and treat for any algae**
  - **May 26,27,28<sup>th</sup> the floors in the bathhouse will be worked on and completed weather permitting and the Bathhouse will be closed.**
  - **WE have new WBL apparel Come check it out.**
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*A friendly reminder, we all live and work here and we have noticed an increase in litter. Let's work together to keep our community clean!*

*A recording of the meeting minutes are available to listen to by appt with Sec/Treasurer in the office.*

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**2026 Application for Absentee Ballot  
White Birch Lakes Recreational Association Election**

1. White Birch Lakes Recreational Association (WBLRA) By-Laws provide that Members may vote by Absentee Ballot by requesting a ballot in writing.
2. If you choose to vote by Absentee Ballot in the **2026 WBLRA election**, you must **complete this application** and **return to the address listed below or deposit it in the locked Election box located in the Secretary/Treasurer's office during business hours.**
3. Absentee ballots will be sent out *AFTER* Friday, June 16, 2026. *To receive an Absentee Ballot, this application must be received OFFICE or be deposited in the locked Election box located in the Secretary/Treasurer's office during business hours BEFORE Tuesday June 30, 2026. No other application will be accepted.*

4. **FIRST AND LAST NAME OF VOTER** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING STREET ADDRESS AND/OR P.O. BOX #** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE** \_\_\_\_\_

5. **LOT NUMBER(S)** \_\_\_\_\_ You may only vote for lots upon which you pay assessments-**NOT CONTIGUOUS LOTS.**

6. **MEMBER'S SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_

**MUST BE SIGNED**

7. Member's Signature: (By signing this application, this certifies that they are an owner of the listed lot(s), that they are a member in Good Standing, that they intend to submit an Absentee Ballot for the lot(s) listed, and they will not permit a non-member, or member not in Good Standing to vote using the Absentee Ballot(s) they will be issued.)

8. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION BY U.S. MAIL TO:**

White Birch Lakes Election  
4730 Lake Rd  
Farwell, Michigan 48622

(or the locked Election box located in the Secretary/Treasurer's  
office during office business hours)

9. *Applications for Absentee Ballots MUST BE received BEFORE Tuesday June 30, 2026 to receive a voting ballot(s) by mail.*

10. ***ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE MAILED AND RECEIVED BY 4 PM, FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2026 TO BE COUNTED.***

11. If you do not receive an Absentee ballot *by Friday, July 10, 2026*, please contact the Election Committee Chairperson, Marnie Frank- 248-320-1089

Office Use Only

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



# May Word Find



P V M K L B M W K R Y B K B Q H B Y E Q P A C  
H M O T H E R S D A Y B U Y D Q D G S U M K M  
C M O M G M Q J R Y J P P R Y X U U U R O Q C  
X X C Y Z K R N O D L H L T C K M X Q O X N I  
Q K A D K Z M K P B K T A E R I B B O N S N F  
T B T Z E X S L R R J J N S U J R R F K E I F  
F R E X N Y I C R W X A T E K V E A N C M B F  
G R R G U Y T Q V S N C S I S J L W F D E X X  
U M P A I P O L T J X P H L B V L T L S L B Y  
B K I B G J U J N L Y G A F K J A E O H O Q A  
Y Y L T S O I L T S W N G R D G I U W N P V D  
D R L L G N I N E D R A G E H A N Q E S Y E Y  
A J A Z N G S M R O W O W T N V R U R R A G A  
L U R F V W O Y U O C U D T J N A O S S M J M  
H O N T E K S A B M Q Q F U X X D B J Y U P Q  
S E U A G N I R P S W C D B N M B H H C R U B

Basket

Flowers

May Day

Soil

Bouquet

Gardening

Mother's Day

Umbrella

Butterflies

Ladybug

Plants

Worms

Caterpillar

Ribbons

Spring

Maypole

**White Birch Lakes**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**May 9,2026**  
**Meeting conducted through GoToMeeting.com and at the Clubhouse)**

**I. Call to Order:**

President Boos called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Board Members Present: President Boos, Director Olson, Director Sherry, Director Holzer, Director Stanley, Director Dombrowski, Director Maniez Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Trojanowski and Manager Michelle Waters

Board Members Attending by Teleconference/GoToMeeting:

Board Members/Others Absent:

**Note: There were approximately 0 Members listening to the meeting through GoToMeeting and approximately 7 Members in Attendance at the Clubhouse.**

The Invocation was given by President Boos.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present and listening.

