

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, October 06, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Monroe Town Hall.

Commissioners Present:

Barbara McWilliams
Thelma Chen
John Downs
James Galarneau
Tim Glover
Jerry Kozera
Bruce Lafkay
Dan O'Donnell
Lesley Pires
Dick Speer
Avi Veeraraghav

Absent:

Call to Order

Chairwoman Barbara McWilliams called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes from the September 1, 2026 meeting was made by Dan O'Donnell, seconded by Dick Speer, the motion was passed unanimously.

Public Comments:

None.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Avi Veeraraghav presented the treasurer's report, indicating a current balance of \$153,421.39. Several checks were paid for approximately \$10,972.38. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Jerry Kozera, seconded by Tim Glover the motion was passed unanimously.

Marine Patrol Report:

Marine patrol coordinator Dan Semosky reported for the month of September, there five patrols with the Labor Day holiday, including 16 violations, 29 inspections and 30 major debris hazards removed. For the month of October there was one patrol with 2 violations, 7 inspections, and 2 debris tows.

For the entire 2026 season, Dan reported a total of 54 total patrols, consisting of 19 with Monroe PD, 16 Newtown, 14 Oxford, 6 with LZA drivers only, and 9 cancelled due to weather. There 154 violations in total, with the most

common for PFDs and missing vessel paperwork. There were 302 boat inspections in total, 24 tows and recovery of disabled boats, and 113 Major hazardous debris removal.

Publicity/ Public Awareness:

Commissioner James Galarneau reported social media and email activity have been quiet but there has been one inquiry regarding the history of the statue of liberty on the sandbar.

Water Quality

Weed Treatment Committee:

Chairwoman Barbara McWilliams reported that Northeast Aquatic Research has surveyed Lake Zoar and the report will be available in November. Of note, it was mentioned that the invasive plant European Frogbit was found in the lake.

Barbara reported that per Pond and Lake, the weeded area of concern in front and downstream of the state boat launch was surveyed and now contains the native plants clasping leaf, coontail, and American pondweed. The 2026 treatments targeted milfoil and destroyed the milfoil.

Barbara also reported that algae mats have also been found in the lake which contain the hazardous cyanobacteria *Lyngbya*.

Barbara suggested starting a subcommittee to the weed treatment committee consisting of a commissioner liaison and local residents who are interested in water quality on the lake. Dan O'Donnell will draft a mission statement.

Water Quality Monitoring Committee:

Commissioner Tim Glover reported the WCSU Cyanobacteria Monitoring Program results for the week of 9/12/26. 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.

Tim attended the WCSU Lake Symposium on Monday, October 5, 2026 and shared a summary of the presentations. The presentation is available to watch online at

https://media.wcsu.edu/media/Lake+Symposium+2026+Session+1+-+Lake+Cyanotoxin+and+Water+Quality+Monitoring+Updates/1_911qa5kc/189708133

Boats and Motors Report:

Dick Speer reported that the boats will be hauled tomorrow, cleaned and shrink wrapped. Dick is looking into how to repair the lettering on the boats. The seats on both the patrol boats are not under the canopy. Dick suggested he obtain an estimate to install a canopy for those seats.

Grants:

None.

Unfinished Business:

The third patrol boat sold for \$7,150 on September 5, 2026 in private sale to the highest bidder. The funds have cleared and are in the LZA account.

New Business:

Chairwoman McWilliams reported an accountant, Lary Rice has been hired to complete the annual audit.

Dan O'Donnell pledged his personal support for Barbara McWilliams as Chairwoman of the LZA, noting that a member of the public called for her removal at the last meeting, and no other members or commissioners agreed with the statement when it was made.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Chairwoman Barbara McWilliams adjourned the meeting at 7:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lesley Pires
Secretary

Atts.

1. Balance Sheet, September 2026

The minutes are not considered official until approved at the next regular meeting of the Lake Zoar Authority to be held on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 7:00 pm at the Newtown Town Hall.

Lake Zoar Authority

Balance Sheet
As of Sep 30, 2026

	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Checking - Wells Fargo	153,421.39
Savings (MBIA CLASS)	\$0.00
MBIA General	0.00
MBIA Non Recurring	0.00
MBIA Weed Abatement	0.00
Total for Savings (MBIA CLASS)	\$0.00
SAVINGS ACCOUNT WACHOVIA	0.00
Savings-Reserve	0.00
Total for Bank Accounts	\$153,421.39
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total for Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total for Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total for Current Assets	\$153,421.39
Total for Assets	\$153,421.39
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	2,991.61
Total for Accounts Payable	\$2,991.61
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	0.00
Total for Other Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Total for Current Liabilities	\$2,991.61
Total for Liabilities	\$2,991.61
Equity	
301 Fund Balance	148,216.20
Opening Bal Equity	91.86
Unrestricted Net Assets	-112,525.13
Net Income	114,646.85
Total for Equity	\$150,429.78
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$153,421.39