

Lake District petitions filed with county on September 9, 2019

It was announced at the BDLIA Annual Meeting on August 24, 2019 that the petition drive had succeeded in gathering more signatures than required to file the petitions with Dodge County for the formation of the Beaver Dam Lake District.

Over 740 signatures were obtained from property owners who touch Beaver Dam Lake. During the campaign all property owners were invited to attend eight open meetings where facts were presented and questions were answered. In addition all neighborhoods around the lake were canvased by the 12 volunteers who organized and operated the campaign. It was noted at the meeting that 94% of the members of BDLIA signed the petition which indicated to the BDLIA board that the membership supported the formation of the Lake District.

The property owners canvased appreciate the work that BDLIA does for the lake, but most agreed that there is a need for the structure a lake district brings. Also the lake district includes all property owners and the district gives greater ability to leverage various state and federal funding streams to address the challenges the lake faces.

The next step is the filing of the petitions with Dodge County which will be done on September 9, 2019. According to state statutes, which govern the formation on lake districts, the county then has 30 days in which to hold a public hearing. The results of the hearing will be given to the county board which then has 6 months to make a decision regarding the formation of the lake district.

The county board is required to issue a decision based on the following findings:

- The petition was signed by the requisite number of property owners
- That the district is necessary
- That the public health, comfort, convenience, necessity of public welfare will be promoted by the establishment of the district
- That the property included in the district will be benefited by the district's establishment.

Once the county board finds that the new district meets the four criteria it establishes an initial board of commissioners that is charged with the responsibility of getting the district up and running and preparing for the first annual meeting to be held in summer of 2020.

The first annual meeting and all annual meetings must be held according to state statutes between May 22 and September 8.

At this first annual meeting the property owners in the district will elect 3 commissioners who must be property owners in the district to represent the lake property owners and approve the initial budget for the district.

For additional information contact BDLIA at 920-356-1200.