

Lake Township Planning Commission  
Approved Meeting Minutes  
May 21, 2026

The Lake Township Planning Commission held a meeting on May 21, 2026, at 6:30 PM at the Lake Township Hall, 5153 Scenic Hwy, Honor, MI 49460.

Chairman Janeczko called the meeting to order at 6:30. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chairman Janeczko announced that recording secretary Maureen Jeannot's mother passed away, and Mary Pitcher will be taking meeting minutes.

Members Present: Mark Janeczko, Kyle Orr, Jackie Randall, Carl Lightfoot, and Michelle Erwin

Motion by Orr, to approve the agenda as presented. Supported by Lightfoot. Motion carried. All Ayes.

Public Input on agenda items: none

Motion by Randall to approve minutes of April 16, 2026, as presented. Support by Erwin. Motion carried. All Ayes.

Chairman Janeczko explained that there have been staffing changes at McKenna. The Township's new consultant from McKenna is Jim McManus. Mr McManus has extensive experience working with rural communities.

Chairman Janeczko met with Mr. McManus in Kalamazoo for approximately five hours at no expense to the Township. Mr. McManus will be attending the June Planning Commission meeting.

To avoid overnight lodging expenses and reduce costs to the Township, the meeting time will be changed to 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held on June 18, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

Due to the recent staffing changes at McKenna, it is anticipated that the final zoning ordinance proposed for adoption may be delayed by approximately one month, with adoption now expected in August.

Discussion of neighbor agreement for dock exceptions. Michelle Erwin has drafted a neighbor consent agreement. Discussion of the dockage ordinance and allowable number of dockages. Draft language will be forwarded to McKenna for incorporation in the draft ordinance. Discussion of the number of dockages allowed.

Discussion of impervious surface definition. Discussion of allowable Impervious surface within watershed overlays. One suggestion is to require a setback for permeable pavers, but have them not count as the impervious coverage. Erwin inquired about where “living green roofs” fit in. Discussion about possibly giving partial credit for a green roof.

New business:

Jim McManus from McKenna will be presenting at the June 18, 2026, scheduled for 3:00 PM.

Yard Sale discussion. Current ordinance requires no more than 6 days in a 90-day period and no more than 6 days total in a 90-day period. Proposed changes to a maximum of 3 days in succession and no more than 6 days total allowable within a 60-day period.

ADU discussion. Possible considerations: Capacity of sewage system. Requiring two off-road parking spaces in addition to garage space. Minimum sq ft lot size. Maximum square footage of ADU.

Janeczko shared an example of a “Zoning Approval Checklist” that the zoning administrator could use to review waterfront properties proposed for development for zoning ordinance compliance. This could be helpful to property owners as well as the zoning administrator. Consensus that this should be considered. A draft checklist will be presented at a future meeting.

Orr inquires if McKenna can give us “backup” on things like a watershed checklist. Janeczko will follow up with McManus.

Janeczko showed a slide of how impervious surfaces impact specific fish species. Impervious surface discussion. Motion by Erwin to allow 20% impervious surface coverage on Lake front properties. Ayes: Randall, Erwin, Lightfoot, Janeczko. Opposed: Orr.

Announcements: June 18, 3:00. McKenna will present on zoning ordinance updates.

Public Input:

John Randall inquired how many dockage complaints have been received this year. Will the public be made aware of the new regulations? Are the new dockage regulations currently in place?

Lesla Nagel: Not in favor of allowing ADU’s in Lakeshore residential. Is there a definition of parking? Will that be included in the checklist? Crystal Dr, is already too congested. Consider not allowing ADU’s in Lakeshore residential.

Sue Brown, President of the Crystal Lake Watershed Association, commends the PC for considering the watershed checklist.

Lesla Nagel inquired about the phosphorus issues in Platte Lake. How does it relate to zoning?

Greg Nagel, in trying to unify all same protections for all bodies, are we getting pushback? Has the Conservation District weighed in on that? Is it feasible?

Pitcher states that if all water bodies have the same regulations, it will make enforcement easier.

John Randall: Randall states that the old master plan recommended a sewer around Platte Lake. Is that in the current master plan? Could that help with the phosphorus issue? Sewers would be the ideal solution.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pitcher

Recording Secretary