

**BYLAWS OF  
THE LAKE GASTON ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED**

June 14, 2003 (revised) - June 12, 2004 (revised) – June 9, 2007 (revised) – June 13, 2009 (revised)

**ARTICLE 1 — GENERAL**

**Section 1**

This organization is Incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina and shall be known as the Lake Gaston Association, Inc. (Hereinafter the "LGA). It shall be a nonprofit, nonpartisan and nonsectarian organization.

**Section 2**

The LGA is organized to further the long- range good and general welfare of the property owners of the Lake Gaston area. The LGA shall encourage all property owners to become LGA members. The LGA shall be involved in projects which promote safety, maintain the natural environment, support aquatic weed management, participate in local government programs that work toward the economic and social benefit of the property owners and others as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1 - Eligibility**

Any property owner having an interest in the objectives and/or projects of the LGA (Article I, Section 2) shall be eligible for membership.

**Section 2 - Application**

Application for membership shall be in writing, on forms provided for that purpose. Any applicant(s) shall become a member upon payment of the regularly scheduled dues as provided in Article II, Section 3.

**Section 3 - Dues**

**A.** Membership dues shall be at such rates, schedules or formula as may be, from time to time, prescribed by the Board of Directors, payable on January I of each year. New member dues, paid after September I shall be applied to the current year and the next fiscal year. Annual dues must be paid to be a "Member in Good Standing".

**B.** Each membership shall include all adults within the household.

**C.** Dues will be refunded upon written request of the member and subsequent approval of the Board of Directors.

**D.** Dues will only be refunded for full years paid in advance.

**Section 4 - Limitations on use of Membership Lists**

Without the prior written consent of the Board of Directors, the membership list or any part thereof shall not be used to solicit money or property, for any commercial purpose or sold to or purchased by any person or group.

## **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

### **Section 1 - Annual Membership Meetings**

**A.** The Annual Membership Meeting of the LGA shall be on a Saturday in June. The date, time and place of the Annual Membership Meeting shall be fixed by the Board of Directors and notice thereof shall be mailed to each member at least thirty days before the Meeting. Each member present, in Good Standing, shall have the right to vote at this meeting.

**B.** Any member wishing to address the membership shall submit a written request and topic Statement to the Vice President at least ten days prior to this meeting.

**C.** A list of Members in Good Standing shall be checked off as members enter the Annual Membership Meeting.

### **Section 2 - Additional Meetings**

Special meeting(s) of the membership of the LGA, other than the regularly scheduled Annual Membership Meeting, may be called by the President of the Board of Directors at any time with thirty days notice.

### **Section 3 - Quorums**

**A.** At any duly called Annual Membership Meeting, those members present Shall constitute a quorum.

**B.** At any duly called Special Membership Meeting(s), those members present shall constitute a quorum.

### **Section 4 – Manner of Acting**

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the act of the majority of the members of the Board of Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors. If a quorum is present at the commencement of a Board meeting, the validity of the acts of the Board at that meeting cannot be defeated if the number of Directors thereafter present is reduced below the number which constitutes a quorum.

### **Section 5 – Presumption of Assent**

A member of the Board of Directors of the corporation who is present at a meeting of the Board of Directors at which action on any corporate matter is taken shall be presumed to have assented to the action taken unless his contrary vote is recorded or his dissent is otherwise entered in the minutes of the meeting or unless he shall file his written dissent to such action with the person acting as the secretary of the meeting before the adjournment thereof or shall forward such dissent by registered mail to the Secretary of the corporation immediately after the adjournment of the meeting. Such right to dissent shall not apply to a Director who voted in favor of such action.

### **Section 6 – Informal Action by Directors**

Action taken by a majority of the Board of Directors without a meeting is nevertheless Board of Directors action if written consent to the action in question is signed by all the members of the Board of Directors and filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors, whether done before or after the action so taken. A consent signed under this section has the effect of a meeting vote and may be recorded as such in any document. A Director's consent to action taken without meeting or revocation thereof may be in electronic form and delivered by electronic means.

