



# Fishery Advisory Board

Monroe County, New York

**Adam J. Bello**  
*County Executive*

**Steven Rutherford**  
*Chairperson*



## Monroe County Fishery Advisory Board Meeting Minutes January 12, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m.

### **Elections:**

Officer elections for 2026 were held for the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary positions. C. Knauf made a motion to keep the elected positions of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary the same as they are currently. The motion was seconded by S. Zucco, and passed unanimously. Steve Rutherford was elected to serve as Chairperson, Sam Zucco to serve as Vice Chairperson and Lance Lascari to serve as secretary.

### **Website Update:**

Peter Platt sent a proposal from Accountable Digital of a new advertising plan to run Google ads earlier. The board discussed dividing up the timing of ads between spring and summer rather than winter/spring as has been done in the past. After discussion it was decided to run ads April through July.

### **Budget Update:**

The Board's budget for 2026 was approved for \$4,000.

### **Action Items:**

R. Venvertloh will ask NYS DEC for information and the status of the Spring Creek dam infrastructure and hatchery plan.

C. Knauf shared information about NYDEC's 15-year plan to protect and restore Adirondack brook trout ponds. The plan will prioritize stocking brook trout over non-native species in some ponds.

S. Furgal suggested a review of Lake Ontario stocking plan update (current plan goes through 2026) from DEC.

S. Furgal mentioned some grant opportunities for restoration work.

C. Knauf asked if there is water chestnut reported in Irondequoit Bay. He will research and confirm. He asked if funding is available for removal if found. S. Furgal suggested contacting Finger Lakes Prism (FLPRISM) for the most recent information.

S. Furgal shared that LOSPC is putting together a lake-wide guide for all counties and S. Olufsen said he will be providing photos.

**Action Items Update from Last Month:**

R. Venvertloh and C. Kirchmaier will be meeting to discuss park master plans related to fishing access. C. Kirchmaier noted most master plans can now be found online.

Mr. Hammers shared that NYS DEC is looking at walleye within Irondequoit and Sodus Bay to see how effective stocking is compared to natural recruitment. They would like to collect 100 heads from each bay for study starting in the spring of 2026 and running for one year. The second year would involve acoustic tagging.

**Other Items:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM