

Board refuses effort to review RKLD financial records

By: Karyn Saemann

The town of Fulton won't participate in an effort to review the financial records of the Rock-Koshkonong Lake District.

The Fulton Town Board voted unanimously Tuesday, Jan. 8, to not add their names to a letter recently drafted by the town of Albion. The letter asks for copies of the lake district's audits and seeks an explanation of special charges on tax bills. The town of Albion had forwarded the letter to Fulton.

Fulton Town Board members said there appear to be concerns about whether money collected by the lake district is being prudently spent. Fulton Supervisor Scott Farrington said an outcry from Fulton residents would be needed to participate in the effort.

"If a bunch of people came to the town of Fulton and said we want to see this, we would do something," Farrington said.

Fulton Supervisor Michelle Staff said regular treasurer's reports presented at lake district meetings seem to contain a sufficient amount of financial information.

In other matters, the board:

- Discussed upcoming road reconstruction projects. With the cost of road reconstruction sharply higher in recent years due to higher material costs, the board discussed ways to economically proceed. "We need to make a decision philosophically about whether we're going to fix these roads, and to what degree we are going to fix them," Town Supervisor Evan Sayer said.

- Proposed an ordinance change that would get rid of a restriction on concrete at the end of rural driveways. The current ordinance prohibits concrete in the right of way, on the last few feet of a driveway, for reasons that include potential buckling that can damage snow plows. A final vote on the change is needed at a future meeting.

- Voted to apply \$57,000 from savings to a 2012 budget overrun. Town Clerk/Treasurer Connie Zimmerman said a large reason for that was the cost of new fire number signs.

Prior to its meeting on Tuesday night, the Town Board held a joint meeting with its Planning and Zoning Committee. At that meeting the board and committee:

- Discussed at length farmland preservation details of an upcoming town zoning ordinance update. Town Board and Planning and Zoning Committee members have been meeting recently to work on the update; their next work session is Feb. 5. Tuesday night's discussion centered on whether the construction of new residential, non-farm buildings should be prohibited on parcels smaller than 50 acres that lie in the town's Farmland Preservation District. No action was taken.

- Approved the sale of 21 acres to the Consolidated Koshkonong Sanitary District, by Russell Gauss, 10101 N. Kidder Road. Gauss will keep a house and 2.3 acres along Kidder Road.

- Approved the transfer of a small amount of land between Staci Hansen, 5915 N. Newville Road, and her father.