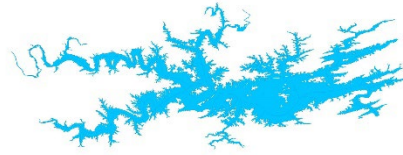


Friends of Lake Ouachita



1424 Blakely Dam Road
Royal, AR 71968

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD: Friends of Lake Ouachita Committee Minutes

DATE: May 4, 2026

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

Derick Walker, Acting Lake Resource Manager, Lake Ouachita Field Office
Jon Munz, Acting Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist, Lake Ouachita Field Office
Matt Mitchell, Supervisory Facility Operations Specialist, Lake Ouachita Field Office
Asher Kight, Natural Resources Specialist, Lake Ouachita Field Office

Members Present:

Tom Butler	Bill Pell	Jo West Taylor
George Dooley	Rob Sanders	Jerry Williams
Al Gathright	Shane Scott	Dan Watson
Ron Mayfield	Jerry Shields	Robert Cavanaugh

Call to Order: Meeting began at 6:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from April meeting were approved with corrections to participants at the last meeting.

March FOLO Financial Update

FOLO stated they have a working balance of a little over \$100,000.00

FOLO spent a little over \$200.00 on Vivian's retirement party/gifts.

(Financial Update was approved)

ADA Walkway Repairs:

-Spots were marked needing repair in the pavement. The county is providing the material needed. USACE is going to rent the roller. FOLO is going to cover the cost of the new culvert. Matt will email FOLO a schedule on repairs. FOLO is going to check with the county judge to see if they have an extra piece of culvert they'd donate for the job.

Status of new interpretive signs: Jerry's son is in the process of designing the new signs.

Status of LOVIT Map Reprint: FOLO is picking up 5,000 maps on 5/05/2026. Dropping off maps at Subway, Joplin store, Mountain Harbor. FOLO is working together to distribute maps to other businesses in the area.

- Reprint of maps is going to cost FOLO almost \$1,000.00. They could not get a QR Code on the new maps.

-\$45.99 was given to FOLO from FAR OUT for distributing the maps online.

GRAB A BAGS: USACE is purchasing stickers for the Grab A Bags, FOLO/USACE has decided not to add the grab a bags on the floating restrooms.

Reimbursement for Bike Rack Repair Costs: FOLO is writing a check to Ron Mayfield for the costs of repairs made. (\$280.36)

New Business:

New Crystal Mines Proposal: Jerry is going to do maps/cross section to include in an email. Derick stated USACE cannot make public comment on the matter.

-FOLO mentioned possibly adding endangered species could be affected by the mines. Water Quality was another big thing to key in on.

ADA Enhancements: FOLO is asking to remove Privet and Trifoliate Orange (invasive) from around the Tompkins ADA trail. (Perimeter of the circular ADA Walkway, from the connecting trail to the creek, and the connecting trail to the roadway) Possibly looking at doing this

Thursday depending on USACE personnel. Thistle has been removed from the ADA Walkway field.

-FOLO is looking at a way to identify the native plants around the walkway to ensure they aren't removed.

Styrofoam Removal: Marinas are responsible for Styrofoam removal. USACE addresses the issue with marinas every year. FOLO is looking at ways to report it. Tom said he is willing to send an email to address the issue. Derick is going to get some more info on USACE requirements/regulations on the Styrofoam in the marinas for FOLO.

Annual Lake Cleanup: FOLO needs to know the date/location of clean up. Amy needs to get the info to Keep Arkansas Beautiful.

-FOLO is asking for information on the Water Quality of Lake Ouachita. (ADEQ/Health Department?)

History of Lake Ouachita: Add in some information about the local tribes (there were 6), the largest quartz crystal mine in the state is underwater in the lake, etc.

USACE OPERATIONS

Tompkins Bend Courtesy Dock: It's becoming an issue to constantly be moving it in and out due to water fluctuation. Derick asked FOLO if they would reach out to some contractors to see if it could be revamped so it wasn't having to constantly be adjusted or to where it could be more easily adjusted (possibly add another section of dock to it (20ft possibly)(Add another extension to the courtesy dock, possibly new drill stems) FOLO stated they would get quotes from 3 dock companies in Hot Springs. Derick is going to send pics/dimensions/requirements/ documents to FOLO, so they have something to go off of.

The Firearms Issue in Tulsa District: 23 people injured in a shooting at a recreation area in Edmond, OK. USACE at Ouachita still requires a permit even with concealed carry.

Rec Update: Boat Patrol will start in roughly two weeks on the lake.

Adjournment-Motion to end meeting passed at 1850HRS