## **ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Section 1 – Composition of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors (Hereinafter the “Board”) shall be composed of not more than twenty-five Directors, four members from each county bordering Lake Gaston and five members chosen at large from these five counties. The “at large” Directors may be moved into county seats as they become available. Each member shall serve a term of three years, not to exceed two consecutive terms.

### **Section 2 - Meetings of the Board**

**A.** The Board shall elect officers at the July Board Meeting.

**B.** Special Board Meetings may be called at any time, either by the President of the Board or by written application to the President of the Board by three Board Members. Notice of special Board Meetings shall be given by the President of the Board in writing to all Board Members not less than three days prior to said Special Board Meeting.

**C.** The regular meeting of the Board shall be the first Wednesday morning of every month at 9:30 a.m.

### **Section 3 - Quorums**

**A.** At the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board (July), a quorum of the Board shall be more than one-half (1/2) of the elected Directors of the Board.

**B.** At any Regular or Special Board Meeting, a quorum shall be more than one-half (1/2) of the Directors of the Board.

### **Section 4 - Powers of the Board**

The government and policy-making responsibilities of the LGA shall be vested in the Board, which shall control its property, be responsible for its finances and direct its affairs.

### **Section 5 - Selection and Election of Directors**

**A.** At the September Board Meeting of each year, the President of the Board shall appoint a Board member as Chairman of the Nominating Committee and five others, one Director from each county surrounding Lake Gaston to serve on the Nomination Committee. Other Directors and non-Directors may be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee.

**B.** At the May Board Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present a slate of candidates to serve as Directors. Each candidate must be a Member in Good Standing, and must have agreed to accept the responsibilities of a Directorship.

**C.** A Nominating Committee list of vacancies shall be published in one Newsletter prior to the Annual Membership Meeting.

**D.** Additional name(s) of candidate(s) may be nominated by petition(s) bearing the genuine signature of at least fifteen members, in Good Standing, by April of each year. The petition(s) are to be presented to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee. The determination of the Nominating Committee as to the validity of the petition(s) shall be final. At the Annual Membership Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present, for election, one candidate for each Board vacancy.

## **Section 6 - Vacancies**

- A.** Any Director whose conduct is inconsistent with the objectives of the LGA, for any reason whatsoever, shall be automatically removed from his/her position.
- B.** A member of the Board who shall be absent from Board Meetings for three consecutive meetings without a valid excuse, shall be notified by the President and dropped from the Board.
- C.** Resignation of a Board Member shall be in writing to the President.
- D.** Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by the Nominating Committee and presented to the Board for approval.
- E.** The Director filling the vacancy shall serve out the unexpired term and shall be eligible to serve two full consecutive terms in addition to the unexpired term.

## **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS**

### **Section 1 - Determination of Officers**

At the July Board Meeting the following officers shall be elected: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All officers shall serve a term of one year or until his/her successor assumes the duties of the office.

### **Section 2 - Duties of the Officers**

- A. PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD:** The President of the Board shall serve as the executive head of the LGA and shall preside at all Annual, Board and Executive Committee Meetings. The President of the Board shall determine all Committees and select all Chairmen.
- B. VICE-PRESIDENT:** The Vice-President shall preside at all meetings in the President's absence, shall handle the preparation for the Annual Membership Meeting and shall perform duties assigned by the President.
- C. SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall accurately record, sign and mail minutes of all meetings to each Board member. With ten days' notice, these minutes shall be available to Members in Good Standing. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping all Corporate documents, records, correspondence, etc. and shall perform other duties assigned by the President.
- D. TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall be responsible for the safeguarding of all funds Received by the LGA and their proper disbursement. Such funds shall be kept on deposit in financial institutions approved by the Board, subject to checks signed by the Treasurer or, in his/her Absence, by the President. The Treasurer shall present a monthly Financial report to the Board and shall perform other duties Assigned by the President.

