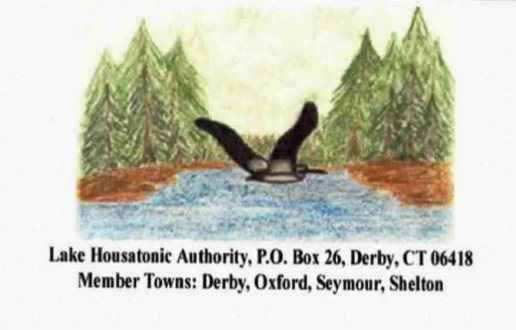


Minutes of the 8/18/2026 Meeting

The August 2026 meeting of the Lake Housatonic Authority was held at Derby City Hall.

Members Present	Members Absent
Ames, Scott (Oxford)	Fiedler, Andy (Derby)
Behuniak, Paul (Seymour)	Evans, Chris (Shelton)
Blanchard, Sandy (Shelton)	
Fitzgerald, Alegra (Shelton)	
Gildea, Jim (Derby)	
Olson, Jim (Oxford)	
Stahl, Mike (Derby)	

Also present was Brian Brainard, LHA Marine Patrol Chief.

The Chairman, Mike Stahl, called the meeting to order at 6:30PM

PUBLIC PORTION:

No public present

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

The minutes for the June 2026 meeting were previously presented to the board for approval.

Motion to accept the June 2026 meeting minutes as presented:
Motion: Behuniak Second: Blanchard Vote: Unanimous

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer, Sandy Blanchard, reported that all four towns had submitted funding. Two were received in July and the other two in August. The LHA is fully funded for the new season. All expenses were as expected. There was a significant delay in processing the patrol officers pay checks. It was suggested payroll be biweekly at most, and weekly whenever possible. Plans should be made for when the accountant is not available. The Chairman asked to be copied on the weekly payroll so he can keep an eye on it.

Motion to accept the August 2026 treasurer's report as presented:
Motion: Behuniak Second: Olson Vote: Unanimous

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By Marc J Garofalo MPA, MMC, MCTC at 11:55 am, Sep 04, 2026

GUEST PRESENTATION:

None scheduled.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Patrol:

The Chief, Brian Brainard, reported that patrols were going well. They have not been terribly busy. The jet skiers were previously kept from parking at the beach but now have started anchoring a couple feet off the beach to get around that. The Chief had previously made it known this would be his last year serving as Chief. There was some discussion on his successor as well as the Asst. Chief and Sargant positions. The Chairman asked the Chief to put together his suggestions to review with the board at the next meeting. There has been no response from DEEP yet to the LHA's request to add the surcharge that is now allowed to be added to tickets. All agree the increased fees will be a greater deterrent. The Chief will continue to follow up on the matter.

Motion to accept the August 2026 Chief's report as presented:
Motion: Fitzgerald Second: Olson Vote: Unanimous

Water Quality:

Scott Ames reported that testing has been going well and results were typical to prior years.

Weed abatement:

Jim Olson reported the treatment went well. They treated 30 acres for eel grass. And the dam held water flow for over 24 hours which was very beneficial. Pond weed is starting to come back. Milfoil is not an issue. The survey to be conducted in September will tell a lot and allow us to adjust the treatment plan for next year. Lake Zoar is reportedly having a major issue with weeds. The herbicide vendor, Solitude, has been paid.

Vessels and Equipment:

The Chairman mentioned that one boat was out of commission temporarily due to a potential leaking bait well plug. A microphone needed to be replaced on one boat. A quote was requested for larger capacity fire extinguishers.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

None at this time

OLD BUSINESS:

Water Safety Grant

A total of three life rings has been installed at the state park by DEEP. Two on the beach and one at the boat ramp. It is assumed the state paid for them as the LHA did not. A speed limit sign was also purchased.

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New Patrol Boat

The board will continue to research funding options including possible grants. A decision will be made on if both boats are replaced or just one when quotes are received and funding secured.

NEW BUSINESS:

None at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE:

No correspondence of any significance has been received since the last meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

None at this time.

AJOURNMENT:

The Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn the August meeting at 7:17 PM.
Motion: Olson Second: Behuniak Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Ames
Secretary – LHA

These minutes are subject to approval.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LAKE HOUSATONIC AUTHORITY IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026.

RECEIVED
By Marc J Garofalo MPA, MMC, MCTC at 11:55 am, Sep 04, 2026