



Lake Michelle  
Lake District

1250 W. Range View Drive  
Unit E 11  
Hurley, WI 54534

September 25, 2022

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Natural Resources  
Geographic Names Council  
P.O. Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921

RE: Geographic Name Proposal (Water Body Known Locally as "Lake Michelle")

Dear Sir or Ms.:

Enclosed herewith please find a Geographic Name Proposal, requesting that a certain 38 acre water body located in the SE ¼ of Section 13, Township 46 North, Range 2 East, in the City of Hurley and Town of Kimball, County of Iron, State of Wisconsin, be officially recognized and officially named "Lake Michelle." The lake has been known to locals and tourists as "Lake Michelle" for over 50 years, but is evidently an "unnamed waterbody," according to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources databases. The lake has been referred to as "La Blonde Flowage 1" on certain documents.

The lack of an official name for Lake Michelle creates confusion, marketing issues, and problems with respect to obtaining permits and financial assistance for dam maintenance, removal of invasive species, and other critical activities, and therefore negatively impacts the waterbody and its watershed.

Also enclosed herewith are maps depicting the geographic feature, a Lake Michelle Lake District Resolution, and a supportive letter from the City of Hurley.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. If you require any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

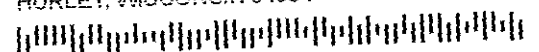
Sincerely,

Carolyn Kolson-Janov, President  
Lake Michelle Lake District

Enclosures

Please use this  
Address

CAROLYN KOLSON-JANOV  
LAKE MICHELLE LAKE DISTRICT  
C/O CATHY LAMBIE, TREASURER  
1250W RANGEVIEW DRIVE - UNIT E 11  
HURLEY, WISCONSIN 54534



State of Wisconsin  
 Department of Natural Resources  
 Geographic Names Council  
 PO Box 7921, Madison WI 53707-7921  
 dnr.wi.gov

**Geographic Name Proposal**  
 Form 2200-124 (R 7/16) Page 1 of 2

Notice: Pursuant to s. 23.25, Wis. Stats., complete and submit this form to the address in the upper left hand corner with requested geographic name proposal. See page 2 for naming guidelines. Personal information collected will be used for administrative purposes and may be made available to requesters to the extent required by Wisconsin's Open Records law (ss. 19.31 - 19.39, Wis. Stats.).

**Geographic Feature Information**

Description of Feature - Include size (acres), length (miles) or population etc. Recommended Name of Feature  
 A 38 acre body of water known unofficially as "Lake Michelle." Lake Michelle

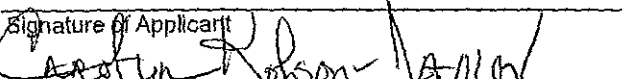
Other Names or Spellings in Use: By Whom: (Name and Address)  
 LaBlonde Flowage 1  
 La Blonde Flowage 1  
 Lake Michele

Reason for this Proposal - Identify Problem and Need (Attach supplementary sheet if necessary)  
 PLEASE SEE ATTACHED.

Origin and Significance of Recommended Name - Attach Supporting Documents (resolution, historical data, etc.)  
 PLEASE SEE ATTACHED.

Feature Location	DNR Use Only	
County Iron <input type="checkbox"/>	Lat _____ ° _____ ' _____ " , Long _____ ° _____ ' _____ "	
Stream Heads: Sec. _____ , T _____ N, R _____ <input checked="" type="radio"/> E <input type="radio"/> W Ends: Sec. _____ , T _____ N, R _____ <input type="radio"/> E <input type="radio"/> W	Lat _____ ° _____ ' _____ " , Long _____ ° _____ ' _____ "	
Lake, Village, etc. Secs. _____ 14 _____ , T _____ 46 N, R _____ 2 <input checked="" type="radio"/> E <input type="radio"/> W Secs. _____ , T _____ N, R _____ <input type="radio"/> E <input type="radio"/> W (or locate by landmarks and attach map)	Lat _____ ° _____ ' _____ " , Long _____ ° _____ ' _____ "	USGS Quad. Name _____ Index Number _____