**II. Additions to the Agenda:**

- A. Overage on Projects
- B. Electrical Escrow Fund
- C. Lot# 693
- D. Teal Lake Well
- E. C & R Update

**III. Approval of Minutes:**

*1) Director Sherry moves to approve the minutes from the April Board Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Dombrowski. All Ayes, motion carried.*

**IV. Secretary/Treasurer's Report:** Lisa reported the following:

Lisa stated that she is currently trying to collect on a past due Member and would like an attorney's opinion on how to proceed.

- 2) Director Dombrowski moves to approve the suspension of online web meetings due to technology and logistics, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Stanley. All Ayes, motion carried.*

- 3) *Director Dombroski moves to approve Lisa to proceed in contacting the attorney for an opinion on how to proceed with a collection process with a past due member, 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Holzer. All Ayes, motion carried.*
- 4) *Director Sherry moves to approve the financial reports for April as presented, subject to the Auditor's approval, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Dombrowski. All Ayes, motion carried.*

**President's Report:** President Boos reported the following:

The winter vacationers and campers are returning for a fun filled summer.

The roads are being graded to preparing them for the bine which is scheduled for May 18th.

The Birch Bark Digital Edition as well the Face Book page continues to inform our members with new information and events.

A friendly reminder only Angel Beach allows dogs on the beach. All pets are to be leashed and under control.

Elections are coming up July 18th. Currently there are 2 board seats open. All are 3-year terms. The deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup> for the letter of intent. The information is posted on the WBLRA Facebook page.

**Manager Report:** Michelle reported the following:

I would like to welcome our new part-time maintenance employee Ted Evans, and thank Bob Mitchell for his tenure, we will miss him!

Check out the new T-shirts and sweatshirts!

The dumpsters are in the campground now. There are signs posted that say what NOT to put in the dumpsters.

A reminder for the members with trailers stored in the campground. The last day for removal is Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

The Clubhouse flooring update is complete. They look great, please check them out! The ladies shower room floors in the campground have been updated as well. The men's shower room floors will be completed with sidewalks and fireplace room. Just waiting for the weather to warm up so the work can be finished.

The cement pad at the campground also has been completed. The cement contractor alerted us to a problem with the cement apron that runs from the women's bathroom entrance side around to the men's entrance. The slope of the apron had shifted toward the building and had created a place for water to get under the cement wall and freeze. We authorized the contractor to tear out that cement apron and pour a new apron and fix the slope to move the water away from the building. The cost was \$1800 additional. It would've cost more for him to come back later to do the work. I ask that you approve this expense to come out of the capital improvement fund.

Maintenance already has the leaves raked out of Timber Lake, the boat launch leveled out as well as Holiday and White Birch launches. The water is on at the campground, and the bath house is open. Maintenance will now be concentrating on getting the roads prepared for the upcoming brining on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Lake Treatment Schedule: see flyer posted on our website.

A few volunteers I would like to thank: Dawn Holzer, Kim Mitchell & Rose Boos for weeding and prepping the gardens at the front gate. Dawn also weeds here at the clubhouse.

Smokey is at his post at the front gate, and The Painter Family has volunteered to take care of the fire danger sign this summer.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

## VII. Committee Reports:

### EPC Committee: Director Holzer reported the following:

2 sheds, 6 tree removals, large home addition, pole barn, 3 septic, 1 New Home (barndominium) coming in June on Wolf Lane

Also, there was a leaf / grass fire on Pine and Spruce Hill on Sunday.

The member was cleaning up lot on Saturday and on Sunday, the fire reignited from the wind. Bob Pelfrey attended the fire and had to call the fire department for assistance.

