

AMSTON LAKE DISTRICT
Lake Usage Committee Meeting Minutes
July 22, 2026 , 6:00 P.M.
Zoom

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: F. Hoisl, B. Pelegano, T. Angelucci, D. Keith, K. Rustico,

Absent: J. Caines, J. Waleszczyk, B. Lederer

C. Plan for 2026

Expert Reports: CAES vs. GZA

- **CAES (Plant Survey)**
 - Presented a 2006 Vs 2026 comparison showing Lollipop Cove now “completely covered” in weeds
 - Expert Greg suggested hand-pulling and chemical treatments are necessary to prevent water mass loss
 - Noted a resident’s comment that 1-3 acres loss in a 180-acre lake is insignificant, which the committee found unacceptable
- **GZA (Long-Term Limnologist)**
 - Expert Ben Burpee (10 years familiarity with Amston Lake) stated the lake is healthy
 - No cyanobacteria blooms have been observed in 10 years; recent green films were harmless algae
 - Sedimentation is a slow geological process, not an immediate concern
 - Cove vegetation is natural and fluctuates annually; this year, lollipop Cove has clear boat access
 - Due to residents trimming access areas

Committee Debate & Rationale

- **Pro-Action (Brandon, Todd, Karen):**
 - The lake is visibly overgrown, impacting residents access
 - Past chemical treatments in Lollipop Cove did not “destroy” the lake, refuting alarmist claims
 - GZA’s monitoring is too narrow (e.g., algae) and lacks a comprehensive weed assessment
- **Pro-Monitoring (Duncan):**
 - The 2006 CAES baseline was skewed by prior chemical treatments; historical reports show consistent weed levels
 - CAES’s expert Greg based recommendations on his own 29-acre lake, not a deep study of Amston Lake
 - The committee is overreacting to a natural process.

Decision: Solitude Survey

- **Action: Brandon will sign the pre-approved \$4,250 contract with Solitude**
 - Scope: A comprehensive littoral zone survey using visual observation, underwater camera, depth finders, and rake tosses to map all aquatic plants
- **Action: Deliverables: A report detailing survey techniques, plant species, distribution and management options**
- **Rational: Solitude is a management company that performs physical work, providing practical, costed solutions beyond GZA's scientific monitoring**

D. Action Items

- **Brandon:**
 - Sign the \$4250 Solitude contract (with treasurer's counter signature)
 - Email Greg (CAES) to request further elaboration on management recommendations.
 - Coordinate with Solitude on survey logistics (timing, gate access)
- **Todd:**
 - Distribute Meeting minutes for review
- **Frank:**
 - Share the link to the drone photos once available on the Lake Health website

E. Adjournment. 7:17

Respectfully submitted,
Frank Hoisl Co-Chair with Use of AI