

RLI Proxy Ballot – Fall 2025 General Membership Meeting

Per section 4.01 of our RLI Bylaws, “All proxy and/or ballot submissions must be received by a Board member before commencement of a meeting, or via the RLI PO Box forty-eight (48) hours prior to commencement of a meeting, to be counted.” Questions about this proxy should be directed to an RLI Trustee.

You may provide this completed proxy to any RLI Board member or mail it to: Runyan Lake Inc.
P.O. Box 105

You may also scan your completed proxy and email it to: runyanlakeinc@aol.com. Fenton, MI 48430

RLI General Meeting Minute Approvals

☐ Yes ☐ No Approval of the Spring 2025 General Meeting Minutes

RLI Financial Report – 2026 Budget and Dues

The RLI financial report is provided with your fall newsletter (page 2) and also on the second page of the Fall General Membership Meeting agenda. The report contains the following sections – 2025 year to date (actual), 2025 year end forecast, and 2026 budget options. During the Fall General Membership Meeting the 2026 proposed budget will be reviewed, explaining anticipated expenses, and a request to approve the proposed 2026 budget and 2026 dues amounts will be made. *Please note – the dues options below DO NOT include funding for ramp gate option 1 if that expenditure is approved.*

- ☐ Yes, I am in favor of the 2026 budget and dues option A (\$270/\$265/\$45).
☐ Yes, I am in favor of the 2026 budget and dues option B (\$280/\$275/\$45).
☐ Yes, I am in favor of the 2026 budget and dues option C (\$290/\$285/\$45).
☐ No, I am not in favor of any of the 2026 budget and dues options.
☐ I am in favor of the 2026 budget and dues option chosen by the Membership during the Fall General Meeting (may not be A, B, or C).

Nomination of 2025 Year End Financial Audit Committee

As set forth in Section 3.05.a of our Bylaws, “The Membership shall appoint a 3 person Financial Committee made up of Members in good standing, with no two (2) committee members being related, to review the financial records of the Corporation, with support from the Treasurer.....” Because RLI was no longer able to secure the low cost basic audit we have utilized for many years, the RLI Board is requesting RLI Member volunteers to audit the 2025 RLI financial records and report their findings during the 2026 Spring General Membership Meeting.

- ☐ I nominate _____ to review the 2025 RLI financial records.
☐ I agree to support those nominated by RLI Members attending the 2025 Fall General Meeting.

Trustee Elections: Five trustees will be elected during the 2025 Fall General Meeting. (nominations due by 7/22/25)

I vote for the following RLI Members to be Trustees of RLI: (Vote for only one person per area)

- Area 1: ☐ Dave Verbeke
Area 2: ☐ Andy Nester or ☐ Michael Ewles
Area 3: ☐ Pat Maynard
Area 4: ☐ Dan Cypher
Area 5: ☐ Ivan Quinn or ☐ Michael Czarnota

Proxy submitted by: _____
(printed name) (signature)

(RLI property address)

☐ I hereby provide my proxy ballot to RLI Member _____ to be voted on by behalf.

- One proxy per freeholder (property title holder) regardless of the number of properties owned -

**** If you are submitting this proxy as a two sided document you only need to sign one side of the document****

Please continue to page 2

RLI Proxy Ballot – Fall 2025 General Membership Meeting (continued)

Special Topic – Item that may be voted on during the meeting – Boat Ramp Access Alternatives.

During the 2025 Spring General Meeting a motion was made by Michael Czarnota "to form a committee to evaluate alternatives to the current ramp access process with Tim Polakowski as the chairperson and to include Board representation." The committee intends to present their findings during the 2025 Fall General Meeting.

The RLI Board has not had sufficient time to fully review the information provided by the ramp committee, confirm some of their statements, confirm Livingston County and Tyrone Township would permit what some consider a commercial use in a single family residential area, nor has the RLI Board reviewed liability concerns and coverage with our insurer or attorney.

The RLI Board believes additional time is needed to adequately evaluate the options presented. The timing of the Fall General Meeting does not permit sufficient review time nor does it provide an opportunity for all affected RLI members to review the facts and opinions to result in information that allows for an informed vote as is being requested by the committee on this subject. The RLI Board recommends the committee's information be shared during the Fall General Meeting and within the 2025 fall newsletter but any vote should be deferred to a future general membership meeting to allow sufficient time for review and comment prior to a more detailed review with the membership followed by a vote.

