

For Immediate Release
August 18, 2026

Lida Lakes Improvement District Annual Meeting elects board members, adopts 2027 budget and reviews Comprehensive Lakeshed Assessment

Lida Lakes property owners held their 2026 Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 15th at Lida Township Hall. Property owners and members of LLID elected Beth Strinden Kadoun and Mitch Ruud to three-year board terms. Kadoun is a resident on San Dee Cove Beach and has visited Lake Lida since childhood. She strongly believes in the mission of the LID and wants to help preserve and protect the lake for future generations. Kadoun recently retired from the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce as Vice President for Tax and Fiscal Policy. She has degrees in Banking and Finance and a law degree from William Mitchell School of Law. Mitch Ruud is a seasonal property owner at Oak Lodge CIC. Ruud strongly supports Lida Lakes where he enjoys the water activities including kayaking, boating and swimming. He too believes the mission of LLID is critical to protect and preserve the water resources of Lida Lakes. Ruud retired from Bell Bank in 2023 after a long career in Information Technology. His experience includes roles at Bell Bank, Microsoft and Great Plains Software. He holds degrees in both Computer Science and Marketing from the University of North Dakota. They replace Chair Brian Graftaas and Secretary David Braton who have completed their board terms. New officers will be elected at the October 3, 2026 Board meeting.

Also approved at the 2026 Annual Meeting was LLID's Annual Budget. LLID is funded by a \$65 per parcel tax and accounts for \$54,340 income. Major expenses include \$20,000 for Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment and \$17,000 for Walleye Fish Stocking. Lida Lakes Lake Coordinator Hannah Passolt, reported the success of Curly-leaf pondweed treatment this past year and plans for treatment in 2027.

Working with the Minnesota DNR, Lida Lakes has been working to improve walleye fishing by stocking fry and yearlings. This past year the DNR stocked 2.38 million walleye fry and 15,000 yearlings under their "Carry-over Program". The LLID and Property Owners Association also investing in walleye stocking with plans for an additional 18,000 walleye yearlings, measuring 6-9 inches this Fall.

A Comprehensive Lakeshed Assessment, the largest effort of its kind for Lake Lida, was presented to property owners at the 2026 Annual Meeting. LLID, through a grant to the Lake Lida Property Owners Association, was awarded a \$57,000 grant from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. The assessment is helping to identify nutrient sources and other risks

to Lida's water quality, giving LLID a stronger foundation for prioritizing future improvement projects. Passolt presented the finding at this year's Annual Meeting. Highlights included an evaluation of watershed conditions, shoreline vegetation, septic systems and sources of phosphorus loading. A lake model and phosphorus budget was developed to evaluate sources and potential reduction strategies. The study established a goal of reducing phosphorus loading by 5 percent over ten years, with anticipated benefits including reduced algae and improved water clarity. Recommended actions include enhancing shoreline vegetation and buffer strips, protecting adjacent forest and natural lands, promoting agricultural best management practices, and maintaining septic systems.

Details of the Annual Meeting and the Comprehensive Lakeshed Assessment can be found at the Lida Lakes Improvement District website, www.lakelidalid.com or www.lakelida.com.