

# New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

Meeting of the Board of Directors  
March 26, 2026  
Via Zoom



## Present

Dean Long, President (arr 10:21)  
Tarki Heath, Vice President  
Greg Boyer, Treasurer  
Janet Andersen, Secretary  
Matthew Albright

Emily DeBolt  
Julia Digiovanni  
Jan Douglass  
Amy Hetherington  
John Jablonski

Theresa Mayhew  
John Murad  
Jane Oppenlander

## Absent

Ina Cholst  
Bill Harman

Betsy Landre  
Eric Randall

Bernie Thoma

## Also in Attendance

David Carr, NYSFOLA

Nancy Mueller, NYSFOLA

- 1. Call to order.** President Dean Long was delayed, so Vice President Tarki Heath called the meeting to order at 10:06 am, and confirmed a quorum of the board was present. Board documents were available prior to the meeting via email and Dropbox. Tarki thanked everyone for attending and for their contributions.
- 2. Approval of minutes.** Tarki Heath moved and Terri Mayhew seconded to approve the board minutes of January 22, 2026; the motion carried.
- 3. CSLAP report.** Nancy Mueller distributed a written report prior to the meeting. She said that she had also submitted a voucher to DEC, and that 2 articles have been received recently on AIS and involving younger people. She will distribute the articles to the board. She said that Friday's webinar will review how to read the CSLAP report. [CSLAP reports were not posted at the time of the meeting; DEC released them later that day.]
- 4. Treasurer's Report.** Greg Boyer gave a summary of the distributed financial documents, and said that the organization was in good financial shape. He said that funds were coming in for the conference, and that expenses would follow. He was successful in filing the sales tax. Necessary materials for the federal 990 have been provided to the accountants for filing the tax return, and an extension has been filed. Greg said he had not updated the budget at this point. Jan Andersen moved, and John Jablonski seconded, to accept the Treasurer's report: the motion carried.
- 5. Investment Committee.** John Murad had distributed a draft investment policy that is required of nonprofits by the New York Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (NYPMIFA). Janet Andersen moved, and Tarki Heath seconded, that the policy be adopted by NYSFOLA, and the motion carried. While the general feeling was to sit tight in reaction to the war, John recommended increasing the international portion of the investments. Currently equities are 94% domestic and 6% international. Tarki Heath moved that the the investment committee increase the international component up to 22%, John Jablonski seconded, and that motion carried.
- 6. Office Report.** Dave Carr said that conference registrations were coming in but he hoped more attendees will register. The bookkeeper is helping with sales tax, conference registrations, and CSLAP, and will help produce name tags. Dave and Nancy Mueller said they need a way to handle "Dr. Lake" questions to the office.
- 7. Strategic Plan.** Dean Long reviewed a Gantt chart on the strategic plan that showed that many categories showed decent progress, and that this would be updated for board meetings and used to track status.
- 8. Gift & scholarship.** Dave Carr said they had met with Dan Sitch from Oneonta, who reported they had more students than projects at this time. We discussed how and whether we could help lake associations fund the increased expenses. Also some projects may not be a lake management plan but other projects. Tarki Heath said that committee was moving forward on the Bill Harman scholarship award.

9. **Fundraising and membership committee.** Dave Carr said that NYSFOLA membership is currently 231 lake associations, 116 individuals, and 5 corporations. Membership has been steady over time, so the committee is discussing how to make NYSFOLA more visible through Town Halls, colleges, and potential partners. They are discussing new flyers and brochures for tabling events. They are focused on what benefits members get. They plan to promote National Lakes Appreciation Month (July). Discussion included a possible calendar of events on the website and sending out regular emails, and perhaps, social media.
10. **Science Advisory.** Dean Long said he'd gotten feedback on the draft committee charter, and hoped to have a chair and 4 to 6 initial members by the May meeting. He requested nominations.
11. **Advocacy.** Dean Long attended several meetings: February 11 at the State Legislature as part of the Finger Lakes Advocacy Day, and March 25 at the Assembly on nutrient inactivation, where additional members agreed to co-sponsor the legislation. He will also attend on April 21. The goal is to get the legislation out of committee and to the floor. Until the budget is completed, it is hard to get priority. Dean also discussed the HABs roadmap. Dean said the roadmap had significant issues and NYSFOLA may want to write a comment letter: the legislature's dominant reaction seemed to be why isn't it already done. The legislature is also interested in PFAS reporting.
12. **Nominations.** The board reviewed the nominations for reappointment to the board and discussed the need to have active members who were willing to contribute.
13. **Reinforcing Committees.** Dean Long reminded the board that now the board is working through committees. He encouraged more members to join committees.
14. **New business.**
  - **Office sale and rental.** Dave Carr reported that the current office appears to be sold, but closing may be 3 to 4 months away, which gives some time to search for a different rental location, still close to Syracuse and UFI. Some current rental options were discussed for more investigation.
  - **FOL.** We looked at some documents that set up this advocacy arm of NYSFOLA, but need to find bylaws and figure out what needs to be done to reactivate the organization. Tarki Heath showed a flowchart and we discussed a possible FOL logo.
15. **Next meeting.** The board will meet at Fort William Henry at 3 pm on May 7, 2026.
16. **Adjournment.** Terri Mayhew moved, and Tarki Heath seconded, that the meeting be adjourned at 11:58 am and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janet Andersen*

Janet Andersen, Secretary, NYSFOLA