I talked with the township, and they don't charge the property owner if the Fire dept has to assist, at this time. However, if DNR comes out, that's a different story. You could be fined, charged for fire control, etc.

***DO NOT LEAVE YOUR FIRE WITHOUT MAKING SURE IT IS OUT COMPLETELY, WITH WATER. This could have been really bad for our community.***

Also, there were 16 reminder letters, 2 were wrong lots, sent to those members that brought their trailer in prior to the May 8<sup>th</sup> blanket 2-week permit issued by the Board in April 2026. One wonderful member removed their trailer and only 1 member was a repeat from 2025. There were several more, however I ran out of printing ink. Members were sent the new policy with their letters too.

Talked to a lot of members about the new policy in effect starting May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, concerning "Member Not In Good Standing" other than nonpayment of assessments. No one yelled at me and had very positive comments. Told them, "This is an informative time for everyone about this new policy". Told them "Don't do it again"

### Safety Committee: Bob Pelfery reported the following.

"Dawn pretty much covered everything I was going to say. Everything is looking good around here; the campgrounds are looking good the bathrooms are looking good and that's all. As far as the fire danger is concerned, it is high. People are building awful big fires already. Just be careful and know that we are dry and there are a lot of leaves out there."

### Lakes and Watershed Committee: Steve Brandle reported the following:

"Weather permitting, June 6<sup>th</sup> which is a Saturday at 8 am we are going to try to clean up that creek that feeds Holiday Lake. We have one person bringing a chain saw. Most of the trees are pretty small and it is not going to take a whole lot of chain saw work. We need people with stiff garden rakes to drag leaves and stones out of the creek. Bring work gloves and we may need some ropes to drag trees out. We don't need to move trees very far just up out of the creek onto the bank. We are going to have to park on the road and walk into the area, it is a short walk, just so we are not plugging up that roadway. We can work until noon, if there is more to do and people are willing, we can come back in the afternoon and do some more. Bottled water will be provided. It is kind of rough terrain so you may need to wear hiking boots, it isn't really wet, but it is steep. There will be an announcement on the Facebook page."

## IX. Comments from the Floor:

1. Donnie Stanley, Lot# 1150, "Kylie and I were out walking the nature trail down by the campground a few weeks ago and we realize it needs a little attention too. So, kind of like Steve I would like to put together a little something or in conjunction to the clean up on that day. It is a little grown over and needs a little attention."

## X. Unfinished Business:

In regards to Agenda item, "White Birch Taxation Discussion" Director Sherry reported she has been doing research on how to file our appeals. She will be getting information together to file the deadline is May 31<sup>st</sup>.

In regards to Agenda item, "Annual Meeting Brunch," Director Holzer presented 3 menus for the Annual Meeting Brunch that will be served at 11:30 am.

- 5) *Director Holzer moves to approve the breakfast menu from Big R's in the amount of \$1650.00 for the Annual Meeting Brunch, 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Dombrowski. All Ayes, motion carried.*

In regards to Agenda item, "1043 Court Update" Director Holzer reported the update on Lot#1043 court case. They have until May 25<sup>th</sup> to comply with the court decision.

In Regards to Added Agenda item, "C & R Update" Director Sherry reported that the Policy committee will reconvene and discuss ideas and on how to amend the C&R's and will report back.

## **XI. New Business:**

In regards to Agenda item "Fish Stocking"

6) *Director Sherry moves to approve the Spring Fish Stocking not to exceed \$5000.00 to come out of Capital Improvement/Contingency Fund, 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Stanley. All Ayes, motion carried.*

7) *Director Olson moves to approve the Fall fish stocking not to exceed \$5000.00 to come out of the Capital Improvement/Contingency Fund, 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Stanley. All Ayes, motion carried.*

