GARDNER LAKE AUTHORITY
270 Hartford Road
Salem, CT 06240

Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2026
Montville Public Safety Building

(The September meeting was cancelled.)

Henry Granger, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Attendees

Bozrah:	Henry Granger, Justin LaPre, Don LaPre
Montville:	Bill Wrobel, Scott Soderberg, John MacNeil
Salem:	Chris Rios, Lou Allen, Jane Coffey

Recording Secretary: Kate Johnson
Guests: John Hummel, Kris Kehoe, Jill Johnson and Val Hornat
A quorum was noted.

Minutes
Minutes of the August 13, 2026 meeting were presented. John McNeil made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Chris Rios. The motion passed unanimously.

Administration, Communication and Correspondence

- **GZA Invoice**: Progress billing in the amount of $8,085 was presented. Bill Wrobel made a motion to approve payment; seconded by Justin LaPre. The motion passed unanimously.
- **CESE Invoice**: In the amount of $524.10 was received for lab analysis of water samples. John MacNeil made a motion to approve payment; seconded by Jane Coffey. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Invoice from Kate Johnson**: In the amount of $95 for the August meeting minutes was presented. Chris Rios, Treasurer, noted that Kate's missing check from July in the amount of $60 has not shown up on the statement. Lou Allen made a motion to approve payment of $95 and also to reissue the $60, for a total of $155; seconded by Scott Soderberg. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Drawdown Approval from DEEP**: Henry received a confirmation from DEEP that the drawdown was approved, and that the dam gate should be opened on or around October 15, and closed on or around February 25, 2027.

Treasurer's Report
Chris Rios presented the August and September Treasurer's Reports.

Committee Business

- **Law Enforcement Patrol**: Planning for the upcoming 2027 budget will need to be adjusted to include state-required third-party insurance, should DEEP be awarded the 2027 patrol contract.
- **Water Quality Sampling**: Scott will be collecting samples on October 9. He will invite GZA to present their annual water quality report at the November meeting.
- **Drawdowns**: See above.

Old Business None.

New Business

- **Statewide Hydrilla**:
  - Jane has been researching hydrilla at Twin Lakes [Salisbury, CT], as they work in partnership with CT Resource and Conservation Development (CT RC&D). She recommended watching an online video "Invading the CT River – The Spread of Hydrilla."
  - To date, the State has focused on the hydrilla in the CT River. Questions have been raised as to why the State does not pay for hydrilla management in their state-owned lakes.
- **Gardner Lake Hydrilla**:
  - Don noted that in May there was a vote to go forward with treating four locations around the lake, but to date that has not taken place.
  - Greg Bugbee has agreed to do a hydrilla presentation for Gardner Lake, either a video meeting or in-person. Don LaPre made a motion to hold an in-person meeting; seconded by Jane Coffey. The motion passed unanimously. The date and location to be determined.
  - John noted that public speaking at the special meeting should be managed, with a limited amount of time for each respondent to speak. Lou suggested inviting the news media to attend the meeting, and providing a question-and-answer handout for meeting attendees to answer some of their questions and concerns up front before the meeting.
  - Henry discussed reaching out to *Pond and Lake Connection* for updated herbicidal treatment prices.

Public Comment

- **Kris Kehoe**: Kris Kehoe worked with Martha Marx's office, establishing a GLA contact to DEEP through Senator Marx's legislative aide Breanna Horton.
- **Friends of Gardner Lake**: It was suggested that once the special meeting date and location are set that we should check with Sue Coffee about posting the meeting announcement on the *Friends* website.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2026 at the Salem Town Hall, beginning at 7:00 pm. The public is welcome to attend.

Adjournment

Chris Rios made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.; seconded by Lou Allen. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Johnson,
Recording Secretary