Rock-Koshkonong Lake District RKLD.org

Brian Christianson Edgerton Chairman

Jerry Richardson Milton Treasurer

Ray Lunder Milton Secretary

Frank Micale Ft. Atkinson Commissioner

Marty Walsh Edgerton Commissioner

Sup. Kerry Hull Town of Fulton Appointee

Sup. Mary Mawhinney Rock County Appointee FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Christianson MONDAY, July 26, 2004

<u>Dam Transfer, Stabilizing Water Levels Remain Top Priorities</u> LAKE DISTRICT ELECTS NEW CHAIRMAN

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FORT ATKINSON—The sixth annual meeting of electors of the Rock-Koshkonong Lake District chose Janesville native and board member Brian Christianson to replace retiring Chairman and Co-Founder, Jim Folk. Christianson, elected to the RKLD Board of Commissioners at the 2003 annual meeting, previously served on the Fulton Town Board.

"I will continue the fight to improve the recreational and ecological beauty of Lake Koshkonong," said Christianson. "Will not retreat from protecting the lake and the millions of dollars in property value that this body of water generates."

Marty Walsh, a member of the Janesville Rock Aqua Jays, was top vote-winner among three candidates for two board positions. Ray Lunder was reelected to a second three-year term. Herbert Jim Johnson, a member of the Lake Koshkonong Wetlands Association, was defeated in his first attempt to serve on the board.

The annual meeting also voted in favor of raising the annual property tax assessment from \$25 per parcel to \$45 per parcel.

Christianson said the additional revenue would be earmarked for continued research by environmental experts and given to the DNR to complement the RKLD's Environmental Impact Report and the Comprehensive Lake Management Plan.

The Lake District has petitioned the state agency for a change in DNR operating orders, calling for an elimination of a winter water level draw down and a nominal increase of summer water levels.

"The property taxpayers have issued their mandate to the Board and given us the resources to collect the greatest amount of environmental data ever accumulated on Lake Koshkonong," said Christianson. "If the DNR continues to stonewall the Lake District, then we may be forced to pursue legal relief from these harmful and unsupported DNR operating orders."

The RKLD annual meeting was held at the Fort Atkinson High School, Saturday, July 24, 2004. The RKLD is a government body formed in 1999 under WI State Statute Chapter 30.