In regards to Agenda item, "Memorial Day Activities." Lisa reported that Director Stanley had raised funds for more than half of the DJ for Family Feud on Saturday May 23 and is only requesting a minimum amount to cover the rest. A cornhole tournament is being held at 1 pm at the campground. Family Feud should begin at 6ish at the campground, the rest of the events are being handled by volunteers for the fundraiser for Brian. Those details are on the Members of White Birch Facebook page but include hotdog sales, a garage sale and some raffles on Saturday and a poker run Sunday beginning at 2 to follow a Spaghetti Dinner with some more fun filled activities all proceeds go to Brian to help with his battle with cancer and no White Birch Official funds are being used. Everyone is encouraged to help our friend and neighbor

In regards to Added Agenda item, "Overages on Projects" Director Sherry had questions the approval of funds for overages on the improvement projects. It was explained that it was short notice as things sometimes come up during any project and that the executive board had approved the additional costs as to the time restraint.

In regards to Added Agenda item, "Lot# 693" Director Holzer reported that Lot 693 still has not complied with the C&R's and would like to explore additional consequences.

In regards to Added Agenda item "Electrical Escrow Fund," Director Holzer investigated ways to use this money to comply with the way this account is written when established. This account had been in existence for over 40 years. Director Maniez and Director Stanley will be contacting Consumers Energy to inquire on costs of installing trunk lines to areas that have no power.

In regards to Added Agenda item, "Teal Lake Well," Director Olson looked into the cost of replacing the pump in the well at Teal Lake with an estimate of \$6,326. This was just an informational discussion on whether the pump could be back up and running.

## **XII Additional Comments from the Floor**

2. Kylie Stanley, Lot# 1150, "I have a couple of things, with the voting thing I was wondering if because there are many times when you are standing with the bunch of people chatting maybe we could make flyers to hand out or put up at the campground or bathrooms. Because when people are together and gathering with others, I like to read what is on the board. Not everyone comes to the office to read the board. So basically, vote whatever why you vote it matters. Also, I know we talked about it and I didn't notice we added additions on to the docks? Next, if a camper won't leave for the winter won't taking away winter amenities such as storage be any concern for them? And the outdoor pool fan is really loud. And asking the members is the area where you want to put the new transformers in to pitch in towards it. Maybe put a letter out to them after we get numbers to see if they would"

3. Steve Brandle, Lot # 1369, "On the issue of Lot# 693 on Elm Run, the utility trailer that is being left is a violation of the township ordinance. Is that being addressed by the Zoning Administrator? That is the same as these temporary sheds it should be up to the township to pitch in. They are the ones that charge a fee for the permits. It should be up to them to enforce this too"

4. Lisa Trojanowski, Lot # 925, "As an employee, I am speaking as an employee at this time, I would like to encourage and see that board members that are on the Members of White Birch Facebook page that is not an official page, not put official language on there. Please do not put out information that our office may not even be aware about because none of us have that page on our personal Facebooks. Please encourage members to go to the official page or the website or even to call the office to get information such as when the bath house is open, when the floors will be done, when people can return to camping, fish stocking, when a tree is down and when there are gate issues. Sometimes the information is not the exact correct answers. When we explain the answer, we are told constantly that is not what they were told on the Facebook page, and we have to explain that is not the official account. We can't fix things we are not aware of, and I personally don't enjoy getting phone calls or messages on my personal account about things I have no idea are even happening. I can get on the page through White Birch's account and will go on periodically if someone has contacted me on a Saturday and I have encouraged people to please use the official information sites and would like to encourage the board to do the same."

5. Dawn Holzer, Lot# 1101, "As far as the township is concerned, they are working with us and have been since 2014 to get something done with the home on Evergreen."

6. David Maniez, Lot# 775, "The roads look really nice, dusty as heck but look really nice. They are going to look really nice when the brine comes."

7. Kevin Dombrowski, Lot# 1209, "One more comment, sorry I had to leave probably for the same reason Marie just had to leave. Sorry about that"

8) *Director Olson moves to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Director Maniez. All Ayes, motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned 12:01 pm

Submitted by,

Lisa Trojanowski Secretary/Treasurer

Recordings of Meeting Minutes are available to listen to by appointment with Secretary/Treasurer.