

**BY-LAWS OF  
MARBLE CHAIN OF LAKES IMPROVEMENT ASSN., INC.**  
A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION – NUMBER 745182  
(Revised August 2011)

**ARTICLE I**

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Eligibility: All persons who own or lease property adjacent to, or close to Marble Chain of Lakes Watershed, or who are interested in its welfare or are users of the same, are eligible for membership in this non-profit Corporation, provided they pay the required yearly membership dues.

Dues ~~at the rate of ten (\$10.00) per year~~ **as approved by the membership** shall be required of each member on a calendar year basis payable on application for that year and on September 1<sup>st</sup> of each succeeding year for the life of this Corporation or any extension thereof .

Any person or member thereof who does not pay these dues shall be exempted from any vote in this Corporation and shall be declared by this Board of Trustees to be a nonmember of this Corporation and shall be devoid of any vote as to the operation of said Corporation .

Any person who is declared to be a valid member by the Board of Trustees of this Corporation shall have the right to vote on any issue of this Corporation as provided by these by-laws but, however membership is paid, be it husband or wife or other joint ownerships, only one (1) vote shall be acknowledged for each such membership and only one (1) member of a family shall hold any office at the same time .

**ARTICLE II**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

This Corporation shall be operated by the action of a Board of Trustees consisting of ~~twelve (12)~~ **eight (8)** trustees, ~~including~~ **and** the four (4) officers as specified in Article VI. Trustees **and officers** will be elected to serve at large and will serve two (2) year terms with one-half (1/2) elected alternately in this manner each succeeding year. The immediate Past President may serve as advisor to the incoming President and Board for a period of two (2) years for continuity of past and present projects and information but will not serve as a trustee. **Trustees or officers must be lake property owners to be eligible to serve on the board. Officers will serve 2 year terms and all positions will be effective September 1 through August 31.**

## **ARTICLE III**

### POWER OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees is granted hereby the right to conduct the affairs of this Corporation, provided it conducts the same in a legal fashion as authorized by the Articles of Incorporation, including ownership, disposition, and borrowing against property owned by the Corporation, provided, however, that any money borrowed shall not exceed the sum of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars. Amounts exceeding five hundred (\$500.00) dollars will require the consent of the voting membership.

The Board of Trustees of this Corporation is hereby empowered to transact any business on behalf of this Corporation, to receive, collect, and disburse such monies, and to acquire, hold, protect, and convey such properties as are naturally or properly within the scope of the Articles of Incorporation.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Board of Trustees is hereby empowered to direct and determine what activities shall be held throughout the year on behalf of the Corporation, and to determine who shall from time to time direct such social activities, such as picnics, dinners, fund-raisers, etc.

## **ARTICLE V**

### ANNUAL MEETINGS

There shall be a total of three (3) membership meetings per year ~~starting with the second Saturday of June through August,~~ in **June, August and Tip-UP weekend. The August meeting** ~~which~~ will be for the election of officers and trustees for the ensuing year. They will approve or disapprove the accounts of the Treasurer and conduct any further business as appropriate.

The Board of Trustees will meet ~~on the second Saturday of the month April through October~~ or **once a month as needed unless** business matters dictate a need to meet ~~November through March unless cancelled for cause~~ **more than specified.**

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **OFFICERS**

The following officers shall be elected by the Corporate membership.

PRESIDENT. The President of this Corporation shall be in charge of all meetings of this Corporation and shall direct the business of this Corporation in accordance with the terms of the Articles of Incorporation and appoint any committees deemed necessary

VICE-PRESIDENT. The Vice-President, in the absence of the President, shall act for the President of this Corporation, and while so acting shall have the same duties. The Vice - President shall also serve as Program Chairman for the year.

SECRETARY. The Secretary is charged with the duty of recording the minutes of the Board of Trustees and membership meetings, keeping necessary records of such, and giving notice of meetings as required.

TREASURER. The Treasurer is charged with the duty of keeping records and accounts of this Corporation, including records of payment of dues, issuing statements and membership cards, keeping records of all disbursements duly authorized by the Board of Trustees, and any and all other income. The Treasurer of this Corporation shall be bonded for the sum of thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars. All checks shall be co-signed by either the President, the Vice-President, or the Secretary. The Treasurer's records shall be audited prior to the second meeting by a committee of at least three (3) members appointed by the Board of Trustees.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

Written notice of meetings of members of the Corporation shall be given by U.S. Mail by the Secretary at least two (2) weeks prior to the June meeting. Other meeting notices will be published in the Shopper's Guide and/or The Daily Reporter. Public service announcements may be made on radio and public television. Special meetings of the Board of Trustees or of the members of the Corporation may be held upon the given notice of the President or Vice-President of the Corporation, or upon the request of any ten (10) members of the Corporation, provided the request is made ten (10) days in advance to the Secretary stating the particular date and purpose of such meeting. Upon receipt of such request from ten (10) members, said Secretary shall furnish notice of the date, time, and purpose of such meeting to the members. Member is defined as anyone who has paid their dues.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **QUORUM**

At any meeting of the general membership, twenty-five (25) or more members of the membership shall hereby constitute a Quorum for the transaction of business. At any meeting of the Board of Trustees, the presence of six (6) or more members of said Board or fifty (50) percent of the total serving shall constitute a Quorum for the transaction of business of this Corporation.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **TERMINATION**

Any member who fails to pay the necessary and required dues as determined by the Board of Trustees shall immediately forfeit his/her membership in this Corporation. Any Trustee who fails to pay his/her dues as required, or misses three (3) consecutive meetings without notifying the Secretary or President prior to the meeting, shall forfeit his/her office as Trustee thereof

Any vacancy on said Board of Trustees shall be filled by vote of the remaining members of the Board until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the entire membership, at which time a new member of the Board of Trustees shall be elected by the membership to hold office for the balance of the term of such vacated Trustee.

## **ARTICLE X**

The Corporation shall consist of one (1) district, with all Trustees serving at large. The area covered shall be First Lake, Marble Lake, Middle Lake, Archer Lake, Bartholomew Lake, Loon Lake, and Mud Lake.

Every effort should be made to have Trustees selected and elected so that each area would be properly represented, if possible.

## **ARTICLE XI**

These By-Laws may be amended, enlarged, changed, or repealed by the Board of Trustees at any regular meeting, or at a special meeting called for said purpose, provided however, that such amendment shall not alter or change the membership term, or qualification of the Trustees.

## **ARTICLE XII**

The Corporation shall maintain twenty-five hundred (\$2,500.00) dollars in the General Fund, or funds equal to the annual membership dues, which are collected during the calendar year, whichever is less. Special funds for the payment of supplemental Sheriff's Marine Patrol are to be raised by donations from the members or interested parties, or special fund-raisers and funds from the General Fund, but its balance is not to go below the annual dues amount or twenty-five hundred (\$2,500.00) dollars whichever is less. This applies to any project selected by our Trustees and Members. Every effort should be made to raise funds for special projects.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

If this non-profit Corporation dissolves, all assets, real property, and personal property shall be transferred to other non-profit Organizations, such as libraries, parks, marine patrol units, etc. within Algansee, Quincy, and Ovid Townships which include First, Middle, Marble, Archer, Bartholomew, Loon, and Mud Lakes. All of these Townships and Lakes are located in Branch County.

## **ADDENDUM**

Any Copies or commitments in effect that exceed one (1) year's duration are attached.