



LION Board Activity Report

The Wisconsin Land Information Officers Network

February 14, 2026 – May 18, 2026

LION Document Management

The LION Board has been working with the Wisconsin Land Information Association Board to be granted access to a portion their Google Drive document management system in an effort to modernize how documents are stored and passed down as the LION Board changes year-to-year. The chair has brought this to the WLIA Board and they plan to discuss it at the May conference. The conversation with the WLIA Board remains is ongoing.

LION Website

The LION website is generously maintained by Tim Confare, and hosted by Dane County. The domain registration is through Network Solutions. In the past this was graciously managed by Bret Budrow, but that responsibility has been passed to the current LION Chair. Long term management responsibilities of the domain have yet to be hammered out by the Board. At the WLIA annual conference in February, \$140 was collected for the domain registration. The funds are being held by the LION Chair and will be used to extend the site registration. The current status of registration is below:

Item	Term	Cost	Expiration
wlion.org Domain Registration	2 year	\$85.98	4/28/2027
wlion.org "Domain Privacy + Protection"	1 year	\$21.99	2/20/2027

Because LION has no official funding mechanism, there was internal board discussion concerning integration of the LION website into the WLIA website. This would eliminate the need to “pass the hat” to get the money needed to keep the domain registration. The discussion was short, and the idea was brought up to WLIA, but no decisions or actions have been made. We have registration of the domain covered for the next few years, so this is not currently seen as a pressing issue.

WLIC LIO Position

After years of representing the Land Information Officers on the Wisconsin Land Information Council, Kelly Felton retired this spring. This left an opening on the WLIC that

the LION Board needed to help fill by finding a candidate to recommend to WLIC and the State. We held a membership election in April to find a LIO that would be willing and able to sit on the WLIC and champion the LIO perspective. From that process John Grams from Columbia County was chosen to endorse for the LIO position on the WLIC. Congratulations John!

GIO Position Description Input

The WLIC and DOA are updating the Geographic Information Officer position description and were taking input on the new description until May 4, 2026. The LION Board submitted our input via an email and a one page document. The letter outlined the need for the GIO to focus on strategic geospatial leadership, rather than be a process manager. We see the position as one that encourages land record modernization, while balancing statewide strategy with local grassroots engagement. I can provide a copy of the document we shared with WLIC and the DOA upon request.

Submitted by,

Andy Hess, LION Chair