

Revision as of 7/16/24

## BYLAWS FOR THE CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION OF MECOSTA COUNTY

Original with proposed changes for August 31, 2024 meeting.

### ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the **Clear Lake Association of Mecosta County**, a non-profit corporation of Colfax Township, Mecosta County, Michigan.

Section 2. The fiscal year of this association shall be the calendar year, January 1 to December 31.

### ARTICLE II. PURPOSES

Section 1. This Association shall promote the education of riparian property owners and other lake users about water quality and water safety.

Section 2. This Association will morally support uses which concern the welfare of the lake in general including: the conservation of the water supply in the lake and watershed and the groundwater, the maintenance of water quality, safety for swimming and boating, and the maintenance of water quality conducive to the renewal of the fish resources.

Section 3. This Association shall support the measurement and evaluation of hydrological data and related ecology of the lake so that decisions and actions of the Association shall be in line with what is best for the lake and residential quality of life.

### ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in the Association shall be limited to riparian property owners on the lake and persons who own property with legal access to the lake. A person who has negotiated a contract to purchase riparian property or property with legal access to the lake shall be eligible for membership. **Membership is defined as a person who pays dues to the association.**

Section 2. ~~The term "member" is defined as either one person or a family member unit of husband and wife or an association/corporation unit. For purposes of voting, the individuals whose names are recorded on the deed shall be entitled to one vote. In cases where the property is deeded to an association, those families or individual home owners, in residence a minimum of 60 days a year, shall be entitled the same privileges as deed holders.~~

~~The Meceola Country Club~~ **golf course**, the only commercial enterprise on the lake, shall be entitled to membership as follows: Voting privileges will be granted to ~~officers of their Board of Directors~~ **owners** and is not to exceed ~~two~~ **one** votes.

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Section 3. Each member of the Association shall be equally privileged with all other members in his/her voice upon any policy or proposition presented for discussion or decision at any meeting of the members.

Section 4. The membership year is from January 1 through December 31 of each calendar year. **Labor Day to Labor Day.**

Section 5. The annual dues are payable to the Treasurer prior to the annual meeting of each year. ~~on January 1 of each year. Dues shall become delinquent if not paid by July 1 of each calendar year.~~ **A member whose dues are not paid by the annual meeting will be considered delinquent and will not be eligible to vote.** ~~A delinquent member shall be ineligible to attend meetings of the Association, and shall be removed from the membership list if the delinquent dues are not paid within a 30-day grace period.~~

Section 6. ~~Any member who shall reflect discredit upon this Association may be removed from membership by a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the Board of Directors of the Association. Written notice shall be mailed to the member 30 days prior to any action taken by the Board. A hearing before the Board shall be provided if requested by the member of the Association.~~

Section 7. Withdrawal from membership in the Association shall be by written notice to ~~or from the Secretary~~ **President** of the Association.

Section 8. A separate membership category of "auxiliary member" is open to taxpayers of Colfax Township, Mecosta County, Michigan. Members in this category will not be entitled to voting privileges, but may participate in discussions during the decision making process and other supportive activities.

#### **ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS**

Section 1. The officers of this Association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall be elected by majority vote of the membership attending the annual meeting, and shall hold office for the succeeding two years ~~or until their successors are elected.~~ They shall take office at the time **conclusion** of the Annual Meeting at which they are elected.

Section 2. The officers shall serve without compensation and will devote their time and efforts for the public interest, thereby lessening the burdens of government in the area of public safety and protection of water quality.

Section 3. In case of death or resignation of the President, the Vice President shall at once assume his/her **the** title and duties. The vacancy in the office **position** of Vice President shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. In case of death or resignation of any other officer, his/her office **the position** shall be immediately filled by appointment by the President with a majority of the members of the Board concurring.

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Section 4. Any officer or director becoming ineligible to **for** membership in the Association shall automatically forfeit ~~his/her office~~ **their position** and such vacancy shall be filled in the same procedure as stated above.

