

Crow Wing County Lake Improvement District (LID) Establishment Policy
Approved by County Board 4/11/23

In addition to the established rules and regulations by the State of Minnesota as set forth in Minnesota Statutes, §§103B.501 to 103B.581, and Minnesota Administrative Rules, chapters 6115.0900 to 6115.0980, Crow Wing County has adopted the following policy for establishing Lake Improvement Districts (LIDs).

1. PRE-PETITION MEETING

- a. A pre-petition meeting with Crow Wing County is required to discuss the submittal requirements, timeline, and other information relating to the establishment of an LID. This meeting and subsequent hearings shall be held on a timeline conducive to promoting landowner participation while meeting administrative and statutory deadlines.

2. PETITION REQUIREMENTS

- a. A written statement of lake problems and objectives.
- b. The proposed type or types of water and related land resource management programs to be undertaken by the proposed district. This shall include a detailed statement of intended studies, management programs, remedial actions, and construction projects.
- c. A statement of the means by which the programs will be financed.
- d. A map showing the boundaries of the proposed lake improvement district. The map shall show the number and location of permanent homes and seasonal dwellings in the district. The scale of the map, and basic geographical information, such as range, township, and section numbers, shall be clearly indicated on the map. A list of all property identification numbers (PID) of each parcel to be included in the proposed LID shall be identified.
- e. The number of directors proposed for the district.
- f. Copies of local ordinances which regulate use of the lake or any public access.
- g. Any information indicating the degree of local interest and commitment to future management.
- h. The identification of any lands and waters which may be adversely affected by the implementation of district purposes, and a preliminary assessment of these adverse effects.
- i. A statement outlining the adequacy and ownership of public accesses, including public lands and beaches.
- j. An estimate of the total equalized valuation of the property within the district.
- k. Any other information demonstrating accordance with the criteria and standards for establishment as contained in part 6115.0960.

3. DETERMINATION OF DISTRICT BOUNDARY:

- a. A petition to initiate a LID must state the boundaries of the proposed district which shall be as consistent as possible with natural hydrologic boundaries and shall contain a map showing the boundaries of the proposed LID (Minnesota Statutes, §103B.521, subd. 1(a)(4)).
- b. The proposed boundaries shall be consistent with district boundaries as defined in Minn. Rules 6115.0920 and shall be approved in writing by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

4. Simple Majority Necessary to Establish LID

- a. A petition must be signed by a majority (50% +1) of the property owners within the proposed lake improvement district described in the petition. Governmental subdivisions, other than the state or federal governments, owning lands within the proposed district are eligible to sign the petition.

5. Application Fee

- a. The application fee for a new LID shall be in accordance with the current fee schedule approved by the County Board.

6. Public Hearing

- a. The public hearing to establish a LID should be conducted in a timely manner according to all applicable statutes and rules, with a preference for being held during the summer months as to allow maximum participation by property owners.
- b. Given local and statutory timelines, in order to get the assessment for approved LIDs on the tax rolls for the following year, LIDs should plan to apply by no later than June 15.

7. Applicable State and Local Laws

- a. The County Board may authorize the creation of the LID if it determines that the LID is in the public welfare or public interest and is necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Lake Improvement District Law in Minnesota.
- b. LIDs have no taxing authority of their own. The order establishing a LID must state the means by which the LID will finance its programs and services.

8. Liability Coverage

- a. Upon establishing the LID shall maintain general liability insurance in the amount of tort limits established by Minnesota Statute 466 and shall name Crow Wing County as an additional insured on such insurance policy. A copy of the insurance policy shall be filed annually with the annual report with the Crow Wing County Land Services Department.

9. Coordination between County and LIDs

- a. The responsibilities of coordinating LID duties shall be delegated to the Land Services Director of the Land Services Department.