**Applicant Information**

Name Carolyn Kolson-Janov	Agency Lake Michelle Lake District	Telephone Number (include area code) 906-364-1690
Address P.O. Box 289	City Manitowish Waters	State ZIP Code WI 54545
Signature of Applicant 	Applicant Email carolynkj@outlook.com	Date Signed 9/25/2022

**DNR Use Only - Map Search and Field Investigation**

Name of Map or Other Reference	Date of Ref.	Name Given Feature
Person Contacted	Address	Occupation

Special Concerns

Findings and Recommendations

Signature of Investigator \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

## ATTACHMENT TO GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSAL

**Geographic Feature:** 38 Acre Waterbody Known Locally as “Lake Michelle” and Referenced in Certain Documents as LaBlonde Flowage 1 and La Blonde Flowage 1.

**Location:** The SE ¼ of Section 14, Township 46 North, Range 2 East, City of Hurley and Town of Kimball, County of Iron, State of Wisconsin.  
PLEASE SEE ATTACHED MAPS.

### **Reason for this Proposal and Origin of Recommended Name:**

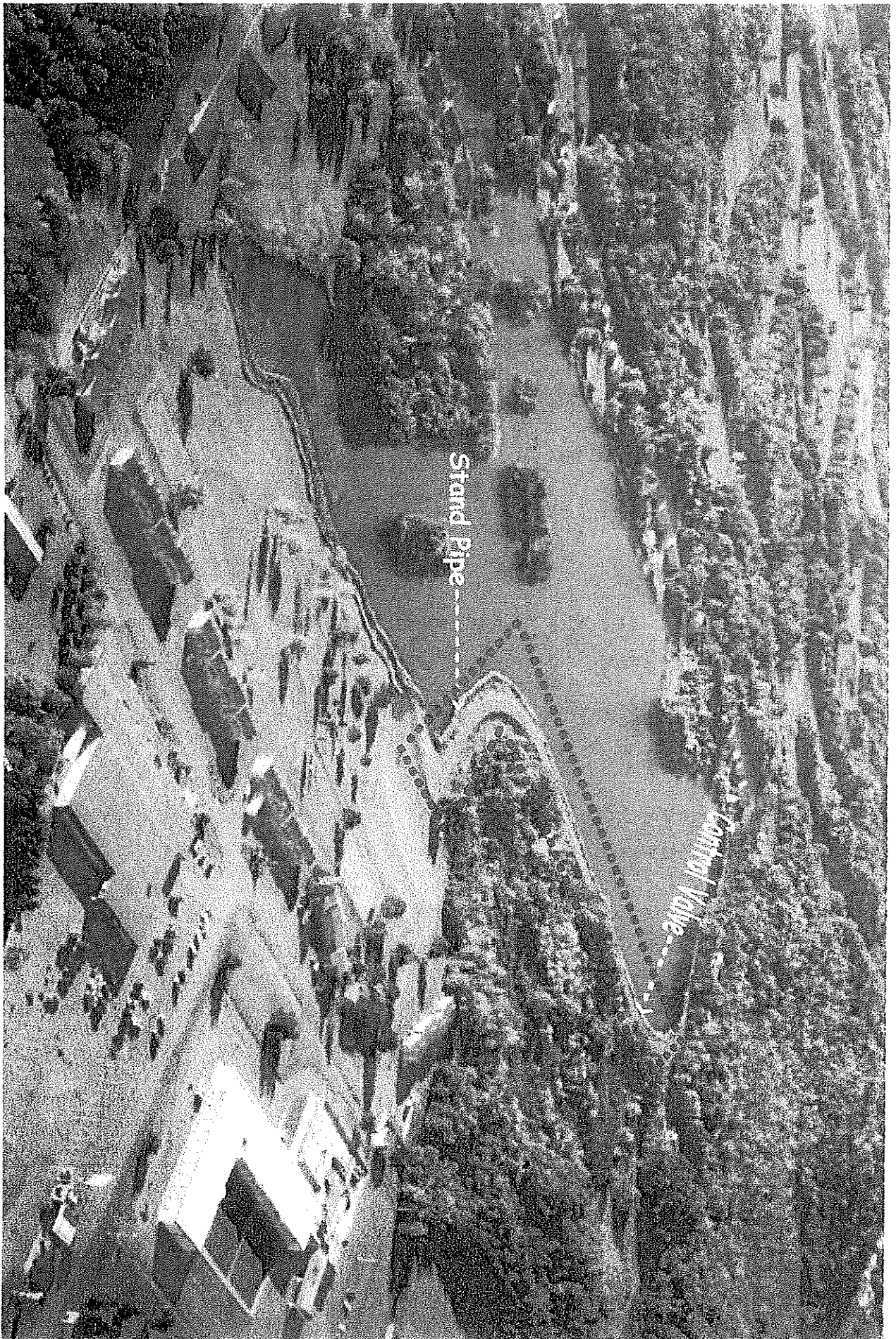
The waterbody known locally as “Lake Michelle” was created in the late 1960’s by the installation of a dam on the Montreal River. The lake bed was once farm land, until it was repurposed for extraction of gravel. When the gravel was depleted, the dam was constructed and a lake, dubbed “Lake Michelle,” was created. The waterbody was originally intended to serve as wildlife habitat. However, in the 1970’s a developer constructed a number of condominiums around the lake, to provide much-needed housing for the Hurley area. As the years went by, additional condominiums were built, and eventually a Lake District was formed so that tax monies could be utilized for maintenance of the lake and dam. The Lake Michelle Lake District has ever since been responsible for Lake Michelle, and, in approximately 2018, built a new dam to replace the then-obsolete structure between Lake Michelle and the Montreal River.

