

Lake Asbury Municipal Service Benefit District

Report from the Chairman

We want to thank everyone who voted in the referendum. Results will not be available until after June 29th and the Lakelighter will already be in print. Please check the web site www.lakeasbury.us for the results.

If the referendum passes the Board has voted to eliminate the Ad Valorem (the one mil per \$1,000 tax per taxable property value). This action was taken to help everyone in the District due to the current financial environment but at the same it will make for a very tight 2010/2011 budget. The budget calls for obtaining an USDA loan to build the South lake Asbury Spillway a major public safety issue. The loan process is only in its preliminary phase and the Board will analyze all factors before committing. This process may take 9 to 12 months before the Board can make its final decision.

We realize the referendum raised a number of questions concerning who could vote. Our Charter was created in 1986 by the FL Legislature. There were four legal opinions: our attorney, Clay County attorney and two from the State of Florida that the referendum was **not** a freeholder election, therefore, all registered voters had to vote. This means another local bill because only the FL Legislature can change the Charter.

We ask everyone to review the Capital Improvement list on the web site www.lakeasbury.us.

Also all District Members are urged to sign up on the LAMSBD web site (www.lakeasbury.us) for e-mail alerts. For example: the lakes are up or down for a reason and potential emergency alerts.

The web site is greatly improved thanks to John Sarman, a District Member. We are catching up on the past Board minutes and Workshop minutes. If you have suggestions, please advise us. Board e-mail addresses are listed.

We want to thank Tom Hallquest, CPA, located on Branscomb Rd, who has aided the District in updating its financial records and help create a budget that conforms with the BCC (Board of Clay County Commissioners) budget and the State of Florida requirements. Mr. Hallquest is not a District Member, therefore, does not create a conflict of interest. He is a member of the Lake Asbury Community Association which makes him a neighbor.

The Chair and Mike Kelter, LAMSBD Consulting Engineer will shortly begin a serious dialogue with Clay County in reference to the results of the Lake Asbury Watershed & Flooding Study. We have a lot to discuss including the counties impact on the sediment problems and their need to be involved in the dredging of Lake Ryan and fingers on Arthur Moore Dr & Bush Ct/Circuit Rider Dr.