### **Section 3 - Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall act for and on the behalf of the Board when the Board is not in session, but shall be accountable to the Board for its action and shall report to the Board at the next Board Meeting. It shall be composed of the Officers of the Board, the Chairmen of the Standing Committees and the immediate Past President. The President shall serve as Chair.

#### **Section 4 - Vacancies**

All vacancies of the Officers shall be filled by the Board. If the President's office becomes vacant, the Vice-President shall succeed to that office for the duration of the Presidents' term.

### **ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES AND DIVISIONS**

#### **Section 1 - Appointment and Authority**

The President, by the September meeting, shall appoint all Standing Committees and Committee Chairmen. The Standing Committees shall be listed in the Director's Handbook. All Committees shall consist of a minimum of one Board member from each county surrounding Lake Gaston. The President may appoint other Committees and their Chairmen as necessary. It shall be the function of the Committees to make investigations, conduct studies and hearings and make recommendations to the Board.

#### **Section 2 - Limitation of Authority**

No action by any member, committee, division, employee, director, or officer shall be binding upon, or constitute an expression of, the policy of the LGA until it shall have been approved or ratified by the Board.

#### **Section 3 - Testimony**

Once committee action has been approved by the Board it shall be incumbent upon the Committee Chairman or his/her delegate, to give testimony to, or make presentation before, civic and governmental agencies or other concerned entities.

#### **Section 4 - Divisions**

No action or resolution of any kind shall be taken by divisions, bureaus, departments, non-directors, or councils having bearing upon or expressive of the LGA, unless approved by the Board.

### **ARTICLE VII - FINANCES**

#### **Section 1 - Funds**

**A.** The LGA shall operate under the non-profit tax exempt status. Within three months of the close of the fiscal year the appropriate tax forms shall be filed with the IRS as needed.

**B.** All money paid to the LGA during the current year shall be placed in an Interest bearing account. A general operation fund shall also be maintained.

**C.** No stock shall be issued, and no dividends shall be paid.

#### **Section 2 - Disbursements**

Disbursements shall be recorded and made by check.

#### **Section 3 - Fiscal Year**

The Fiscal Year of the LGA shall be January 1 to December 31.

#### **Section 4 - Budget**

The Executive Committee shall compile a budget of estimated expenses for the coming fiscal year and submit it to the Board on or before October 30 of each year. The proposed budget shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors and published in the next issue of the Newsletter. After allowing for member comments, the Budget shall be presented for approval by the Board at the next Board Meeting and shall be reported at the Annual Membership Meeting.

#### **Section 5 - Annual Audit**

The accounts of the LGA shall be audited annually as of the close of business at the end of the fiscal year. The Auditing Committee shall consist of three Members in Good Standing, excluding Board Members. The members of the Auditing Committee shall be appointed by the President. The Treasurer shall be available throughout the audit. The report from the audit shall be available to Members in Good Standing and published in the next newsletter.

#### **Section 6 - Annual Financial Report**

An annual written financial report for the most recent complete fiscal year and a report of the partial fiscal year as of the date of the Meeting shall be presented to the membership at the Annual Membership Meeting.

### **ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION**

#### **Section 1 - Procedure**

The LGA shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purposes specified in these Bylaws, and no part of said funds shall be distributed to the members of the LGA. On dissolution of the LGA, any funds remaining shall be distributed to one or more regularly organized and qualified charitable, educational, scientific, or philanthropic organizations to be selected by the Board.

### **ARTICLE IX - MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **Section 1 - Parliamentary Authority**

The current edition of "Roberts Rules of Order" shall be the final source of authority on all questions of parliamentary procedure when such questions are not specifically covered in the Bylaws of the LGA.

### **ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS**

#### **Section 1 - Revisions**

These Bylaws may be amended or altered by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the Annual Membership Meeting. Any proposed amendment or alteration(s) shall be submitted to the Board in writing, at least thirty days before the Annual Membership Meeting at which they are to be acted upon.