

Indian Lake Improvement Association

March 2022

Dear Indian Lake Residents,

We hope this letter finds you and your family healthy and looking forward to a great Summer on Indian Lake. This year we urgently need your help and financial support. The Silver Creek Township Board (SCT Board) has marginalized the Indian Lake Improvement Association (ILIA) and put the ILIA in a difficult financial position. As a result, the ILIA Board of Directors is kindly requesting each of our Indian Lake families to join the ILIA and send in your 2022 dues and any additional donations as soon as possible.

As you may remember, last May the SCT Board unexpectedly required our association to obtain the signatures of at least 51% of the Indian Lake property owners on Special Assessment District (SAD) petitions within 20 days, by June 1, 2021, in order to renew our SAD funding for the next 5 years. With your support and tireless work of ILIA Board members and volunteers, we did it – on June 1, we submitted SAD petitions signed by more than 70% of the Indian Lake property owners.

At the SCT meeting on June 9, 2021, the SCT Board did not act on our SAD petitions as required under Public Act 188 of 1954 and SCT Board Resolution 20-04, but instead, without notice to the ILIA or public, the SCT Board established the Indian Lake Governmental Lake Board (ILGLB) “for the purpose of undertaking and managing aquatic weed control measures in and around Indian Lake.” Resolution to Order Creation of Lake Board at Paragraph 1. Subsequently, the ILGLB hired Barr Engineering, accepted the 5-year plan Barr presented to us at the August ILIA meeting, and established a new SAD for Indian Lake. The ILGLB will administer the new SAD and be responsible for weed control this year and for the foreseeable future.

With the transition of authority to the ILGLB, the SCT Board has refused to pay several of our outstanding weed control-related bills from the funds remaining in our old 2021 SAD, which the SCT Board still controls. The expenses that the SCT Board has refused to pay are:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
\$9,702	Barr Engineering for 2021 lake management services
\$7,125	2021 weed harvester related expenses
\$19,000	Necessary weed harvester, dump truck and conveyor repairs
<u>\$14,000</u>	EverBlue Lakes for suspension of the aeration system
\$49,827	TOTAL

As a result of the SCT Board’s refusal, the ILIA paid \$9,702 to Barr and \$7,125 for 2021 weed harvester expenses. For some good news, the ILGLB did agree to repay the ILIA, over the next five years, the \$29,000 the association paid Barr for the 5 year plan. We have received the ILGLB’s first payment of \$7,600, and we now have \$10,262 in the ILIA’s bank account. However, **we are at least \$33,000 short** if we are going to repair the weed harvester and related equipment and suspend the aeration system pending a final decision by the ILGLB.

Ironically, the SCT Board intends to refund to each of you the funds remaining in the old 2021 SAD in the form of a credit on your 2023 tax bill, which you will receive in December 2022. Based on information from SCT, we estimate that this credit will be approximately 38% of our 2021 SAD assessment.

This year’s ILIA dues are \$50 per cottage, the same amount since 2008. This year we ask that you make an extra donation to the ILIA, any amount will help. Over 50% of our members did that last year and your generosity helped tremendously. We ask you to consider donating the amount of your anticipated SAD property tax credit to the ILIA. As you may know, the ILIA is a Michigan non-profit corporation, but your dues and donations are not tax deductible.

Please fill out and return the enclosed form along with payment for your dues and any extra donation. You can also renew your membership online on the ILIA website at: <https://indianlk.com/>. Just click on the **JOIN** tab. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity. We hope to see you at a **special ILIA meeting at 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time on Saturday, May 28, 2022, at the Indian Lake Firehouse!**

ILIA Board of Directors and Officers.