

**BY-LAWS OF THE PLATTE LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
PLATTE LAKE, BENZIE COUNTY
P.O. BOX 272 HONOR, MICHIGAN 49640
AS AMMENDED AUGUST 7, 2010**

ARTICLE I – NAME AND ORGANIZATION

- Section 1.** This organization shall be known as the Platte Lake Improvement Association, a non-profit corporation of Benzonia and Lake Townships, Benzie County, Michigan.
- Section 2.** This association is a non-profit corporation in conformity with Act 327 of the Public Acts Section 18, 1931. Incorporation was approved on October 25, 1978 by the Michigan Corporation and Securities Commission.
- Section 3.** Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the association shall be the calendar year, January 1 to December 31.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

- Section 1.** The Platte Lake Improvement Association is formed for testing, to restore, and/or preserve the quality and level of Platte Lake, and for the education of the public in water quality.
- Section 2.** The Platte Lake Improvement Association will morally and actively support issues which concern the welfare of Platte Lake in general, including the improvement and maintenance of water quality and the level of Platte Lake and its tributaries, the conservation of the water supply in the watershed, including the wetlands, research and evaluation of the hydrological data for the preservation of the water supply and the maintenance of the purity of the water supply for private and public use now and for future generations.
- Section 3.** The Platte Lake Improvement Association will support the implementation and or modification and enforcement of ordinances and related building codes that in whole or in part will effectively improve the water quality of Platte Lake.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1.** Membership in the Association shall consist of two kinds, namely voting member and associate member.

- Section 2.** A voting membership is afforded to every titled property owner who has paid the Association's annual fees, and is 18 years of age or older, the member having property or properties, irrespective of land area, number of parcels or lots, adjacent or nonadjacent, lying within the Platte Lake watershed or on land within a subdivision which lies wholly or in part within the Platte Lake watershed. The voting membership is entitled to one vote and shall be equally privileged with all other members in voice and vote with regard to any policy or proposition presented for discussion or decision at any meeting of the members. Property owner is defined as the single unique titled entity for the subject property or properties whether they be joint, multiple, corporate or trusted.
- Section 3.** An associate member shall be a person 18 years of age or older and not otherwise qualified for voting membership, but having an interest in and a desire to support the Association.
- Section 4.** The membership fees for the upcoming year will be set by a two-thirds vote of the voting membership at the Annual Meeting.
- Section 5.** The membership year is from January 1 to December 31.
- Section 6.** The annual fees are for each calendar year, and are payable to the Treasurer on January 1 of every year. Membership fees shall be delinquent if not paid by the date of the annual meeting. A delinquent member may not vote or attend meetings and will be placed on inactive status. Active membership can be reinstated upon application and payment of the current annual fees.
- Section 7.** Withdrawal of membership in the Association shall be by written notice to the Secretary of the Association

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

- Section 1.** The officers of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. They shall be elected by a majority of the voting membership attending the Annual Meeting, and shall hold office for the succeeding two fiscal years or until their successors are elected.
- a.** The Vice-President shall be the President –elect if the majority concurs.
- Section 2.** The officers of the Association shall serve without compensation and will devote their time and efforts supporting the objectives of the Association.
- Section 3.** In the case of resignation or death of the President, the Vice-President shall at once assume his title and duties. A temporary Vice-President shall then be appointed by the remaining Directors for the unexpired term or until an election is held at the next Annual Meeting. In case of the resignation or death of any other Officer, that office shall be filled immediately by the President, all appointments to be confirmed at the next meeting of the board of Directors.

Section 4. Any Officer or Director becoming ineligible for membership in the Association shall automatically forfeit that office and such vacancy shall be filled immediately by the President, all appointments to be confirmed at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Duties:
The President shall preside at all the meetings of the Association and of the Board of directors, and shall cast a deciding vote in case of a tie.
The Vice-President shall assist the President in the performance of his duties. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside at the meetings of the Association and perform all other duties of the President.
The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings and maintain a clear record of all the Association/Board of Directors business and correspondence. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping a record of members home and Platte Lake addresses and shall validate the voting membership at each meeting of the Association.
The Treasurer shall receive all the monies paid into the Association and shall keep an accurate record of the members and their financial standing in the Association. The Treasurer shall be required to make an oral report at each meeting and a written statement of cash receipts and disbursements shall be prepared annually to be made available to all members at the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall disburse by check, such monies as may be approved by the Board of Directors, and co-signature of one other Officer. All funds shall be deposited in the name of the Association by the Treasurer and all disbursements made by check.

ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The Executive Board, also called the board of Directors, shall consist of the four duly elected Officers, the Past President last holding office, and the seven members elected from the membership at large. The Past President shall remain on the Board for a maximum of two years. At the time the existing President is re-elected, the Past President's Board seat shall be elected from the membership at large. Members from the membership at large shall serve for two years with five members elected each odd numbered year.

The additional two board members resulting from the amendment will be chosen and appointed by the board for a one year term after the annual meeting and then elected by the membership at large at the next annual meeting if nominated.

- Section 2.** The Board of directors shall have the control of the affairs and property of the Association, shall serve as the executive and policy-making group of the Association.
- Section 3.** New expenditures of up to \$250.00 must have full approval of all the Officers. If no concurrence can be achieved, the expenditures must be approved by the Board of directors. All expenditures greater than \$250.00 must have Board approval.
- Section 4.** Officers and Directors will be indemnified (shall be legally exempt from liability for damages) from any claims, losses or expenses including legal fees brought against them individually or collectively as a result of conducting the affairs of this organization.

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

- Section 1.** All committees shall be appointed by the President and shall consist of three, five or seven members. The committee shall serve for the duration set by the President.
- Section 2.** The President shall appoint a “Rules Committee”. The function of the “Rules Committee” is to review proposed by-law changes for consistency and applicability to existing PLIA by-laws and to recommend revisions to make the amendments consistent and applicable before presentation to the membership for approval.

Additionally, the “Rules Committee” will review the modified by-law amendments approved by the members at large at the Annual and Special Meetings for consistency with existing PLIA by-laws and if required, make the necessary changes to make them so if possible. Under no circumstances may the committee alter the substantive nature of the modified amendment. All by-law amendments must be approved by a unanimous vote of the “Rules Committee” to become effective.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

- Section 1.** The Annual meeting of the Association shall be held the first Saturday of August each year, due notice sent to each member via the post office to address of record, by e-mail to e-mail address of record, as well as published during the month preceding the annual meeting on the Association’s internet web site: www.platte-lake.org.

- Section 2.** Special meetings may be called at the option of the President and or a majority of the Board of directors.
- Section 3.** All meetings, both regular and special, shall be in accordance with Roberts Rules of Procedures.
- Section 4.** Any person or persons desirous of addressing the Board of Directors may do so via a letter or personal appearance. The President will allot a time period for the presentation of the matter which will take place prior to the start of the regular Board Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

- Section 1.** The by-laws may be amended at any Annual or properly called Special Meeting by two thirds vote of the voting membership present.
- Section 2.** Proposed amendments must be reviewed and accepted by a unanimous vote of the “Rules Committee” and then forwarded to the Secretary for proper notification of the membership prior to membership consideration.
- Section 3.** Members shall be notified of the proposed by-law amendments at least ten days prior to the meeting called to consider the amendments.
- Section 4.** Modifications to any properly proposed amendments may be made at any Annual or properly called Special Meeting by two thirds vote of the membership present. The modified amendments must be approved by a unanimous vote of the “Rules Committee” to become effective.

As amended at Annual Meeting of the Platte Lake Improvement Association held August 7, 2010.