



1000 Islands Environmental Center Committee
City of Kaukauna
Nature Center Building
1000 Beaulieu Ct, Kaukauna
Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 6:30 PM

In-Person

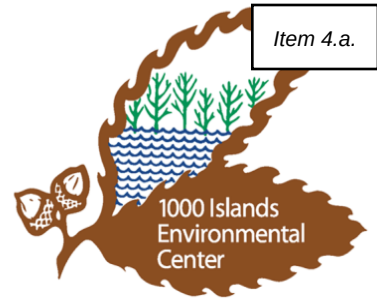
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call - Verification of a quorum
3. Public Appearances
4. Reading and Approval Minutes
 - [a.](#) 1000 Islands Environmental Center Committee Minutes of September 17, 2026
5. Financial Report
 - [a.](#) September Financial Report
6. Correspondence
7. The Friends of 1000 Islands Report
8. Naturalist Report
 - [a.](#) September Naturalist Report
9. Committee Reports
 - a. Administrative/Finance Committee Reports
 - [i.](#) September Endowment Statement
 - [ii.](#) 3rd Quarter Usage Report
 - b. Education Committee Report
 - c. Building & Grounds Committee Reports
10. Old Business
 - a. 1000 Islands Committee Bylaw Updates
11. New Business
12. Good of the Center
13. Next Meeting - Thursday, November 19, 2026
14. Adjournment

NOTICES

THIS MEETING IS ACCESSIBLE TO THE HANDICAPPED. IF REQUESTED THREE (3) DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING, A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE.

1000 Islands Environmental Center Mission Statement: To provide children, adults and families the knowledge and skills needed to build a sustainable balance among the environment, economy and community through education, conservation and recreation.





1000 ISLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

1000 ISLANDS COMMITTEE

City of Kaukauna

Nature Center Building

1000 Beaulieu Court, Kaukauna

Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 6:30 PM

MINUTES

Members Present West, Timmons, Hietpas, Zornow, White, Eggleston, and Breitzman

Not Present Manion and VanBerkel

Also Present Brad Garrity and Cassandra Kohls

Breitzman called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. A quorum was present.

Public Appearances - None

August 20, 2026, Committee Meeting Minutes

West moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Hietpas. Motion carried.

August Financial Report

Zornow moved to approve the August Financial Report; seconded by Eggleston. Motion carried.

Correspondence - None

Friends of 1000 Islands Report – No report

August Naturalist Report

Garrity reported that Eric Gonnering and Kathryn Benson celebrated two years at the Nature Center, and intern Payton Chevalier's last day was August 22. Over the summer, Payton taught and assisted with field trips, updated the toddler space, developed a brochure concept, and designed an interactive insect display concept. The display fabrication is being completed by Eagle Graphics, with installation planned for late 2026 or early 2027.

Summer programming featured numerous crayfishing events and a new Girls in STEM field trip focused on environmental issues, which received positive feedback from the Boys and Girls Club. FairyWalk drew 300 to 400 attendees, and the Nature Center offered a pinecone birdfeeder craft for approximately 200 participants. The Kaukauna Public Library handled event marketing. Hietpas asked about funding for the birdhouse workshop, and Garrity noted it was covered through the operational budget.

Planning for 2027 field trips is underway. While KASD participation has been lower than in previous years, April and May dates are already full. A new campfire option is being offered during lunch breaks to encourage winter field trip participation.

Furnace and air conditioning tuneups have been completed. The front entryway remodel is scheduled to begin September 21 and finish by mid-October. The front entrance will be closed during construction.

Randee Mooney completed her Girl Scout Gold Award project, which included a pollinator garden kiosk and the installation of milkweed and monarch signage.

Garrity reported that Eagle Scout, Evan Jahnke's crayfishing platform project is progressing. The platform was built off-site, and removable stairs were added to the design at staff request. Evan will work with the City Street Department to install the platform near Konkapot Creek.

Gonnering is obtaining quotes for the Eagle Camera project. A \$1,900 donation from the Firecracker 5K was received to support the project. Phase 1 is fully funded, with Martin Systems of Green Bay selected for installation. The habitat camera will have a 450-foot viewing range. Staff are coordinating with Kaukauna Utilities and planning a stakeholder meeting. Installation is expected before February 2027.

Phase 2 of the Eagle Camera project will add a nest-facing camera and is estimated to cost \$20,000. The project will require solar panels and battery backup and is tentatively planned for June through September 2027.

Garrity reported receipt of a \$10,000 Community Foundation donation. A portion of that donation will be used for the switchback project. Any additional unrestricted donations from the Community Foundation will be directed toward Phase 2 of the Eagle Camera project.

