

North Lakes Community Council Membership Meeting Minutes

July 31, 2025 – 7 pm

Website: <https://www.nlakes.cc>

Boys & Girls Club Bogard

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Rod Hanson, President. Hanson welcomed everyone. Board members introduced themselves. Quorum verified as 5/5 board members and more than 10% of council members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Fr. Randy Hillman.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

There were no recommended revisions and the agenda was approved unanimously.

3. PRIOR MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

John Miller made a recommendation to approve the June 26, 2025 minutes. Rachel Greenberg seconded it. Michael Bowles pointed out that his comments on June 26th preferred the idea of a sales tax because it goes before the people vs. a gas tax which is chosen by the board. The minutes will be amended accordingly. There were no further recommended revisions and the June 26th minutes (as amended) were approved unanimously.

4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION #1

- Father Randy Hillman thanked the board for the BBQ.

5. CORRESPONDENCE & ACTIVITY SUMMARY

- Rod Hanson reviewed item 2 from the report. Hansen met with a representative from the district DOT office where they agreed on the value of monthly meetings between DOT and our Road & Traffic Safety Committee.
- Hanson addressed Item number 5 from the report. The Mat Su Reentry Coalition has expressed an interest in doing a presentation for us. Membership agreed and Hanson will contact them and schedule on our agenda for a future meeting.
- Hanson reviewed item 10 from the report. The MSB approved "Welcome to North Lakes" signs in only 6 locations. They have been installed. We have applied for sign permits on State roads. We will also be going back to the MSB with a request / appeal to the policy decision that limited us to only 6 signs. There are several other locations where signs could help raise awareness in various highly populated neighborhoods.

6. OFFICER / COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. President's Report - R. Hanson had no further report.
- b. Treasurer's Report - Jolleen Coleman summarized the balance sheet and budget report. There was a question about the source of funds and Hanson explained that the funds come from the State and are passed through the Borough for Community Councils. Annually, it is approximately \$15,000.
- c. Finance Committee - No Meeting, no report.
- d. Bylaw Committee - No meeting. No report.
- e. Nomination Committee - No meeting. No report.
- f. Road & Traffic Safety Committee - Rachel Greenberg reviewed the minutes of the recent committee meeting (in the packet) and spoke to ongoing activities. She reported that communication is valuable in helping with road projects. She highlighted a couple items:
 - i. The NLCC sent a letter of support to the borough for fully funding transit services. The plan was only approved at 50% of the proposed amount.
 - ii. The state received funding for three major corridor improvement projects on Bogard between Trunk road and Seldon. There will be a pathway as part of those improvements. The CAMP, once approved, provides guidance on how those projects should be scoped and defined. It is expected that improvements will take about 10 years before they are completed.
- g. North Lakes Comprehensive Plan Committee - The NLCC resolution has been submitted to the MSB. Colleen Vague reported that the Mat-Su health foundation is willing to help with the cost of implementation.

7. GUEST PRESENTATIONS

- a. Nate Vertel, the program manager from Skeetawk, presented an overview of their operations and vision for the future. He is reaching out to Community Councils, seeking letters of support that they can take to the MSB and funding / lending institutions. The presentation was well received. R. Greenberg made a motion for the board to draft a letter of support. ~~Dwayne~~ ^{Dwayne} Kerr seconded the motion. There were no objections. Vertel left his number for future questions: 248-996-7452. The NLCC Board will prepare and send a letter of support as requested.

8. STATE & BOROUGH OFFICIALS - UPDATES

- a. Rep Elexie Moore gave a report on the special session called by the governor. They are working on developing a department of Agriculture and addressing two of the governor's vetoes.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. MSB Transportation Funding (Proposed Fuel Excise Tax) - Rod Hanson reviewed the MSB Flyer describing the proposed Fuel Excise Tax. He also reviewed a draft letter from the NLCC Draft to Mat-Su Borough, supporting the idea that additional revenue needs to be identified to adequately fund the major gaps in transportation infrastructure. If this ends up including a fuel excise tax, then the NLCC would like to see the issue go before the voters (as a voter referendum) before being approved. The NLCC would also want to see strong controls and oversight to assure that the funds are actually directed to transportation infrastructure improvements. John Miller made a motion to approve the letter and R. Greenberg seconded it. F. Conaway spoke in support of strengthening the statement for the borough code change to designate funds to transportation. The motion passed with no objections. The letter will be finalized and submitted.
- b. Shaw/ Birchtree Access Project- R.Hanson reviewed an outline document (included in the meeting packet) that included key points to put into a letter to be sent to the borough in response to the 35% design package review. The NLCC will continue to express concern about the downstream traffic impacts of the proposed connection to Foxtrot. This traffic would access Bogard Road through the Caribou intersection. This intersection is not capable of safely handling the level of expected traffic. The NLCC supports the project, but not the actual connection of Foxtrot to Paradise Lane until the Bogard intersection is approved. The letter will be sent to the Borough by Monday.
- c. Engstrom to Trunk Connector Project - R. Hanson reminded everyone to take the survey about this project. The NLCC continues to support the Southern Option because it provides a safer option than Bogard for gravel truck operations, and because it could be implemented much quicker and at less cost to Borough Taxpayers than any of the other options under consideration.
- d. Waterbody Setback - Proposed Ordinance Changes - R. Hanson reported that there is another public hearing this coming Monday with the Planning Commission and that it is slated to go to the Assembly in September. NLCC position is supportive of the code changes, but with changes to limit costs to property owners related to engineering and fuel tank conversions.

10.ONGOING / UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Annual NLCC BBQ Event Report. Jolleen Coleman reported on the success of the event last Saturday. We estimate about 200 people came to the event (including children). Rod Hanson thanked Jolleen for her work. He reported that there were over 40 people who provided their email addresses and asked to be added to our audience. There were also 17 people who signed up to become voting members of the NLCC.

- b. Bogard-Seldon Corridor Access Management Plan (CAMP). The CAMP has been revised again to incorporate additional changes and amendments put forward by the Assembly. It is going back to the Assembly for a decision (hopefully approval) next Tuesday, August 5th. The NLCC will be there to speak in support of approval.
- c. Wolf Lake Community Park Update: The Fishhook Community Council was provided a presentation and voted to approve a letter of support for the Park concept to the Borough. The Borough Manager and staff are meeting next week with the State DNR Commissioner. .

11. ADDITIONAL AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

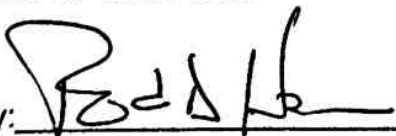
- a. John Miller mentioned that he has a petition book people can sign to put rank choice voting back on the ballot.
- b. Michael Bowles introduced himself again as a candidate for the Borough Assembly (District 1).
- c. F. Conaway addressed neighborhood cleanup efforts and announced the annual shoe giveaway that is sponsored by his church.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Colleen Vague stated that she will be out of State for the August meeting and unable to participate. Jolleen Coleman indicated she may also miss the meeting due to medical reasons. A Board quorum is defined as 3 of 5 in our Bylaws, so the meeting will go forward as long as Hanson, Smith, and Conaway are available.

13. ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Signed by: 

Date Signed: 8/20/25

Attested by: 

Date Signed: 8/28/25