*** Please see pages 3 and 4 for additional information about this topic. ***

RLI Boat Launch Access Alternatives

In anticipation of a vote being requested despite the concerns the RLI Board has regarding insufficient time to review and investigate all of the alternatives presented by the ramp committee you are offered the following alternatives to vote upon having been provided the information on the following two pages from both the Ramp Committee and RLI Board.

- ☐ I am in favor of Ramp Committee option 1 - Installation of a card activated electronic gate system.
- ☐ I am in favor of Ramp Committee option 2 - A resettable combination pad lock on the gate.
- ☐ I am in favor of Ramp Committee option 3 – Retain the existing boat ramp access process (call a trustee or gate keeper).
- ☐ I am in favor of allowing additional time for the RLI Board to further research concerns associated with options 1 and 2.

Note: This proxy ballot is provided consistent with RLI Bylaws Section 4.01.g. While every attempt is made to include all items to be voted upon during the general meeting RLI cannot predict all matters that may be raised during the meeting, specifically those raised and debated during "Other Business from Members". To have all matters raised during the meeting voted upon on your behalf, this signed proxy must be provided to the RLI Board or another RLI Member attending the meeting with the below box checked and information filled in.

Proxy submitted by: _____
(printed name) (signature)

(RLI property address)

☐ I hereby provide my proxy ballot to RLI Member _____ to be voted on by behalf.

- One proxy per freeholder (property title holder) regardless of the number of properties owned -

**** If you are submitting this proxy as a two sided document you only need to sign one side of the document****

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RLI Proxy Ballot – Fall 2025 General Membership Meeting (continued)

We expect the Ramp Committee to present the following information. This information was also shared in your 2025 fall newsletter.

ALTERNATIVES TO THE CURRENT RAMP ACCESS PROCESS (*The information below is from the ramp committee*)

During this past 2025 Spring General Meeting, a motion from the general membership was passed unanimously to “form a committee to evaluate alternatives to the current ramp access process with Tim Polakowski as chairperson and to include Board Representation”. This “Ramp Committee” consisting of Tim Polakowski, Michael Czarnota, Gregg Archambault, Kevin Johnson and Dan Cypher, has put together options to be presented to the Fall General Membership meeting on Friday, August 22. This document is presented to inform the membership about what will be proposed and may be voted on by the membership present or by proxy.

An effort was made to look at several different options and not just focus on one preconceived idea. A good deal of time was spent reviewing the RLI Bylaws and considering Liability concerns. The Ramp Committee feels that there are several protections already in place to help protect RLI if the current ramp process were to be changed.

The Committee has prepared 3 options to present at the Fall General Membership Meeting.

Option 1 Installation of a card activated electronic gate system.

The gate system is made up of three items:

- Power provided by Consumers Energy
- An automated gate/Cell controller with Cell service and access cards
- Cellular Monitoring Camera

“Launch Administrators” are the individuals who control the gate access and monitor the use of the ramp using an app on their cell phone. They also can open the gate remotely and even disable a card if the need arises.

Each card holder would have their own distinct card number so specific individual usage is documented during each use and that data is stored in the system for review.

Each RLI member would be responsible for the usage of their card. Cards will initially be issued with members’ dues receipt and RLI stickers. RLI boat stickers will still be required. RLI members not comfortable with this new system may still request a gatekeeper to be there to open the gate for them.

Total One-Time Cost (Gate/controller, Cards, Cell Monitoring

Camera and Electrical work and permits) Total \$17,673

Annual ongoing costs: Consumers electric power \$35/month, Cellular cell service \$50/month, Monitoring camera data storage \$15/month

Total monthly costs \$100

Option 2 is a very inexpensive option that puts a resettable combination pad lock on the gate.