Today, Lake Michelle is infested with various invasive vegetation species. Plans are in the works to remove the infestations, so that native fauna and flora can once again flourish and the impacted fish and wildlife can once again thrive. Unfortunately, the Lake District’s ability to secure funding to assist in the removal of invasive species as well as other lake rehabilitation projects has been hampered by the fact that Lake Michelle’s name is evidently not official. According to databases of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the lake is an unnamed waterbody, although it is commonly known as “Lake Michelle,” but is also referred to as “LaBlonde Flowage 1” or “La Blonde Flowage 1” on a number of documents.

The fact that the lack of an official name for the waterbody known locally as “Lake Michelle” has created problems with respect to obtaining permits and financial assistance for removal of invasive species, dam maintenance and other critical activities, the waterbody and its watershed are negatively impacted. The lack of an official name also creates confusion and marketing issues.

Attached hereto, in support of the proposed name clarification, is Lake Michelle Lake District Resolution No. 107, *Directing Submittal of Geographic Name Proposal to Clarify the Name of that Certain Waterbody Known Locally as “Lake Michelle.”*





Strand Pipe

Control Valve

LAKE MICHELLE LAKE DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 107

**DIRECTING SUBMITTAL OF GEOGRAPHIC NAME PROPOSAL  
TO CLARIFY THE NAME OF THAT CERTAIN WATERBODY  
KNOWN LOCALLY AS "LAKE MICHELLE"**

WHEREAS, the Lake Michelle Lake District, a Public Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District, was duly created in 2001 under Chapter 33, Subchapter IV of the Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of maintaining and improving the quality of Lake Michelle and its watershed for the mutual good of its members and the lake environment; and

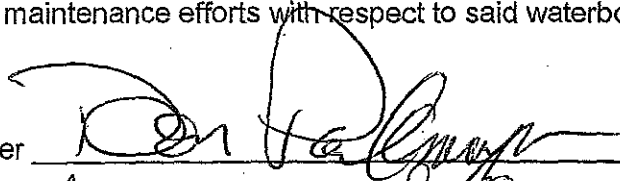
WHEREAS, "Lake Michelle," also known as "Lake Michele" and "La Blonde Flowage 1" is a waterbody geographic feature, approximately 38 acres in size, situated in the City of Hurley and Town of Kimball in Iron County, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, according to databases of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the waterbody known locally as "Lake Michelle" is an unnamed waterbody; and

