

Planning Commission Minutes 6/1/26

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM June 1, 2026

Attendance:

Committee Members: Rolf Christiansen, Lynn Lindow, Carol Peterson, John La Fond

Absent: Jesse Krasean

Visitors: Steve Lindow

Motion to approve the May 5 Minutes was made by Carol P., seconded by Lynn L. Motion was approved.

Discussion centered on the following:

1. Survey to determine the need and desire for wake boat regulation. Lynn had sent out a sample survey to all members for review and comment prior to the meeting. Several changes were made prior to the meeting and discussion continued at the meeting. Thanks Lynn for putting this together.
2. Should any regulations, if enacted, apply to Bad Medicine Lake only or to all lakes within the township. There are pros and cons to both sides of this. Decided to add an additional question to the survey to help determine the answer to this question.
3. Reviewed and amended the letter that will accompany the survey.

Motion to approve the survey and letter by John L., second by Rolf C. Motion was approved. Lynn will present to the Town Board at their June 9 meeting.

4. Who should the survey be sent to? Decided to send it to all landowners in Forest Township since any regulations would be through the township board. Surveys will be returned to the Forest Township Clerk and remain unopened.
5. Lynn will make final changes to survey and letter. Commission members agreed to mail the survey by June 15, with a requested return date of July 15. Surveys will be numbered for control purposes. All responses will be considered anonymous. Surveys will be opened on July 20 at the Planning Commission meeting. Responses will be separated from the return envelopes so anonymity can be assured.
6. Discussed what approximate percentage of survey respondents needed to be in favor of enacting regulations and the consensus was 60% or more. Lynn will ask the Township Board their opinion on this subject also.
7. John volunteered to print out copies of the letter, survey, and address labels. Lynn will provide envelopes and paper. We'll get together at John's to fold and stuff.
8. Educational information has been posted to the planning portion of the township and the Bad Medicine Lake Area Assn. websites. We encourage everyone to review this information.
9. Reviewed the Water Surface Use Rules and Statutes packet that Lynn received from Captain Adam Block of the Minnesota DNR. This packet of info provides guidance for the

procedures to be followed should the planning commission move forward to establish regulations.

- a. John L. posed a question concerning whether or not a township is considered a “town” as referenced in the packet of info. Lynn volunteered to ask Steve Fenske, the General Counsel of the MN Assn. of Townships for clarification. *Lynn has subsequently received a response from Mr. Fenske indicating that* “When a statute uses the words “town” or “township” they refer to the township form of government”.
- b. Also discussed who would enforce any regulation, if enacted. The packet from Mr. Block seems to indicate both the county sheriff and the DNR would enforce this but different members have received conflicting info on this. Rolf C. will follow up.

Next meeting scheduled for July 20, 6:30 PM at the Forest Township Town Hall.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by John, seconded by Lynn at 8:30 PM. Unanimous vote to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by John La Fond