In response to a question from Zornow, Garrity stated that the cameras will be purchased and owned by the Nature Center, with an expected lifespan of six to seven years. Eagle camera footage will be livestreamed on YouTube, with donation opportunities available to help offset operating costs and future upgrades. This is anticipated to be the first eagle camera on this side of Wisconsin.

Garrity reported that a recent sewer backup was traced to low-flow toilets not flushing enough water. Public Works inspected the lift station and confirmed the cause. Staff also purchased a post-hole auger and a second chainsaw with a larger bar.

The August endowment statement was provided for committee review. Committee members questioned the administrative fee calculations.

Timmons accepted reappointment to a three-year term, and West's appointment was approved by the School Board. Hietpas announced he will be stepping down when his term ends on October 15, 2026.

The committee reviewed the provision in the 1000 Islands Committee Ordinance that designates the Friends President as a member of the committee. Because the Friends of 1000 Islands operates under the 1000 Islands Committee and in light of Hietpas's resignation, several options were discussed.

Garrity announced that the annual committee property walk is scheduled for October 8 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Participants will meet at the kayak launch and tour the Hoersch property and remediation project area. A project map will be provided.

Old Business – None

New Business

Garrity shared the proposed By Law updates to Article 6. Voting will be held at the next meeting.

Good for the Center

Garrity reported that Cassandra Kohls updated the Legacy Wall. The previous design required annual printing costs of approximately \$500. To reduce expenses and allow for real-time updates, a

large-screen television was purchased for \$150. A second display provides information about giving opportunities, including Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) and legacy giving.

Memorial and legacy donations of \$100 or more are recognized with a name listing on the Legacy Wall, while memorial donations of \$300 or more include both a name and photo. Memorial tree and bench purchases are recognized with the loved one's name and photo displayed on the Legacy Wall.

Garrity announced that goats from Mulberry Lane Farm are scheduled to arrive on September 21.

In response to a question from Eggleston regarding budget changes, Garrity stated that contractual services increased by \$100 to reflect anticipated janitorial cost increases. Despite this adjustment, the overall budget decreased by approximately \$1,300. No changes were made to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Next Committee Meeting

The next Committee Meeting will be on Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 6:30 PM in the Nature Center building.

Adjournment

There being no further business, White moved to adjourn the September 17, 2026, Committee Meeting at 7:22 PM. Seconded by West. Motion carried.

Cassandra Kohls

City of Kaukauna
1000 Islands Environmental Center
Budget vs. Actual
January 2026 to September 2026