Section 5. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors, and shall cast the deciding vote in case of a tie.

**Section 6.** The Vice President shall assist the President in the performance of ~~his/her~~ duties. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside at the meetings of the Association and perform all other duties of the President.

**Section 7.** The Secretary shall conduct all correspondence for the Association and Board of Directors. ~~He/she~~ **The Secretary** shall keep the minutes of all meetings and maintain a clear record of the business of the association and Board of Directors.

**Section 8.** The Treasurer shall receive all monies paid to the Association and shall keep an accurate record of the members and their financial status in the Association. ~~He/she~~ **The Treasurer** shall disburse such monies as approved by the Board of Directors. All expenditures of the Association shall be by check **or debit card** from the Association's account. The Treasurer shall make an oral report of the financial status of the Association and of the Board of Directors. A written statement of cash receipts and disbursements shall be prepared annually and made available to the membership at the Annual Meeting. All monies paid to the Association shall be deposited by the Treasurer in the bank account of the Association. **The Treasurer shall arrange for an annual audit by someone outside of the organization and approved by the Board of Directors. The audit report shall be submitted annually to the Board of Directors.**

**Section 9. A person will be appointed to be Historian by the Board of Directors. The duties of the Historian are to collect and assemble any relevant historic, scientific, or environmental data concerning Clear Lake.**

## **ARTICLE V. MEETINGS**

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held the ~~Sunday~~ **Saturday** preceding Memorial Day weekend in July of **Labor Day** each year. ~~The meeting to be held on the day set by the Board of Directors at the previous Annual Meeting, and due notice sent to each member~~

Section 2. ~~It is expected that a fall meeting will be held to assess any activities to be conducted in the upcoming spring and summer seasons. Additional~~ Special meetings of the membership may be called at the option of the President or when requested by any two members of the Board. Every member shall be notified of such meeting by regular United States mail **or email** at least 30 days prior to the time of the meeting.

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Section 3. A quorum of the Association shall be ~~no less than 10% of the entire~~ **50% plus one of the voting** membership. Voting members shall register **(sign-in)** with the ~~Secretary of the Association~~ immediately prior to any regular or special meetings.

## **ARTICLE VI. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the four duly elected officers, the Past President last holding office, and four members elected at large from the membership. Members from the membership-at-large shall serve for a period of two ~~four~~ years with two members elected at each odd numbered year. **The Lakewood Association on Clear Lake shall be entitled to at least one member-at-large position.**

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have control of the affairs and property of the Association, and shall serve as the executive and policy-making group of the Association.

## **ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES**

Section 1. All committees, except the Nominating Committee, shall be appointed by the President and shall consist of 3, 5 or 7 members

Section 2. Standing Committees shall be: Water Quality, Health and Safety, Social, Newsletter and Government **as necessary.**

Section 3. Ad Hoc Committees may be established by majority vote of the Board of Directors as need arises.

Section 4. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members and shall be elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Standing Committees shall present a written report to the Board of Directors at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.

## **ARTICLE VIII. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

All meetings of the membership and if **of** the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call of Officers
3. Reading **Approval** of the Minutes
4. Report of the Officers
5. Report of Standing Committees
6. Report of Ad Hoc Committees
7. Unfinished Business
8. Election of Officers **(Annual Meeting)**
9. New Business
10. Adjournment

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## **ARTICLE IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED shall govern the Association in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules or order the Association may adopt.

## **ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. The Bylaws may be amended at any regular or properly called special meeting of the membership by a 2/3 vote **of active members attending the annual meeting.**

Section 2. Members shall be notified in writing of proposed Bylaws changes at least 30 days prior to the meeting called to consider revision of the Bylaws.

Section 3. These Bylaws shall be read or mailed to the membership from time to time as deemed advisable by the President or Board of Directors.

**Section 4. Bylaws shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors every five years.**