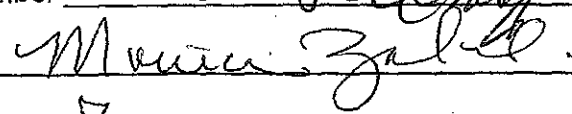
WHEREAS, the lack of an official name for the waterbody known locally as "Lake Michelle," creates confusion, marketing issues, and problems with respect to obtaining permits and financial assistance for removal of exotic species, dam maintenance, and other critical activities, and therefore negatively impacts the waterbody and its watershed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Lake Michelle Lake District shall submit to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Geographic Names Council a Geographic Name Proposal, requesting that the waterbody known locally as "Lake Michelle", situated in the City of Hurley and Town of Kimball in Iron County, Wisconsin, be officially named and recognized as "Lake Michelle," in the interests of maintaining uniform geographic name useage throughout Wisconsin, and to facilitate environmentally sound conservation and maintenance efforts with respect to said waterbody.

Adoption moved by Board Member



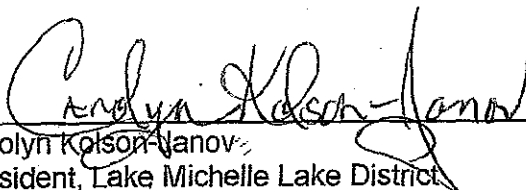
Seconded by Board Member



Resolution declared adopted this 7 day of September, 2022.

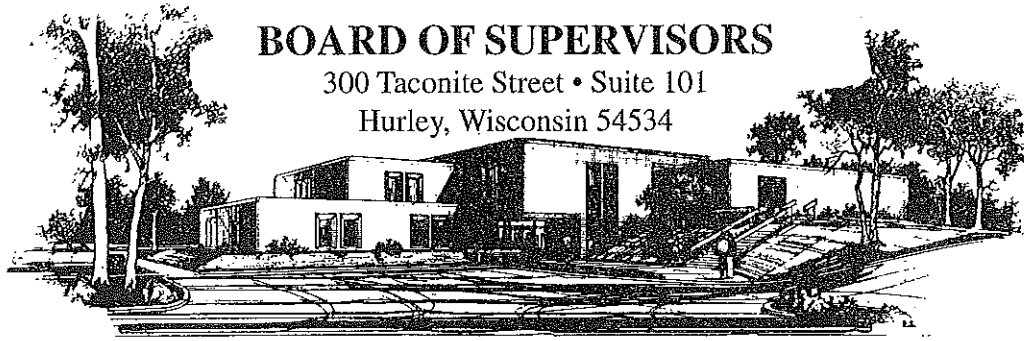
BY:

ATTEST:

  
Carolyn Kolson-Janov  
President, Lake Michelle Lake District  
Katie Saber  
Secretary, Lake Michelle Lake District

**IRON COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

300 Taconite Street • Suite 101  
Hurley, Wisconsin 54534



September 26, 2022

It is my understanding that the Lake Michelle Lake District, located in Hurley, Wisconsin, is in the process of applying to the Department of Natural Resources Geographic Names Council to have their lake officially named and recognized as "Lake Michelle". As Chair of Iron County Board of Supervisors, I fully support their proposal.

As a lifetime resident of Iron County, I am familiar with the history of this reservoir development and know that there are 125 different properties on this lake, and the owners all identify themselves as residing on Lake Michelle. Second, on August 29, 2001, the Iron County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution No. 2463 establishing and declaring this Public Inland and Rehabilitation District to be known as the Lake Michelle Lake District. Finally, Lake Michelle is a landmark in our county with two condominium associations that provide transient lodging for winter sports and summer vacations. Both associations use Lake Michelle in their marketing.

The residents of the City of Hurley and Iron County all recognize Lake Michelle as an integral part of our community and the Iron County Supervisors would appreciate your assistance in clarifying the name of Lake Michelle and recognizing the waterbody as an official lake.

Sincerely,

Joseph Pinaridi  
Board Chairman