Account	Sept Actuals	YTD Amount	Budget Amount	Amount Over Budget	% of Budget
Income					
4391 - Kaukauna School Dist Aids		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
4392 - Outagamie County Aids		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	100.00%
4694 - Facilities/Building Rental (Taxable)	\$145.91	\$401.99	\$1,500.00	(\$1,098.01)	26.80%
4695 - Facilities/Building Rental (Non-Taxable)		(\$75.00)	\$500.00	(\$575.00)	-15.00%
4696 - Programing Fees	\$1,146.00	\$11,443.60	\$9,000.00	\$2,443.60	127.15%
4716 - Gift Shop Sales	\$307.50	\$3,827.67	\$5,000.00	(\$1,172.33)	76.55%
4802 - Donations & Contributions	\$5,567.87	\$43,008.77	\$40,000.00	\$3,008.77	107.52%
4810 - Interest Income		\$5,449.64	\$7,500.00	(\$2,050.36)	72.66%
4910 - Env Center Restricted Donate	\$2,216.09	\$5,304.79	\$0.00	\$5,304.79	0.00%
4911 - Fundraising Sales		\$5,935.16	\$0.00	\$5,935.16	0.00%
Total - Income	\$9,383.37	\$100,296.62	\$88,500.00	\$11,796.62	113.33%
Expense					
5101 - Regular Payroll	\$14,754.83	\$136,928.09	\$193,774.22	(\$56,846.13)	70.66%
5104 - Temporary Payroll	\$242.25	\$7,752.00	\$6,849.96	\$902.04	113.17%
5151 - Retirement Plan	\$905.98	\$8,429.07	\$11,907.69	(\$3,478.62)	70.79%
5154 - Social Security	\$955.34	\$8,986.31	\$13,162.97	(\$4,176.66)	68.27%
5157 - Group Health Insurance	\$3,351.48	\$31,363.32	\$41,417.64	(\$10,054.32)	75.72%
5160 - Group Life Insurance	\$15.94	\$123.54	\$159.00	(\$35.46)	77.70%
5163 - Workers Compensation	\$299.59	\$2,993.51	\$4,037.60	(\$1,044.09)	74.14%
5205 - Seminar Expenses		\$483.77	\$1,500.00	(\$1,016.23)	32.25%
5208 - Travel - City Business	\$95.82	\$95.82	\$0.00	\$95.82	0.00%
5211 - Education & Memberships		\$175.00	\$500.00	(\$325.00)	35.00%
5260 - Animal & Bird Care	\$36.98	\$580.41	\$2,000.00	(\$1,419.59)	29.02%
5264 - Programs	\$128.09	\$1,375.29	\$3,000.00	(\$1,624.71)	45.84%
5276 - Conservancy Zone Maint	\$950.72	\$1,863.36	\$2,500.00	(\$636.64)	74.53%
5303 - Communications	\$50.00	\$450.00	\$600.00	(\$150.00)	75.00%
5306 - Heating Fuels	\$23.48	\$1,474.02	\$3,000.00	(\$1,525.98)	49.13%
5309 - Water Sewer & Electric	\$840.46	\$7,306.10	\$10,000.00	(\$2,693.90)	73.06%
5312 - Maintenance - Buildings	\$360.27	\$3,661.39	\$4,500.00	(\$838.61)	81.36%
5315 - Maintenance - Office Equipment	\$64.46	\$1,155.13	\$1,500.00	(\$344.87)	77.01%
5318 - Maintenance - Automotive		\$52.17	\$500.00	(\$447.83)	10.43%
5325 - Contractual Services	\$1,130.83	\$9,922.22	\$12,000.00	(\$2,077.78)	82.69%
5334 - Printing Expense		\$0.00	\$400.00	(\$400.00)	0.00%
5401 - Office Supplies	\$2.47	\$386.50	\$600.00	(\$213.50)	64.42%
5404 - Clothing Expense		\$170.95	\$700.00	(\$529.05)	24.42%
5407 - Automotive Supplies		\$190.43	\$300.00	(\$109.57)	63.48%
5410 - General Supplies	\$187.13	\$963.71	\$1,000.00	(\$36.29)	96.37%
5416 - Custodial Supplies	\$225.08	\$1,449.54	\$1,800.00	(\$350.46)	80.53%
5431 - Postage		\$21.75	\$100.00	(\$78.25)	21.75%
5440 - Concession Product	\$30.92	\$2,057.29	\$3,000.00	(\$942.71)	68.58%
5499 - Miscellaneous	\$93.52	\$257.55	\$1,500.00	(\$1,242.45)	17.17%
5801 - Land & Buildings		\$6,361.00	\$0.00	\$6,361.00	0.00%
5804 - Equipment (including Office)		\$0.00	\$1,500.00	(\$1,500.00)	0.00%
5897 - Restricted Funds - Animal Care/Jabber		\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	0.00%
5898 - Restricted Funds	\$202.24	\$8,424.66	\$9,000.00	(\$575.34)	93.61%
Total - Expense	\$24,947.88	\$245,853.90	\$332,809.08	(\$86,955.18)	73.87%
Net Income	(\$15,564.51)	(\$145,557.28)	(\$244,309.08)	\$98,751.80	59.58%

Lines bolded in red are 201 accounts

422 - Park and Pool Capital

1000 Islands Donation Report

Donations Posted: September 2026

Account: 201-48501-4802

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
8/26/2026	1000 Islands Endowment Fund	Glenn and Joyce Hansen - Memorial for Tim Drechsler	(\$20.00)
9/1/2026	Antoinette Anderson	Memorial for Tim Drechsler	\$50.00
9/1/2026	Patty & Mark Weyenberg	Memorial for Ronald Weyenberg	\$20.00
9/1/2026	1000 Islands Endowment Fund	A. Anderson - Memorial for Tim Drechsler	(\$50.00)
9/1/2026	1000 Islands Endowment Fund	Patty & Mark Weyenberg - Memorial for Tim Drechsler	(\$20.00)
9/4/2026	Collection Bins		\$146.00
9/5/2026	1000 Islands Endowment Fund	Mark Frost - Memorial Donation for Mary Sanderfoot	(\$100.00)
9/9/2026	Julie Burkart	Memorial Donation for Tim Drechsler	\$50.00
9/9/2026	1000 Islands Endowment Fund	Julie Burkart - Memorial Donation for Tim Drechsler	(\$50.00)
9/14/2026	Maureen Feldt	Memorial Donation for Mary Kay Sanderfoot	\$25.00
9/14/2026	1000 Islands Endowment Fund	Maureen Feldt - Memorial Donation for Mary Kay Sanderfoot	(\$25.00)
9/21/2026	Friends of 1000 Islands	Field Trip Bussing Sponsorship	\$2,500.00
9/21/2026	Friends of 1000 Islands	Eagle Days Sponsorship - 2027	\$1,824.91
9/24/2026	Charles Janssen	Memorial for Tim Drechsler	\$25.00
9/24/2026	1000 Islands Endowment Fund	Charles Janssen - Memorial for Tim Drechsler	(\$25.00)
9/25/2026	Collection Bins		\$102.96
9/25/2026	Collection Bins		\$114.00
9/25/2026	Friends of 1000 Islands	Drechsler Memorial	\$250.00
9/29/2026	Paul VanBerkel	Memorial Donation for Mary Kay Sanderfoot	\$25.00
9/29/2026	Kristine Serwe	Memorial Donation for Mary Kay Sanderfoot	\$100.00
9/30/2026	Donation - Credit Card	Mark Frost - Memorial Donation for Mary Sanderfoot	\$100.00
9/30/2026	Various Donors	Steve Huston Memorial	\$525.00
		TOTAL:	\$ 5,567.87

Account: 201-48501-4910 - Env Center Restricted Donate

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
9/24/2026	Fox Family Endurance Events Inc.	1000 Islands Env Ctr campaign for an Eagle Nest Web Camera	\$ 1,900.00
9/30/2026	Journal Entry	Interest on 1000 Islands Restricted Cash	\$ 316.09
		TOTAL:	\$ 2,216.09

Account: 201-48501-4911 - Fundraising Sales

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
		TOTAL:	\$ -

Other Donations Received

9/2/2026	Adam Sprangers	10 cedar garden benches	
9/17/2026	Nanetta Penterman	prairie seeds	
9/23/2026	Dan Kalupa	100-ct box disposable nitrile gloves	
		TOTAL:	

1000 Islands Environmental Center

September 2026 Naturalist Report

Brad Garrity – Naturalist, 1000 Islands

Admin/Finance

Asst. Naturalist Benson took vacation time for her honeymoon in Hawaii.

Friends of 1000 Islands donated \$2500 for the 2026-27 school year for bussing subsidy requests.

Friends of 1000 Islands agreed to sponsor the National Eagle Center programs at 2027 Eagle Days in January and donated \$1900 to cover the costs.

Kaukauna Utilities has agreed to sponsor and fund the 2027 seedling sale.

A new printer/photocopier was installed at the Center. We are now on the City contract with Marco, greatly reducing our costs for prints and supplies.

Education / Programming

We had a brief 2-week lull in programming between the end of summer and the beginning of the school year. This was a welcome and deserved break after a very busy summer.

Our first two Junior Naturalist programs were held. We have a small but interested group of students. We expanded this program to be twice per month and changed registration to encompass the entire semester.

Kaukauna Public Library and Scouting America offered the monthly Survival Skills program onsite in collaboration with the Center. The theme and lesson were trail preparedness and orienteering.

Our Focus on the Fox – Papermaking program was held on Saturday, 9/12. The number of participants was down from last year, due in part to the weather, but this is still a popular program for participants. Three papermaking stations were staffed by KHS Key Club volunteers. Naturalist Garrity provided pizza for the students for their enthusiastic work.

Outagamie County Public Health held a teambuilding/enrichment day on Monday, 9/14. Naturalist Garrity presented about what we do and what we offer at 1000 Islands and led the participants on two Crayfish and Critter hunts in Konkapot Creek.

Naturalist Garrity visited Park Charter School 4k for their annual Five Senses walk around the Park School grounds and neighborhood. The students enjoyed apple slices at the end of their hike.

Richeson School of Art held a Plein Air painting session on site after hours. Approximately 8-12 artists painted along the river.

Due to heavy soaking rains on 9/18-9/19, our Focus on the Fox – Community Campfire and Focus on the Fox – Fishing Day events were canceled.

The Amcor Focus on the Fox Conservancy Zone Cleanup was rained out on 9/19 but rescheduled for the following week on 9/26. Approximately 16 volunteers from Amcor and the community collected 29 pounds of trash. Amcor coordinated the event and provided themed t-shirts, scavenger hunt activities, and snacks.

Field trips picked up in frequency as the month went on. Highlights included two days with the 3rd grade from Electa Quinney for Plant and Animal Adaptations programming and hikes. Special thanks to Friends of 1000 Islands for subsidizing their bussing cost to help bring students to the Center. We also welcomed Bay Harbor Elementary from Suamico for a fun day of Crayfishing, Hiking and Shelter Building.

