

**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

Chairman
Christian Anderson

Vice-Chairman
Kyle Hauber

Members

Connie Hughes

Walt Breitingner

Michael Cantieri

Richard Tegt

Chad Kuehl

CONSULTANTS

General Manager
Alicia Barber

Financial Secretary
Dale Brewer

Attorney
David Hollenbeck

Engineer
Jacob Ballah
BF&S



**VALPARAISO LAKES AREA CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES**

August 20, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District met in the Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District Board Room at 1805 Burlington Beach Road, Valparaiso, Indiana on August 20, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Board members present included Christian Anderson, Kyle Hauber, Connie Hughes, Walt Breitingner, Michael Cantieri, Richard Tegt and Chad Kuehl. Consultants present included Alicia Barber, Dale Brewer, David Hollenbeck, and Jacob Ballah.

Chairman Christian Anderson called the board meeting to order.

Kingsridge Pond Deed

- Dave reported that the deed to the pond will be quick claimed to some property owners around the pond. Christian will sign the document and have it notarized.
- Alicia provided a document to the property owners that states VLACD will maintain and clean the outfall.
- Walt motioned to approve Dave to quick claim the pond deed over to the listed property owners. Chad seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Attorneys Report

- Dave announced that he will be stepping down as attorney by the end of the year

Approval of Minutes

- Connie made a motion to approve the minutes. Kyle seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Approval of Claims

- Kyle made a motion to approve claims. Connie seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Shepherd Insurance

- Jim Anton presented the 2025-2026 insurance policy terms and answered questions from the board.

Butler Fairman & Seufert Engineering

- Jacob Ballah informed that Blackhawk Beach Road drainage survey is complete. Hollenbeck Greenway has been surveyed and will provide the documents when done. Edgewater Beach Road drainage data is being collected.

Public Participation

- Thomas Ludwig – Presented a statement to the board. See Attachment A.
- Richard Tegt – Richard talked about the budget and how much has been spent. Richard motioned that the board attorney reviews the statute and offer and opinion, and that the board redo the budget with the goal of no property tax in 2026. Chad seconded the motion. 2 ayes', and 5 opposed. Motion failed.

General Managers Report

- 811 Conference is in November. Kyle motioned to approve the conference. Mike seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Kyle Hauber

- Kyle read a letter. Kyle addressed the board about the conduct of a current board member.
- Some discussion followed about spraying of the lakes
- Kyle motioned to formally censure board member Richard Tegt for violations of the boards code of conduct and ethics policy adopted in February 2025. Walt seconded the motion. 3 ayes' and 4 opposed. Motion failed.

Christian adjourned the meeting.

Next regularly scheduled meeting: September 17, 2025

Attested by Alicia Barber, General Manager

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alicia Barber". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

THE ISSUE:

I'm providing the Board with a copy of my statement and ask that it be included, in its entirety, in the minutes.

I thank the Board for this opportunity to briefly voice the concerns of a number of VLACD clients about the excessive and unjustifiable cost of providing water and sewer to us as customers. What we ask the Board to swiftly investigate is the transfer of VLACD utility operations to Valparaiso City Utilities. The drop in water costs and the improvement in efficiency will provide much appreciated savings to all rate payers. It's the same water.

THE FACTS:

The figures I reference come directly from publicly available information and information provided by the VLACD. The VLACD buys water wholesale from Valparaiso City Utilities and resells that same water to us after marking it up significantly. The markup is to cover the expense of staffing, overhead, billing and equipment. Last year that amounted to more than \$200,000.00. These costs for redundant services and the excessive markup on water would be eliminated if the VLACD were taken over by Valparaiso City Utilities.

EARLY EFFORTS:

At the July, 2025 VLACD Board meeting, Board member Dick Tegt made a motion to have a meeting to consider options for reducing costs. His motion failed for lack of a second. Not one of the other 6 Board members felt that exploring these options was in the best interest of their constituents. Efforts to contact these Board members resulted in only one reply. Thank you, Chad Kuehl, for writing back.

CONCLUSION:

For decades, the VLACD has been a strong advocate for its clients. It spearheaded the effort to change homes in the lakes area from well/septic to city water/sewer, with benefits to our overall health and the health of our environment. It's important to know that now many families are struggling to pay for services as basic as water and sewer. 40% of the kids at Flint Lake Elementary qualify for free/reduced lunch. Census data from 5 years ago in the Blackhawk Beach area documented that over half of their households were in the low/moderate income category. The savings we seek will benefit all of us in the VLACD, especially those who need it most. It's time for the VLACD to once again step up and act in the best interests of its clients and to quickly begin the discussions about decreasing water rates and transferring utility operations to Valparaiso City Utilities. After all...it's the same water.