Lake Zoar Authority

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Member Towns

Monroe-Newtown-Oxford-Southbury

The regular meeting of the Lake Zoar Authority was held on Monday, July 13, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Newtown Community Center.

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

Call to Order
Chairwoman Barbara McWilliams called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Secretary's Report:
A motion to accept the minutes from June 2, 2026 meeting was made by Dick Speer, seconded by Dan O'Donnell, the motion was passed unanimously.

Public Comments:
4 members of the public were in attendance. One resident announced a complaint initiated to CT DEEP regarding an aggressive swan contacting recreational boaters. Marine Patrol Coordinator Dan Semosky has contacted Monroe and Newtown police, and Chairwoman Barbara will follow up with an email to CT DEEP. Another resident complained of people using recreational substances while on the lake. Officers will stay alert to the issue during patrols. Another resident mentioned that the condition of the sandbar has deteriorated. The LZA does not have control over the picnic tables or landscape but is engaged in weed treatment in the area.

Treasurer's Report:
Commissioner Barbara McWilliams presented the treasurer's report, indicating a current balance of $69,645.00. An additional invoice was sent to the town of Monroe for last year's past dues. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Dan O'Donnell, seconded by Tim Glover; the motion was passed unanimously.

Marine Patrol Report:
Marine patrol coordinator Dan Semosky reported there were ten patrols for the month of June, including 33 infractions with two tickets for no boat registration or license, 4 tows for boats in distress, and 25 logs pulled.

Publicity/ Public Awareness:
James Galarneau reported that there have been email complaints received regarding congested parking near Lake Zoar Trail and Paugussett State Forest over the weekend when visitors of the lake park illegally to camp and swim along the shoreline. Residents also complain of scattered litter, loud music, and boisterous behavior. Complaints have been made to the town and CT DEEP. Marine Patrol Coordinator Dan Semosky has called CT DEEP to discuss the situation and will continue to have patrols remove people from no swimming zones.
There was another inquiry about large blow-up rafts on the lake. Inflatable rafts are permitted, but questions about large inflatable rafts pulled by a boat or motor or paddled should be directed to CT DEEP Boating Division.

Water Quality

Weed Treatment Committee:
Chairwoman Barbara McWilliams reported that most of the lake looks well after the first weed treatment, but Pond and Lake completed a post treatment assessment and recommended further milfoil spot treatments for 14 acres downstream from the state boat launch and 13 for the sandbar. Barbara suggested the LZA apply ProcellaCOR herbicide for the first time, which lasts up to three years, in efforts to address the more stubborn weeds. The price is much higher at $1,300 per acre. Commissioners discussed the benefits of Aquathol K verus ProcellaCor and the nitrogen loading at each site. Dan O'Donnell motioned for Aquathol K to be applied at the sandbar, and ProcellaCOR to be applied downstream of the boat launch; the motion was seconded by Bruce Lafkay and passed unanimously. The spot treatments will be applied in mid to end July and the public will be notified. Barbara will look into how added residents can officially join the pond and lake weed treatment permits in the future.

Water Quality Monitoring Committee:
Tim Glover reported the WCSU Cyanobacteria Monitoring Program results for the week of 7/8/26. All results were for microcystin and nutrients remained low, with the only outlier site being the sandbar, with a microcystin concentration on greater than 5.2 ppb and a high phosphate load. All microcystin results were under the U.S. EPA and CT DPH recommended threshold of 8.0 parts per billion (ppb; µg/L) for recreational waters. All water quality monitoring results have been reported on the LZA website.

Boats and Motors Report:
Dick Speer reported the boats are in good working order.

Grants:
None.

Unfinished Business:
Chariwoman Barbara McWilliams announced that the third boat is close to reaching a final sale. Vicechairman Dan O'Donnell recommended a last call for offers be listed on the LZA website in good faith effort to ensure the LZA recoups as much taxpayer money as possible. Commissoners agreed Barbara can authorize an expenditure up to $1,000 to remove the old decals before the final sale.

New Business:
None.

Adjournment
With no further business, Chairwoman Barbara McWilliams adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm.

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 **Monday** August 3, 2026, at 7:00 pm at the Oxford Town Hall.