Brian Jacobs presented his Honey Extraction program on 9/26 along with his wife Paula, and beekeeping protegee, Megan Knuth. Participants were given samples of this year's honey and learned about beekeeping, the biology of honey making, and the extraction process. Kids were invited to help extract honey from the honeycomb that Brian provided, and jars of honey were available for sale afterwards. The Center provided Brian with gift cards in appreciation of his time and effort.

Thanks to volunteer Diane White for stepping up to assist with two days of field trip programming, and to Asst. Naturalist Benson for her adaptability in the wake of Naturalist Garrity being out ill. The field trips were successful with limited disruption.

22 new compasses were ordered for our Orienteering program to replace the old ones which had developed air bubbles, reducing their usefulness.

Building and Grounds

The Center was closed on 9/7 for the Labor Day Holiday

Annual grease trap cleaning was completed

Local resident Danah Stumpf began volunteering in the gardens to help clear some of the invasive plants prior to them going to seed.

Volunteer Kim Kaufman came each Tuesday morning to work in the gardens and help with goat watching.

The American Heritage Girls scout troop spent the day onsite to earn their hiking badge and did trash pickup on the grounds.

NACEL Open Door rented the building for their annual meeting. They also have a rental in November for their Thanksgiving banquet.

Outagamie County Department of Land Services volunteered for nearly a full day. They helped prepare the goat browsing areas by repairing fencing and removing debris and helped wash and clean all materials from the Papermaking program.

SOAR sent volunteers to help clean around the Center twice in September. They wiped tables, dusted and other odds and ends to help make the Center look great!

Fox Valley Technical College student Katrina Moe started her Co-op hours at the Center. She will be completing 80 hours of conservation focused volunteer time between now and December for her class as she prepares to graduate.

The goats arrived from Mulberry Lane Farms on 9/21 for their fall browsing through 10/5 to help reduce/eradicate buckthorn and other invasive plants.

A volunteer from USI Insurance helped with invasive plant removal and a few other tasks on the property.

The entryway upgrade construction project started on 9/21 and should wrap up by the end of October.

Kaukauna HS student Ethan Shalkhauser began volunteering. He is interested in pursuing Environmental Science in college and wants to gain knowledge and experience while helping at the Center.



1000 Islands Endowment Fund
September 01, 2026 through September 30, 2026

Fund Activity Summary (Unaudited)

Balance as of September 01, 2026	\$557,250.77
Contributions	
Donations	\$1,030.00
Contributions total	\$1,030.00
Fund Fees	
Administrative Fees	\$ 273.31
Fund Fees total	\$ 273.31
Balance as of September 30, 2026*	\$558,007.46



1000 Islands Endowment Fund

Fund Financial Information as of September 30, 2026

Amount Available for Distribution[^]	\$0
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Current Fund Assets

Endowment Fund Pool	\$558,007.46
Total	\$558,007.46

Outstanding Fund Liabilities

No outstanding liabilities for the fund

Notes to Statements

+ Grants are recorded in the month they are recommended regardless of scheduled payment date(s) and show in "Grants and Scholarships paid" section. The result of this accounting treatment is the fund may show a negative end balance. For example, a fund issues a grant for \$30,000 payable over three years. The fund will show a grant paid of \$30,000 and the fund balance will be reduced by the full \$30,000.

[^] If the fund has a multi-payment grant scheduled, the current amount available for distribution will be reduced by the future payments. If the fund has a multi-payment grant, please contact your Community Foundation staff contact to determine the amount available for distribution for the fund.

* Processing Fees include credit card processing fees, stock commissions, and other similar bank fees



1000 Islands Endowment Fund
September 01, 2026 through September 30, 2026

Fund Activity Detail

Contributions

Date	Amount
9/1/2026	\$ 365.00
9/10/2026	\$ 400.00
9/17/2026	\$ 90.00
9/24/2026	\$ 175.00
Total Contributions	\$1,030.00

Grants Awarded

No grants were awarded this statement period.



FIELD TRIPS



1,145

STUDENTS SERVED



ON-SITE

91%



OFF-SITE

9%



SCHOOL/DAYCARE
GROUPS

34

PUBLIC PROGRAMS OFFERED

31

ESTIMATED ATTENDEES **1,468**



TOP ATTENDED PROGRAMS



FAIRYWALK

534



WORLD SNAKE DAY

200

RENTALS

BUILDING

5



PAVILION

2



VOLUNTEERS

74 HOURS

