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MINUTES
January 8, 2026

MEMBER ROLL CALL:

Ralph Lutjen, Chairman – Present
Mike Brooks, Vice Chair – Present
Mike Mosher – Excused
Marc Ohlson – Excused
Nicole Nordlund - Present

Ted Slader (Alternate) – Excused
Marcia McKenna – Present
Josh Shackford - Present
Liza Rogerson (Alternate) – Present

OTHERS PRESENT: Evan Woss - Madison TV and Katharine Young, Land Use Boards Administrator

MEETING POSTED: The meeting was posted in the Madison Town Hall Upper & Lower levels, Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on December 31, 2025.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Lutjen called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

ELEVATION OF ALTERNATES: **Motion** by Shackford, seconded by Brooks to elevate Rogerson, an Alternate, to a full voting member. The motion was voted on and passed **unanimously**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chairman Lutjen asked for any comments or revisions to the minutes from the December 4, 2025 meeting and since there were none, he asked for a motion for approval.

Motion by Shackford, seconded by Brooks to approve the December 4, 2025 minutes as written. The motion was voted on and passed **unanimously**.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Chairman Lutjen stated since no one from the public was present, he was closing the public comment.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tim Nolin – Forest Land Improvement: Nolin was not present at the meeting. Young, Land Use Boards Administrator explained that in addition to the account balances noted below, that Nolin provided the town with an additional check which had been deposited.

Property Review Commitments: Chairman Lutjen stated the one outstanding is the Chain of Ponds. He further stated that Brooks had agreed to make the property description for the Chain of Ponds. Brooks stated he did

agree to do that. Chairman Lutjen stated that most of the property descriptions are in good shape. Chairman Lutjen also mentioned that he had asked Nolin to provide additional information for the Goodwin location due to activity there.

NEW BUSINESS: Chairman Lutjen stated the commission has been invited to speak at Tin Mountain on Monday, January 12, 2026 at 4:30 pm regarding the Chain of Ponds acquisition. Chairman Lutjen stated he was available and willing to attend. He further explained that the purpose of the meeting is to inform the public about the transaction. It was also stated there was another related event scheduled at Tuckerman Brewing on February 2, 2026 with several members expressing interest in attending that one as well.

SELECTMAN'S REPORT: Selectman Nordlund reported that the Select Board had voted on the conservation Warrant Articles for the \$5,000.00 for land acquisition and conservation purposes and \$10,000.00 for the Forest Maintenance Account.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT: Ohlson was not present at the meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE CORRESPONDENCE:

Leaping Lizards: Young, Land Use Boards Administrator stated that it had been brought to her attention to bring the Leaping Lizards information to the commission for the Old Home Week presentation. This is an educational program focusing on reptiles. She further explained that a presentation was recently done at the Madison Elementary School for a cost of \$350.00 for one hour. This was suggested as a potential alternative as to cost, because the Wildlife Encounters Program is more expensive.

The commission discussed the merits of both programs. Several members expressed a preference for continuing with the Wildlife Encounters, despite its higher cost (approximately 600.00) because it features local species that exist in the natural environment in the northeast, making it more educational and relevant. It was decided to inform Slader (who was not in attendance) about the Leaping Lizards program and ask him to research it and make a recommendation to the commission at their February meeting.

ANNUAL REPORT LETTER – 2025 - CHAIRMAN LUTJEN: Chairman Lutjen explained that the draft of the Annual Report letter prepared by him for 2025 was emailed to the members prior to this meeting. McKenna stated that the letter should contain goals and objectives. Members discussed potential goals and objectives to include in the report as follows:

1. Digitizing property descriptions and files.
2. Preparation for monitoring Chain of Ponds.
3. Possibly address the McNair Easement to improve its standing with the town and the way the land will be monitored.
4. Investigating invasive species control, particularly for Knotweed and Bittersweet and Burning bush.

The Commission had an extensive discussion about invasive species, particularly Knotweed, Bittersweet, and Burning bush. McKenna stated she could look into getting more information on the spraying invasive species and report that back to the commission. She also mentioned the New Hampshire Conservation Commission was holding seminars on line where people could take classes to become certified. Rogerson stated that all those seminars are currently full, but she is on a notification list. Members shared experiences about various eradication methods, including using heavy-duty chemicals (glyphosate/Roundup), burying plants under 6-mil plastic, adding loam and Pac a Sandra as well as physical removal. There was consensus that controlling invasive species is extremely difficult and would be costly for the town. The Commission agreed to add a sentence to the Annual Report letter about investigating invasive species issues. Young, Land Use Boards Administrator agreed to

make the revisions to the letter and would get that and the contribution letter received from Green Mountain Conversation Commission to the Town Administrator for publishing in the Annual Report.

The Commission also had a discussion about the letter it was provided from Bob Boyd, Code Enforcement Officer from NHDES regarding the contaminated Lead Mine property. The letter highlighted the need to contact the Department of Environmental Services (DES) if there are plans to transfer the property. Brooks suggested reaching out to the Project Manager at NHDES, Amy Gibney, to ask if she could possibly attend a meeting to provide information to assist the Commission to make an informed decision about potential involvement with the property. The meeting with NHDES would likely be held as a non-public session under RSA 91-A (d) as it would involve establishing the Commission's position on a potential property transfer.

Chairman Lutjen went over the account balances as noted below:

Account Balances as of November 30, 2025 & December 31, 2025

Conservation Land Use Change Tax: $\$225,815.59 + \$17,000.00$ (Contribution from USVLT - $\$213,000.00$ (payment to USVLT) = $\$29,817.26 + \0.76 interest = $\$29,818.02$

Forest Maintenance Account: $\$84,988.21 + \2.42 Interest + 4 Deposits from cutting on Goodwin Burke ($\$25,491.28$) = $\$110,481.91$

Conservation Gift Account: $\$358.81 + \0.01 interest = $\$358.82 + \0.01 interest = $\$358.83$

Capital Reserve Account: Balance as of December, 2025 was $\$64,163.80$

Young, Land Use Boards Administrator advised the commission that Shackford, Brooks and Slader are up for reappointment for 2026. Young clarified that as appointees, they do not need to run for the positions, but would need to refile their application for appointment by the Select Board.

Young, Land Use Boards Administrator explained that the July, 2026 meeting was rescheduled from July 2, 2026 to July 9, 2026, due to Town Hall being closed for Independence Day.

Chairman Lutjen stated he will not be in attendance at the March 5, 2026 regularly scheduled meeting.

Motion by Brooks, seconded by Shackford to adjourn the meeting. The motion was voted on and passed **unanimously** and the meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Submitted by,

Katharine Young
Land Use Boards Administrator