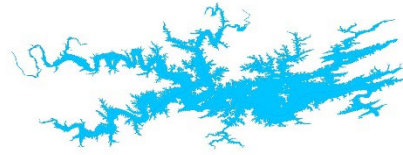


Friends of Lake Ouachita



1424 Blakely Dam Road
Royal, AR 71968

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD: Friends of Lake Ouachita Committee Minutes

Date: April 6, 2026

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

Derick Walker Acting Lake 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:

George Dooley	Ron Mayfield	Jo West Taylor
Al Gathright	Rob Sanders	Jerry Williams
Shane Scott		

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from March meeting were approved.

March FOLO Financial Update

EOM Cash Balance- \$13,095.30

EOM Investments- \$85,175.86

Total EOM A/C Balance- \$98,275.16

Expenditures: 0

Deposits: Interest on Checking- \$13.90

Interest on CD's- \$177.55

JDS 4/06/26

(Financial Update was approved)

Old Business

Status of the NRT Grant for ADA Enhancements.

- Jerry surveyed the walking trail next to the ADA and stated that he did not think that a complete repaving of the trail is required at this time.

-Jerry does want to pursue getting new interpretive signs for the trails.

-\$50k minimum for NRT grants. Complete re-pavement of the trail would cost \$37k.

-Stated we do need a new culvert for the trail.

-Looking at possibly digging up the parts of the trail with roots going across and patching those.

-FOLO is looking for assistance from USACE to provide the equipment needed to do the repairs.

-FOLO has a donor for all the cold mix asphalt they would need. Possibly look at repaving the entire trail in 2-3 years.

- FOLO is going to mark the damaged areas of the trail with paint for USACE to dig up. (motion was approved)

Motion to repair the walkway/connecting trail with FOLO's funds with assistance from USACE to help with the equipment needed.

5 New Interpretive Signs

\$6,242 (including shipping) for the 5 new interpretive signs

- Discussed incorporating some of Lake Ouachita's history into the signs.
- Could possibly get a grant for \$5k of the cost (deadline for the grant is at the end of this month)
- 1 on the elevated walkway, 3 for the kiosks, and 1 on Gap Creek.
- Possibly do a QR code for the kiosks.
- Approved a motion to precede with the interpretive signs and pay for those signs out of FOLO funds and install them themselves.
- History and facts about the lake (the mammals, the reptiles, the redhorse spawn, etc.)

***Status on the retirement of Vivian after 16 years and what should be done for her?**

- Possibly have lunch for her at Shangri La.

Bike Rack Repair

- The bike rack repairs were done and FOLO owes \$280.36 for the repairs.

GRAB A BAG

- Discussed if FOLO wanted to contact some of the marinas to install them.
- Several of the marinas never installed them.
- Missing one at Rabbit Tail and Joplin Campground Boat Ramp.
- USACE will put up new signs/stickers on the grab a bags.
- Both floating bathrooms also need signs/set ups.
- Jerry said FOLO would purchase 10 signs and 3 set ups.

LOVIT TRAIL MAPS

- Shane and George want to review the LOVIT Maps and possibly add QR Codes.
- Price to get them reprinted is now twice the price it originally was.
- Was discussed that an alternative could be a QR code or put a QR code through the Far Out App? (usually get about \$40 a month out of Far Out)
- Possibly incorporate something in the trail maps for how people can donate to maintain the trail.
- Possibly create a Venmo account for FOLO for donations.
- Reprint two thousand maps and incorporate a QR code to the Far Out App.

USACE OPERATIONS

- Discussed trash can consolidation areas to become more efficient due to staffing shortages.
- Matt and crew identified a few places on the project that USACE is going to do cold mix/rollers. Tompkins Bend Ramp will be started this week. (Boat ramp will be closed all Wednesday). Brady Mountain Overlook is another area USACE is going to resurface. Spillway between the cabins is another place that will be resurfaced.
- USACE is doing roof repairs on the spillway boat ramp bathrooms, Brady and Tompkins will have skylights replaced in bathrooms.
- LOFO is getting the siding replaced in April with composite siding (will take about two months to complete).
- Rangers are working full weekends now and will start night shift in the 3rd week of April.
- Boat Patrol will be running from 10:00am-8:30pm (new boat is supposed to be in before Memorial Day).
- USACE replaced 20-25 buoys and fixed several swim beach buoy lines.
- August 27th FOLO will get their recognition trophy for the walkway and all their contributions.
- If there is something specific FOLO wants to do to better Lake Ouachita bring your ideas to the meeting to see if USACE can help.