Conservation/UW-EX Education Committee
Kathan Lake District Public Hearing
Wednesday, August 5, 2026 Minutes
Sugar Camp Town Hall, 4059 Camp Four Rd., Rhinelander, WI 54501 and Virtually by ZOOM

Committee Members: Chair Robb Jensen, Linnaea Newman, Dan Hess, Collette Sorgel

County Staff Present: Michele Sadauskas, Karl Jennrich, Baerbel Ehrig, Sara Chiamulera, Kim Karaba.

Others Present: Katie Bauknecht, Sugar Camp Chair; Ken Drake, Kathan Lake Association President.

1. **Call to order, approve agenda, and committee/staff introductions:**
   Chair Jensen called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. A motion by Hess/Sorgel to approve the August 5, 2026 agenda as presented. All ayes; motion carried. A quorum was confirmed with four members present. Chair Jensen explained the purpose for the Public Hearing today. Committee and staff introduced themselves.

2. **Chair Jensen** explained the procedure of the hearing, time limits on speakers, and gave an overview of the lake district formation process and introduced Michele Sadauskas.

3. **Sadauskas** discussed the 'register to testify' process and gave instructions to the audience on how speakers would be called up.

4. **Chair Jensen** opened the public hearing portion of the meeting and introduced Karl Jennrich.

5. **Jennrich** read into record: public hearing notice, summary of mailing sheet info, public comments received sheet.

6. **Ken Drake** gave the petitioner's statement, reserving three minutes for the end of the public comment period.

7. **Katie Bauknecht** gave the Sugar Camp Town Board opinion.

8. **Sadauskas** called on individuals who wished to speak. Those who filled out "Public Hearing Forms" could: TESTIFY in favor, in opposition, or for information or REGISTER in favor or opposition of the petition. Those in attendance in-person were asked to speak first, then Zoom participants. The list of speakers follows: To Testify in Favor included Mary Drake, Laura Labno Kristie, and Russell Johnson. Testifying in Favor on Zoom were

Larry Kreiter, Kevin Dunn and Debbie Hammond. Testifying In Opposition in person were Troy Avers and Tobin Avery. There were no Zoom attendees who wished to Testify in opposition.

9. **People who registered but did not speak:** In Favor were Joseph Kristie, Kathleen Treuden, David Golic, Paul Gross, Cheryl Chadwick, Arielle Chadwick, Eugene Wojciechowicz, Kathy Wojciechowicz, Mary Gross, Lee Treuden, Sarah Golick, and Scott Bornberg. Dan Butkus spoke on Zoom with general information only.

10. **Ken Drake** used his reserved 3 minutes to complete the petitioner's statement.

11. **Chair Jensen** called for any others who wished to speak who hadn't earlier. No additional speakers. Closed public comment portion of hearing.

12. **Chair Jensen** reviewed what County Board will base their decision on to approve a lake district, and read the preliminary timeline; Draft Report to CUW Committee-Sept. 14, 2026, Final Report to CUW Committee-Oct. 12, 2026, Report to Oneida County Board-Oct. 20, 2026, Vote by Oneida County Board-Nov. 12, 2026.

13. **Dan Hess & Linnaea Newman** provided comment.

14. **Sara Chiamulera** reviewed Land Information's process so far and what they will provide moving forward.

15. **Motion to adjourn.**