

**LIA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES
OCTOBER 6, 2010
RALPH AND KACOO'S RESTAURANT
BATON ROUGE, LA**

President Wayne Orton called the meeting to order at 12:25 P.M., welcomed everyone and asked them to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 29 members present for the meeting.

Wayne asked everyone to briefly review the minutes of the last Annual Meeting and if acceptable asked that they be approved. Harry Halleck moved, seconded by Dalton Fetters, to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Wayne then asked Severn C. Doughty, Sr. to present the financial report. Severn stated that he provided a hand out of the revenues and expenses from October 6, 2009 to August 31, 2010 and briefly reviewed the most recent financial report from June 1, 2010 to August 31, 2010. Revenues for that period were \$11,580.24 and expenses were \$6,816.69. Revenues over expenses for the same period were \$4,763.55 and as of August 31, 2010 there was \$17,380.45 in the checking account and \$6,030.37 in the savings account for a total of \$23,410.82. Severn asked if anyone had questions for the total year's financial statement. There being none Harry Halleck moved, seconded by Julie Mouch Broussard, to accept the financial report as presented. Motion carried.

Wayne asked Severn to provide the membership report. Severn stated that as of October 4, 2010 there 73 members and of those there were 15, two year memberships (2010 – 2011) and 2 paid through 2012.

Wayne asked Allen Owings to present the Newsletter Report. Allen stated that the July, August and September Newsletter had been mailed and there were a total of 13 pages, two technical columns each by Peter Gallagher and Ron Sheffield and a member profile.

Wayne asked Barry Blumberg for a Blumberg and Associates, Inc. insurance report. Barry said that after he sent an email blast to the LIA membership followed by one sent by LIA, that as a result he was able to write five new policies. He thanked the membership for their support.

Wayne then asked Ansel Rankins for a LDAF report. Ansel stated that there were 302 licensed Landscape Irrigation Contractors in the state. The pass rate for those attempting to take the exam was about 60% and LDAF was in the process of revamping the exam. Next years' license will have the date of the last recertification printed on the back so the license holder will know when he/she needs training for recertification. LDAF only has 45 inspectors and the inspectors were unable to regulate violators on a regular basis. If there were complaints, however, inspectors would try to investigate those complaints.

Ansel further stated that the Horticulture Commission meets on a quarterly basis and anyone was invited to attend those public meetings. Lastly, Ansel stated that LDAF was about to offer in November a Landscape Irrigation Consultant's license whereby a person could be licensed to consult only on various irrigation projects without having to have a certificate of insurance. However, they cannot service or install irrigation parts or systems.

Next, Wayne moved on to Old Business and mentioned that the next LIA training was going to be November 3, 4, 2010 at Ralph and Kacoo's Restaurant on Bluebonnet Blvd. in Baton Rouge, LA. The class title will be 'Irrigation Basics for Landscape Irrigation Contractors' (Basics Class) taught by Ron Sheffield and it will help prepare one to take the Landscape Irrigation Contractors license exam required by LDAF.

Future training will likely be in February 2011 and it will be a one day recertification training titled 'Irrigation System Installation and Maintenance'. LIA will purchase this course from IA and add it to the existing library of courses of which we have two now, 'Managing an Irrigation Service Company' and 'Predicting and Estimating Landscape Water Use'. Eventually, LIA will have enough courses whereby with proper rotation, members and others will not have to repeat the same course for 12 to 15 years. The Basics Class will be offered when there were at least 10 individuals interested in taking the two day class. In 2010 LIA offered this class three times during the year and two recertification classes.

Wayne read the letter sent March 11, 2010 from IRS stating that LIA was recognized as a tax exempt, non-profit, 501 (c) 5 entity.

Wayne asked Severn to report on the 2009 income tax filing. Severn stated that the 2009 income tax form was filled and it will be filled each year thereafter.

Wayne moved on to New Business by stating that the membership had to vote on a Board Member replacement. Wayne indicated that the Board discussed a replacement, nominated and voted favorably for Jack Hopper at the July 1, 2010 Board Meeting. Wayne then opened the floor for nominations and if none, asked for a motion to accept Jack Hopper by acclamation. There being no nominations from the floor, John Kavanaugh moved, seconded by Harry Halleck, to accept Jack Hopper as new Board Member by acclamation. Motion carried.

Wayne opened the floor for questions and/or concerns. Mike Goree mentioned that one important part of the LIA Mission was, "To promote efficient irrigation practices through the proper design, installation and management of irrigation systems through educational and informational programs." Mike stated that he was glad LIA was purchasing quality, IA educational programs to present to members and others here in Louisiana and that by doing so, LIA was fulfilling part of their Mission.

There being no more business, Gary Joye moved, seconded by John Kavanaugh to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting concluded at 1:37 P.M.

