

Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District
Regular Board Meeting of the Trustees
11 February 2026

Unapproved Minutes

Attendance: Jeff Schumann, Jeff Whiting, Ben Lawton, Tom Hogan, Albert Wenta, Wayne Rausenberger, Brad Lawes, Robbie Devoid, Steve Belcher. On Zoom: Will Mathis, Doug Perkins.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with a quorum and all towns represented.

The Agenda was approved.

Approval of the Minutes of the November meeting was deferred when Wayne Rausenberger questioned whether the 2026 Budget had actually been approved; the recording of the meeting was not immediately available.

Treasurer's Report

Doug Perkins, interim treasurer, had sent out reports by email. Wayne Rausenberger had a question about the costs for the planning of the shed improvements.

Committee Reports

Planning: Jeff Whiting reported on preparation of the adulticide permit; discussion of the details are ongoing with the State officials. They are pushing for written authorization from the landowners on whose property the sampling and trapping are performed; Jeff noted that District employees are in constant contact with those landowners. Mapping is also a concern.

The Finance, Audit, and Public Relations committees had nothing to report.

Jeff Schumann reported for the Personnel Committee: they have had many applicants for the intern positions, and four applications for the position of Entomology Lab coordinator. They are in talks with John Capen for the recruitment of applicators and there are a number of new possibilities. They have engaged a book-keeper based in Middlebury.

Wayne Rausenberger asked about the logistics of getting bills to Middlebury; the Chair would like to make all activities digital, and the Treasurer will work out the details.

Ben Lawton had a question about posting on the Front Porch Forum, and Jeff Whiting detailed the means by which notice of applications are communicated. There are currently some 400 people signed up through the website to receive notices.

Old Business

The question of magnets to put on the trucks and shirts to identify employees is still open and requires action. Jeff Whiting described a phone application that identifies property boundaries and locations; the State is recommending use of this application. The price is \$49/year/phone.

New Business

Election of a Treasurer

There were no candidates. Doug Perkins will continue as interim Treasurer. Wayne Rausenberger had a question about the mechanics and oversight of Officer compensation, that was approved at the last meeting. All will submit time-sheets; no-one will be approving their own time-sheet, and Albert Wenta noted that the Audit Committee would be providing further oversight.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Belcher, Secretary