

New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc.

Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 7, 2026 at 3:30 pm
Fort William Henry and via Zoom



Present

Dean Long, President
Tarki Heath, Vice President
Greg Boyer, Treasurer
Janet Andersen, Secretary
Emily DeBolt

Julia Digiovanni
Jan Douglass
Amy Hetherington
John Jablonski
Betsy Landre

Theresa Mayhew
Jane Oppenlander (Zoom)
Eric Randall

Absent

Matthew Albright
Ina Cholst

Bill Harman
John Murad

Also in Attendance

David Carr, NYSFOLA

Nancy Mueller, NYSFOLA

1. **Call to order.** President Dean Long called the meeting to order at 3:40 pm, and confirmed a quorum of the board was present. Board documents were handed out to attendees.
2. **Approval of minutes.** Eric Randall moved and John Jablonski seconded to approve the board minutes of March 26, 2026; the motion carried. Janet Andersen reminded board members of the IRS requirement to certify agreement to the distributed board policies, and collected certification signatures from those present.
3. **CSLAP report.** Nancy Mueller said that 219 sites and 197 lakes were participating in CSLAP in 2026, and 100 volunteers would be trained. She said that parameters and process did not change. About 13 dissolved oxygen probes would be distributed to lakes by DEC. UFI will send boxes of supplies for sampling to begin in June. Dean Long said he had obtained DEC agreement to 2027 changes including fluoroprobe phycocyanin analysis of open water samples (at 1.5M) to support trend analysis. This is possible since all sites will have expedited shipping. He also said we would add alkalinity since automated analysis is now available.
4. **Treasurer's Report.** Greg Boyer said that financials were strong now as the membership and conference income has arrived, but the expenses have not yet been billed. Payments are up to date. The tax accountant is working on the 990. Greg provided an update of the running budget but said that not much was happening. Issues continue with Key Bank third party authentication for credit card review. He noted that Western regional income was recorded in 2025 but expenses hit in 2026. He provided \$2500 for students at Oneonta. Terri Mayhew moved and Jan Andersen seconded to accept the Treasurer's report: the motion carried.
5. **Investment Committee.** Greg Boyer reported that the investment amount was about \$795K, with 59% in stocks, 37% in bonds, and 4% in cash. John Murad has discussed increasing international exposure from about 7% to about 15% and is being cautious given current conditions.
6. **Office Report.** Dave Carr reported that on April 15 the power was shut off because the landlord was delinquent on payments. While it was back on within 24 hours, he has drafted a letter to give 120 day notice on ending the lease. Health and safety considerations encourage a more rapid move. Dave, Tarki, and Greg are starting to look for new office space, the constraint is to be near UFI. The board suggested using a broker to help find space. Sharing space with a non-profit was also suggested and about 500 sq ft is needed. The need for storage may limit the ability to use shared space providers like WeWork.
7. **Strategic plan elements.** Several committees were reviewed as part of strategic plan initiatives. Dean Long said the timelines for some of these items need to be revisited.
 - **Science Advisory.** Dean Long said he hoped to have members on the committee and a list of potential advisors with invitations out by year end.

- **Financial stability.** Dean Long reported that financial recordkeeping and Quickbooks has been made effective thanks to external services.
 - **Fundraising and membership committee.** A new brochure about NYSFOLA was shared with the board and will be available at the conference. The group is discussing a logo, the dues structure, and how to improve how we serve members.
 - **Advocacy.** Dean Long attended several meetings with legislators: February 11 at the State Legislature as part of the Finger Lakes Advocacy Day, and March 25 and April 21 at the Assembly on nutrient inactivation (NI). The goal is to get the NI legislation out of committee and to the floor. Dean also discussed the HABs roadmap, and said it had significant issues and did not get a warm reception. The board thanked Dean for his actions.
8. **NEANS report.** Eric Randall reported on the valuable information conveyed in the informal meeting held between many NEANS members. This included a report on GLDIATR tracking online sales of invasive species to the aquaria trade, the impact of newly arrived tench in the St. Lawrence River system, hydrilla continuing to expand along the Connecticut River, and wakeboats as a vector for invasive species.
 9. **Nominations.** Tarki Heath shared that Bernie Thoma had retired from the board, and the board expressed thanks for his service. The board reviewed the nominations for reappointment: Janet Andersen, John Jablonski, Betsy Landry, and John Murad. Tarki also said that both Jane Oppenlander and Emily DeBolt were appointed to the board to fill unexpired terms and would be added to the slate for appointment by the members.
 10. **Regional committees.** NYSFOLA authorization of the regional conferences allows for them to be covered by NYSFOLA insurance. Jan Andersen moved, and John Jablonski seconded, that the NYSFOLA regional conferences of Lower Hudson, Columbia – Greene, Central NY, and Western NY be authorized and that \$250 be allocated for each, and the motion carried.
 11. **Executive session.** Jan Andersen moved, and Emily DeBolt seconded, that the board enter executive session at 5:02 pm to discuss personnel, and the motion carried.
 12. **Return to normal order.** At 5:20 pm, the board exited the executive session. Dean Long reported that the board had discussed Nancy Mueller's announcement of her retirement in December and discussed the process to hire a new CSLAP coordinator.
 13. **Next meeting.** The board did not set a next meeting but it is likely to be in September unless a meeting needs to be held sooner.
 14. **Adjournment.** Eric Randall moved, and John Jablonski seconded, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:22 pm and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Andersen

Janet Andersen, Secretary, NYSFOLA