Lake Zoar Authority

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Member Towns

Monroe-Newtown-Oxford-Southbury

The regular meeting of the Lake Zoar Authority was held on Tuesday, January 06, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Southbury Town Hall.

Commissioners Present:	Absent:
Barbara McWilliams	
Thelma Chen	
John Downs	
James Galarneau	
Tim Glover	
Bruce Lafky	
Jerry Kozera	
Lesley Pires	
Dick Speer	
Avi Veeraraghav	

Call to Order
Chairwoman Barbara McWilliams called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Secretary's Report:
A motion to accept the minutes from the November 11, 2025 meeting was made by Tim Glover, seconded by Dick Speer; the motion was passed unanimously.

Public Comments:
2 Residents from Sandy Hook were in attendance.

Treasurer's Report:
Treasurer Avi Veeraraghav reported current treasury balances with cash on hand equaling $113,385.09. A motion to pass the treasurer's report was made by Bruce Lafky seconded by Dick Speer; the motion was passed unanimously.

Marine Patrol Report:
Marine Patrol Coordinator Dan Semosky reported two rescue missions during December on Lake Zoar.

- On December 9, a woman jumped from the Oxford side of the Stevenson Dam but was able to walk to first responders with injuries.
- On December 28, the town of Oxford fire fighters rescued an exhausted deer stranded on ice, 600 feet off the lake's shore near Fiddlehead Rd and Freeman Rd. The deer was safely rescued and handed offshore to CT DEEP but succumbed to its injuries.

Publicity/ Public Awareness:
James Galarneau reported activity is slower on the social media but there are still new followers regularly.

Water Quality
Weed Treatment Committee:
Chairwoman Barbara McWilliams reported Pond and Lake is still waiting on a permit from CT DEEP for this season's weed treatment.

Water Quality Monitoring Committee:
Tim Glover reported he contacted WCSU regarding the water quality monitoring program for 2026 and is planning for a meeting with staff this winter.

Commissioner Bruce Lafky signed up for the weed treatment and water quality monitoring committees.

Boats and Motors Report:
Dick Speer reported the boats are still wrapped and stored. Boat 2, the oldest boat, may be considered for resale this season.

Grants:
None.

Unfinished Business:
None.

New Business:
FirstLight is starting the Shepaug Solar Project on River Road in Southbury to power up to 400 homes.

Lake Waramaug approved a no wake ban to be in affect February 2026, enforceable by a $250 fine per occurrence. Discussion was had about no wake zones on Lake Zoar. It was suggested that to maintain a friendly lake environment, wake boaters should be directed to drive near the canyons by the lake. As of now, no wake zones must be permitted and approved by CT DEEP.

The Slalom water ski course permit was approved for 2026.

Lesley Pires presented the annual bylaws review, suggesting the Robert's Rule's reference book of 2004 be updated to the newest edition available and encouraged any other edits to be available at the next regular meeting.

A motion to stay the elections of officers until the next regular meeting when there are potentially more commissioners in participation was made by Dick Speer, seconded by Tim Glover, the motion was passed unanimously.

Adjournment
With no further business, Chairwoman Barbara McWilliams adjourned the meeting at 7:39pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lesley Pires
Secretary

The minutes are not considered official until approved at the next regular meeting of the Lake Zoar Authority to be held on Tuesday February 3, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Monroe Town Hall.