

ERPA BOARD MEETING — SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

1. Called to Order at 9:34 a.m. Board members present included Jane Jones, Denny Erardi, Nancy Townsend, Patty Akerlund, Tom Helmick and Greg Laatsch. Not present was Julie Babcock. Present via teleconference was Dennis Ragan and Jodie Bloom (unknown nonmember person).
2. ATP Camp: No dates selected for 2026 yet. Pros need to make decision. Discussion regarding rates for camp participants. ERPA will take a share of the fees in 2026.
\$200 for ERPA members for Base Camp; \$225 for non members.
\$70 for 2 x 2 session and must be part of Base Camp program. Karl Athow will continue to lead the camp and collect the associated fees. He reports he has volunteers to replace Lauri Gerlach who has retired from her position. Once fees have been collected from the camp participants, the fees will be held in the ERPA account.
3. Update on New Courts: District Administrator Scott Foster will present to the three separate councils (policy, personnel, finance) which comprise the school board, prior to the Sept. 29th school board meeting. He will get feedback from each council regarding building new courts at the high school before he presents to the board as a whole on the 29th. Denny believes progress is being made. The New Courts Committee will meet with Scott in early October for his feedback. Further discussion about actions needed if the school board approves the building project.
4. Articles of Incorporation and Registered Agency: Names of ERPA's founding members are listed on the document. It will be updated with Jane Jones being named.
5. Communication: If board members wish to have a new email address associated with ERPA only, let Jane know.
Welcome to New Members: Jane will put new members into the database and send out information about ERPA in the form of a welcome letter. It will include info about our website, Team Reach, schedule of play, and links/passwords to these sites. Discussion about whether rules should be sent to all members.

6. Daily Use Donation: Discussion about signage, wording, collecting the \$5 daily fee, using Venmo or Zelle, having 2 donation boxes—one at each end of the courts. Denny will have signs made using words “Non-member fee during scheduled play hours.”

7. Annual Meeting: Scheduled for August 8, 2026 at 11:00—2:00 pm. All agreed having it indoors worked beautifully this year in the lower level of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Eagle River. Tom informed us that normally the church has a \$100 fee for this period of time. He will get it on the church calendar for next year. ERPA made a \$150 donation to the church this year.

8. AED Training: Patty contacted the ER Fire Department which has agreed to provide CPR/AED training to our members. A minimum of four people needed to conduct the class with one instructor. Two instructors for more than ten. Pricing: \$25 for 62 y/o and older; \$55 for those 61 y/o and younger. Patty will schedule a date in early June with the ERFD.

9. Miscellaneous Topics

A. T-Shirts: Lenora Moses has been handling sales for the association for years. In the past, ERPA has not made a profit on the shirts. 28 T-shirts remain from prior years. Suggestion was made to donate those to charity. Denny had three different T-shirts of different material, color, and sleeve length with ERPA’s new logo made up using an online company. Jane is waiting on an order from a local company for T-shirt samples and embroidered hat samples. This year the goal would be to make money instead of breaking even. Orders will be taken and all pay in advance.

B. Online Payment of Dues: Jane and Julie met with IncredibleBank. “Autobooks” will be used starting in April 2026 for collecting dues if a member wants to pay online without going to the bank. Our members will fill out an online form with their name, email address, and phone number. This form will go to Julie. An auto reply will be sent back to the member, who will pay either through credit card or withdrawal from their bank account. ERPA will be charged 4% fee on the credit card payments, which is \$1 out of the \$25. Discussion about using Venmo or Zelle which would eliminate the fee and would be an additional way to pay. Denny will investigate history of fraud for each company.

C. Memorial Brat Sale: Jane and Denny have offered to organize and run it for 2026. (Note: The Chamber has said we can get our old spot back, after taking a year off. They also said people were not happy that our brat tent was not there last year. Apparently, they missed the food!) Al Geiger has graciously offered to donate brats/buns.

D. Facebook Page: Important to ERPA to have a Facebook presence. Nancy will check with her contact regarding creating a website. Discussion about who would monitor it. Objective is for one of our members to make simple additions/deletions. Denny will research, then contact and get estimates from Wisconsin companies regarding social media, content creation, and maintenance.

E. Website: Needs to be revamped for a greater social presence. Additions include bank and donation information, new logo, drone video of new courts and drawings done by Dennis. We will seek input or creation from a website designer. Lenora will be asked if she wants to continue managing the website. Nancy will check with her contact about improvements and updating the website and associated costs with the revamp. Denny will research, then contact and get estimates from companies regarding site creation and maintenance.

10. Schedule Changes and Format of Play: Much discussion and input from board members present. Following changes will be implemented in 2026:

A. Monday usage: Monday mornings (8:00—11:00) will now be labeled “Heavy Hitters.” It is open to all individuals who feel they can handle the challenge of hard hitting, powerful overheads, and being targeted, if viewed as a weaker player. This coed activity will have 5 courts assigned with one court available for other play. Women's afternoon play will remain the same (3:00—5:00 pm).

B. Wednesday usage: Drills remain from 11:00 am—1:00 pm. Wednesday night competitive group led by Craig Skolrood was very well received. It will be scheduled from 5:00—7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays with Craig continuing to lead.

C. Thursday usage: Men’s Monday time will be replaced with a window of play for “Men Only” in the afternoon from 3:00—5:00 p.m.

D. Schedule change reasons: Changes attempt to establish equitability for the use of open courts. We will commit to listening to feedback from members, taking comments, constructive complaints and

criticisms seriously. The Board will evaluate all feedback and make changes, if needed. These schedule changes will occur next year.

E. Court usage controlled by ERPA: Presently, the time is designated from May 19th until October 14th. ERPA will request a revised time schedule from May 1 through October 15th for 2026. All additional time needs to be approved by the city council and the police chief.

F. Leagues and Ladder: After discussion, these can be organized by anyone outside of the time ERPA has designated with the City. Denny said she would offer her assistance. Will be competitive and need 20-25 people for the challenge ladders.

Motion was made by Jane Jones to adjourn. Seconded by Tom Helmick. All in favor. Adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Nancy Townsend, Secretary