

June 19, 2023

Subject: Lida Lakes Improvement District Annual Meeting Notice

Greetings Lake Lida Property Owners!

We are writing to inform and invite you to the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Lida Lakes Improvement District (LLID).

9 AM SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2023 LIDA TOWNSHIP HALL

Lida Township Hall is located at 42206 230th Avenue, Pelican Rapids, Minnesota 56572

The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for members of the LLID (property owners around Lida Lakes) to participate and provide input and hear how your LLID is working to maintain and improve the quality of this great resource. Enclosed with this letter you will find a copy of the draft Annual Meeting Agenda, proposed 2024 budget, and an absentee ballot for election of Directors. Additional information on the budget and election process are provided below, along with a general update on Lida Lakes Improvement District activities.

2024 Budget

The budget for 2024 will be presented for approval by members in attendance at the Annual Meeting. Proposed budget items are attached to this letter. The budget will result in a flat rate not to exceed \$50 per parcel being applied to your taxes, as they were this year. Budget categories are summarized below:

- **Administrative:** Expenses included in this fund category include insurance requirements, communications, the annual meeting, and organizational dues. The budget allows the Board of Directors to have discretion to best communicate with LLID members. Communication has been identified as a critical need moving forward.
- **Clean Water:** A primary purpose of the LLID is to maintain recreation and property values for its members. A key part of this is the clean water in our lakes. Recently, the LLID was approached by the West Otter Tail SWCD about cost-share on a water quality improvement project. While we are still undecided on funding that project, it did highlight the need to account for this type of activity moving forward. The state of Minnesota has committed funding to water quality that can be used to leverage local funds. This category allows the LLID to invest local match in future projects that have potential to improve our water quality.
- **Recreation:** As stated above, recreation is a primary concern for the LLID, and fishing and boating are a key component of it. Our budget allows the LLID to financially assist in fisheries support, which could include future yearling walleye stocking in North and South Lida. We've changed this category from 2023 to remove investigation of navigation issues, and provide funding to support outreach during the winter months to limit pollution on the ice.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS):** We plan to continue to support efforts to curb AIS in our lakes. The budget assumes we'll continue Curly Leaf Pondweed treatment in 2024 but does allow for flexibility to redirect funds if a more immediate need is identified.
- **Planning and Research:** To be fiscally responsible with our local tax dollars, we need to understand the science behind lake concerns. This will aid the LLID in making sound decisions with measurable outcomes. We plan to continue sampling and testing for 2024.

Election of Directors

The Lida Lakes Improvement District (LLID) is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of seven at-large individuals meeting eligibility requirements specified in the LLID By-Laws. The terms of the Directors are staggered such that the LLID annually conducts elections for Directors. The majority of the Directors (4) must be full time residents of the LLID. Nominations were solicited by April of this year for inclusion in the ballot. For the 2023 election, two Director positions are open: one full time resident and one seasonal resident. A maximum of one seasonal resident may be elected, however two full time residents may be elected. Background information for each of the candidates listed on the enclosed ballot are available at the LLID website (<http://lakelidalid.com/>).

The ballot enclosed with this letter may be mailed to the LLID prior to the Annual Meeting or presented at the Annual Meeting for in-person voting. Any ballots mailed must be received by the LLID by Friday, August 18, 2023, to be eligible for the 2023 election. All votes will be tallied at the Annual Meeting, and the Director-elect will be announced.

An important note about the voting process is only one vote per parcel is allowed, regardless of multiple owners per parcel. If more than one ballot is received for any parcel, all votes for that parcel will be disqualified. Please ensure that you are coordinating with other potential owners of your property to ensure your vote is not disqualified.

LLID Update

Work has progressed since we last updated you through our March newsletter. With much of the administrative tasks required to establish the LID behind us, we've been able to focus our efforts into looking forward to what's best for our lakes. We encourage you to make a habit of checking our website periodically for updated information on the LID, including updated minutes and financials (http://lakelidalid.com). We also plan to continue newsletter distributions to keep the membership informed of priorities and issues around the lake.

The Directors approved to continue treatment of South Lida for curly leaf pondweed this Spring. We also treated 3 1/2 acres in Bagley Bay of North Lida where curly leaf pondweed was discovered in recent surveys. In addition, the LLID is committed to gathering additional scientific data about the lakes and our watershed with the intent of more informed decisions on lake management. We anticipate that this data will be incorporated into our Lake Management Plan to ensure we have a science-based rationale for management decisions funded through the LLID.

As always, thank you for your participation and interest in the LLID. We look forward to seeing all of you this summer, and hopefully at the Annual Meeting!

Sincerely,

LLID Board of Directors