RLI members then contact a Board Member or Gate Keeper who will check that they are a “Member in Good Standing” (Paid dues, etc.) and then give them the 4-digit code to use. The code can and will be changed often to help prevent misuse. The Member will also be directed to access the Ramp Notebook in the ramp stand to Log their information and date used. A camera system would be installed to monitor the use of the gate. The one-time cost of this solution would be \$350 for the battery powered solar camera, \$50 for 2 combination locks and a monthly cost of \$15 for the camera and its data storage.

Option 3 is leave the existing process in place. You will still need to contact a Board Member or Gate Keeper to set an appointment to be present to open the gate.

While we agree that any proposal, including the choice to stay with the existing system, has problems which we are sure will be highlighted in the accompanying article, we feel that Option 1 can be a workable/doable solution that provides RLI members access to the lake ramp when desired without the need to contact a board member or gate keeper to make an appointment to launch or remove their watercraft.

RLI Proxy Ballot – Fall 2025 General Membership Meeting (continued)

RLI Board Response: *The RLI Board has identified a number of concerns and believes a vote for Option 1 or 2 above is premature. This information was also shared in the 2025 fall newsletter. Some of the concerns are:*

Option 1 Installation of a card activated electronic gate system.

RLI Board preliminary concerns:

- Initial cost estimate for install is approximately \$20,000.00, resulting in a dues increase of approximately \$75 for Riparian members to fund the cost.
- Need to confirm permits from Livingston County and Tyrone Township would be issued.
- Administration of system will add many hours of labor to the dues payment process.
- Who will be the “launch administrators” and how do they fit within RLI’s Bylaws?
- The liability coverage review referenced above was done by the committee, not RLI’s insurer or our attorney.
- Liability coverage for “launch administrators”.
- Ongoing annual costs for electricity, cellular service, and maintenance – approximately \$1200/yr.
- Reliable cellular service – service around Runyan Lake is spotty depending on provider, location, and weather.
- Loss of physical verification no invasive species are present on launched boats and trailers.
- No RLI witness for ramp related issues, damage, or traffic control.
- How to confirm the gate is closed and locked. Due to limited space the gate cannot be configured to automatically close as someone is backing their trailer down the ramp – it must be manually cycled to close. It is believed the gate must be left open when the ramp is in active use to allow for vehicle mobility in case there is an incident or accident.
- Card will be shared by some, potentially allowing launch use by members owing dues or by people not authorized to use the boat ramp or access Runyan Lake.
 - I forgot or lost my card but am at the ramp – can’t you just let me in?
 - Next person in line requests gate be left open for them so no record of use since their card is not used.
- Process needed for lost or non-functional cards.
- No way to confirm which watercraft was launched and therefore cannot confirm the watercraft is owned by a Runyan Lake Riparian. Requires a video monitoring system at additional cost and significant labor to review footage.
- How do we enforce and/or penalize unauthorized ramp use or sharing of cards?
- Bylaws amendments likely required.

Option 2 - Resettable combination pad lock on the gate

RLI Board preliminary concerns:

- Ramp use log book will not be filled out by everyone. Loss of RLI ramp use data.
- No way to confirm which watercraft was launched and therefore cannot confirm the watercraft is owned by a Runyan Lake Riparian. Requires a video monitoring system at additional cost and significant labor to review footage.
- Loss of physical verification no invasive species are present on launched boats and trailers.
- No RLI witness for ramp related issues, damage, or traffic control.
- How to confirm the gate is closed and locked.
- Combination will be shared by some, potentially allowing launch use by members owing dues or by people not authorized to use the boat ramp or access Runyan Lake.
 - I forgot the combination. Neighbor, can you share it with me?
 - Next person in line requests gate be left open for them.
 - No way to confirm which watercraft was launched.
- How do we enforce and/or penalize unauthorized ramp use or sharing of the combination?
- Liability needs to be reviewed with RLI insurer and attorney.

Option 3 - Leave the existing process in place (*the RLI Board recommends this option at this time*)

RLI Board preliminary concerns:

- Small number of complaints that a trustee or gatekeeper cannot be contacted.
- The RLI Board has already added four (4) additional gatekeepers to mitigate this concern.
- The RLI Board is proposing several “open gate” days during the spring and fall where members could arrive at the gate during a 4 – 6 hour period and launch their watercraft without a reservation if their dues are paid and a boat sticker is in place.