

THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

The Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners Information Letter

September 2006

2006 District Election Results:

On August 26, 2006, Terry Keeley (Cottage 237) was newly elected to the District's Board of Commissioners for a five year term (August 2006 through August 2011). Andy Lindquist was elected to another three year term (August 2006 through August 2009) as Treasurer. Voter turn-out was 89. The proposition for adopting the revised and updated Land Use Restrictions and Controls was passed by a vote of 56 to 33. The new Land Use Restrictions and Controls were issued to the electorate prior to the August 26 vote and can be found at <http://www.ourcubalake.com/Land%20Use/LUR-Final%208-08-06.pdf>. If you need a copy you can contact the Secretary or the Lake Manager.

At the September 14th meeting of the Board of Commissioners:

Lynn Sweet was reelected by the Board to the position of Chairman. Erick Laine was reelected to the position of Deputy Chair. These positions are voted on by the Board on an annual basis.

Sworn in were Terry Keeley, Commissioner (replacing Jeff Bradley); Andy Lindquist, Treasurer; and Isabel Warren, Secretary (replacing Pam Konieczka).

The commissioners greatly appreciate and thank Jeff and Pam for their years of dedicated service to the Board and to the Cuba Lake District.

Committees and assignments to those committees were established as follows:

- State Relations – Lynn Sweet; Erick Laine
- Budget & Finance – Dave Shemeld; Jerry Collins; Andy Lindquist
- Public Relations & Communications – Dave Shemeld; Dave Bosworth; Isabel Warren
- Building & Lot Improvements & Maintenance – Dave Shemeld; Jerry Collins
- Water Quality – Erick Laine; Dave Shemeld
- Wastewater Treatment Project – Terry Keeley; Dave Shemeld

Lake Management Agreement:

The commissioners have completed a draft of a proposed continuation of the Lake Management Agreement which has been submitted to the State's Office of General Services for approval. The current agreement, reached in November 2001, expires November 19, 2006. The agreement is in essence a contract between the Office of General Services and the Cuba Lake District, the major provisions of which enables lease fees collected by the District on behalf of the State, to be returned to the District for investment into the maintenance and development of Cuba Lake. Funds provided to the District amount to approximately \$160,000 per year (provided fees have been collected). The agreement also provides the support for the position of Lake Manager.

Garbage Collection:

The current service provided by the District's contract with SDS will end with the last pickup on October 30, 2006; and resume in the spring on Monday May 7, 2007. Those residents living at the lake through the winter season make their own arrangements for collection. Services available include:

- **Don Clark – 585-593-7110.** Pickup is on Thursdays; recycle pickup is every week, *Our understanding of the rate is \$15.00 per month (no surcharges).* Price covers 4 bags per week plus recyclable items.
- **SDS – 716-372-6905.** Pickup is on Thursdays; recycle pickup every-other week. For continuous service, the first pickup would be Nov 2nd, the first recycle pickup Nov 9th. *Our*

THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

The Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners Information Letter

understanding of the rate is \$20.26 per month (includes tax) plus a fuel surcharge which can vary. Invoicing is done quarterly. Reportedly, typical quarterly billings are about \$66.00 including the fuel surcharge.

While the above discussion of rates is our understanding of current rates, they are subject to change and you must confirm your cost or potential costs with your intended service provider.

Spillway Activity:

- Winter Draw-Down Schedule:
 - First 4 ties removed – November 1, 2005.
 - Remainder – The first Monday after Thanksgiving, November 27, 2006.
- Due to their deteriorating condition the existing spillway timbers will be replaced in the spring. New, white oak timbers will be used at a finished cost of approximately \$5000. It is noted that a completely alternative design of a more modern type lift-gate was considered. Due to the estimated cost of some \$250,000, the idea was tabled in favor of more pressing issues.

Weed Control:

Fall leaves are coming! A good way to help in the control of the weed population is to keep nutrients from entering the lake.

A major source of nutrients can be the unnatural addition of high quantities of leaves into the lake. Please don't deposit your leaves into the lake water or into the lake bed.

Leaves sink to the bottom and provide compost nutrients for the aquatic plant life.

The picture at right shows the spreading impact of raking leaves into the lake.



Weed harvesting is still our primary method of controlling the impact of weeds on the recreational aspects of the lake. Longer term, more effective methods include the sewer project and the Rawson Creek, WRP (Wetlands Reserve Project) being funded and planned by the Cattaraugus County Soil and Water Department. These projects, discussed in later articles, provide the opportunity to reduce the amount of nutrients entering the lake thereby reducing and controlling the plant growth.

In the shorter term and foreseeable future, weed harvesting will be a big part of our District operations. Combined with the increased weed population, the District's harvesting equipment is aging and in some cases in need of replacement.

THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

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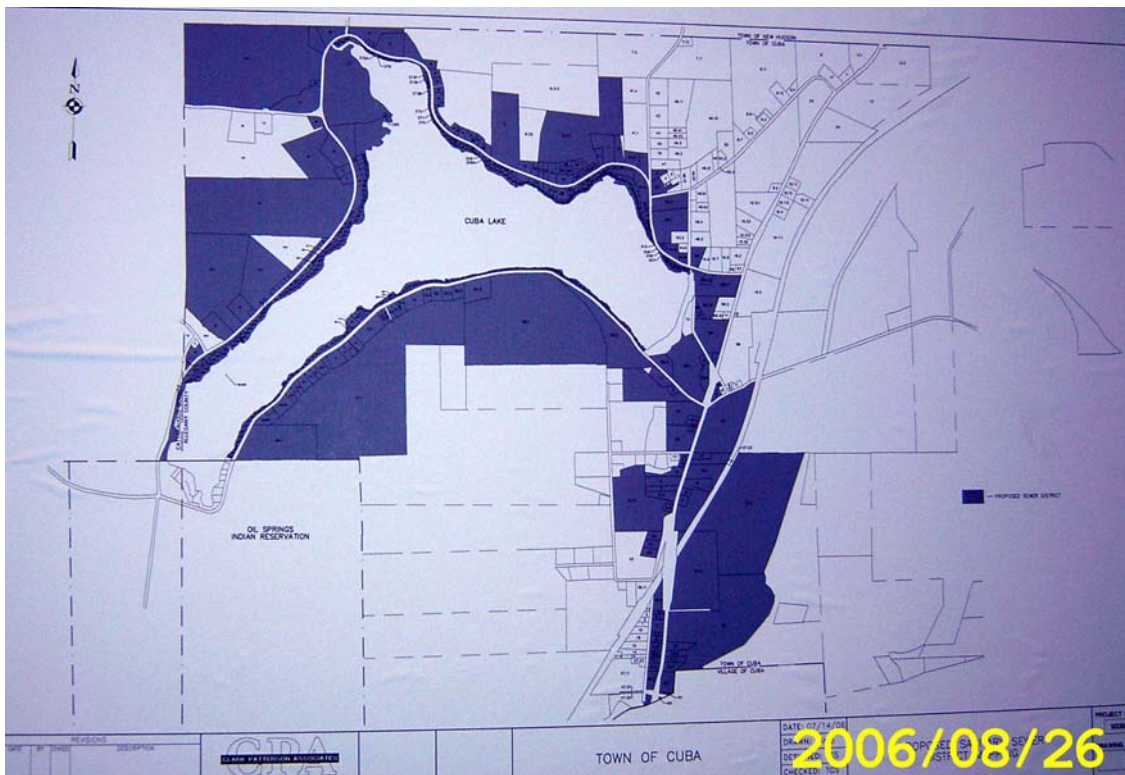
The commissioners will pursue development of specifications to enable bidding on a larger, more efficient weed harvester and off-loading elevator system. The current elevator is in need of immediate replacement. The picture shows a harvester with an 11 foot swath, 7 foot depth of cut (versus our current 6 foot swath, 4 foot depth) and matching elevator.

Sewer Project:

The Town of Cuba held a public meeting on August 26, 2006 to discuss the proposed sewer District. The meeting was informational and was the first step in presenting to the public involved, the plan for formation of a sewer district made up of lands around the lake and down Rte 305. The project, as defined, has been approved for a 100%, zero interest loan payable in 30 years. The cost in the first year to the individual household (EDU) was given as \$595 made up of \$338 repayment of debt and \$257 of Operating and Maintenance charges.

Notes handed out at the meeting can be viewed on www.ourcubalake.com.

See the map of the proposed sewer district which was presented at the meeting below.



Wetlands Reserve Program:

The Wetlands Reserve Program is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical and financial support to help landowners with their wetland restoration efforts. The NRCS goal is to achieve the greatest wetland functions and values, along with optimum wildlife habitat, on every acre enrolled in the program. This program offers landowners an opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection.

More information can be found at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/PROGRAMS/wrp/>.

THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

The Cuba Lake District Board of Commissioners Information Letter

The Rawson Creek, initiated by Joseph Strzelec, is a project of great interest to the future of Cuba Lake. The project would develop marshlands below the farm and around Rawson Creek providing a major attraction for water fowl (drawing them away from the lake) and providing filtration of the water before it enters the lake. The program, reportedly, will be funded as provided for under the USDA-NRCS, "Permanent Easement" program which provides 100% of funds required. The project, under the direction of the local office of the USDA-NRCS in Ellicottville, is apparently still in the design phases and is reportedly at least two years from coming to fruition. However, the land easement has been closed. The easement was purchased from Marsh Acres LLC an entity for which Mr. Strzelec is the major stockholder.

FOLA Regional meeting:

The Federation of Lakes Association will hold a Region 1 meeting at Moonwinks on October 21, 2006 from 10:00 AM to 3:00PM. Sponsored by the CLCOA, reservations can be made by contacting CLCOA Secretary Barb Utter. Special guest and participant will be State Senator Catherine Young, long a supporter of events and progress at Cuba Lake.

Agenda Subject matter will include – "Weevil Update" by Bob Johnson from Cornell University. Price of admission is \$11.00 (includes lunch). Registration form is available on www.ourcubalake.com. Registration is due by October 14, 2006.

Mount Monroe Project:

Phase 1, the design approval phase, has been completed for this project clearing the way for acquisition of the necessary lands as well as recovery of funds (Approx \$11,000) for the cost of phase 1. This project for a sediment basin in the Mount Monroe Tributary is scheduled for completion by October 2007.

Commissioners: E-mail -
commissioners@cubalake.org

Lynn Sweet, Chairman (585) 968-1735

Erick J. Laine, Deputy Chairman (585) 968-1279
or (716) 372-7952

Jerry Collins, (585) 968-0112

Terry Keeley, (716) 933-6111

Dave Shemeld, (716) 968-3928

(www.ourcubalake.com)

Web site – www.cubalake.org

Lake Manager: E-mail –

cubalakedistrict@yahoo.com

Dave Bosworth, (585) 968-0500;

Mail Address: Cuba Lake District, PO Box 201, Cuba, NY 14727

Location: Cuba Lake District Office, 31 Water Street, Suite 8, Cuba, NY

Other officials:

Jack Hart, Counsel (716)373-1600

Andrew Lindquist, Treasurer (585) 968-3269

Isabel Warren, Secretary (585) 968-3215

Meetings – District office; 2nd Thursday of each month; beginning at 7:00 PM (Exceptions are published in local newspapers.)