

**District of Powers Lake
Voter Eligibility Guidelines:**

(These guidelines shall at all times be interpreted in a manner consistent with the laws of the State for Wisconsin, Chapter 33 of the Wisconsin Statutes & the By-Laws of the District of Powers Lake.)

The following information relates to voter eligibility and the election process for the District of Powers Lake.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY:

- **To vote at the annual meeting of the District of Powers Lake a person must provide proof of eligibility under one of the following categories:**
 1. **A resident of the District who is registered or eligible to vote in general elections** (*must present valid Wisconsin photo ID with District address*); **OR**
 2. **A non-resident US citizen, 18 years of age or older and:**
 - a. **Whose name appears on the District assessment role prepared for purposes of real property taxation** (*In accordance with Wis. Stat. 33.01(9)(ar)1, the tax roll will reflect owner's of real property on the tax roll under s.70.65(2)(a)1 that was delivered under s.74.03 on or before the 3rd Monday in December of the previous year.*); **OR**
 - b. **Who has provided proof of title to real property within the district** (*If a person is not named on the above-referenced tax roll, it is up to that person to provide evidence to the district that he or she is an owner of property. For anyone claiming voter eligibility that is not listed on the appropriate tax roll, it is up to the prospective voter to provide (1) a copy of a deed indicating ownership of the property and (2) present a valid photo ID*); **OR**
 - c. **Who is appointed as an official representative, officer or employee for any corporation, partnership, foundation, trust or association that owns real property in the District** (*If a person is not named on the above-referenced tax roll, it is up to that person to provide evidence to the district that he or she is a designated representative of an organizational property owner. For anyone claiming voter eligibility as an "official representative, officer or employee for any corporation, partnership, foundation, trust or association", it is up to the prospective voter to (1) provide a letter on the stationary of an organization owning property which clearly authorizes the person to vote on behalf of the organization and (2) present a valid photo ID. An appropriate letter will, at the very least, state "To Whom It May Concern: My name is _____ . I am the current _____ (Trustee/Owner/President/Partner/Member etc.) of the _____ (Name of Trust/Foundation/Organization/Corporation/LLC*

etc.). This _____(Type of Organization) currently owns property at _____ (Lake property address) within the voting district of the District of Powers Lake. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 33.285 and the powers given to me as _____(Role – Trustee/Owner/President/Partner/Member etc.) of the _____(Name of Trust/Foundation/Organization/Corporation/LLC etc.), I designate _____ (Name of Eligible Voter) as Official Representative of the _____(Name of Trust/Foundation/Organization/Corporation/LLC etc.) and request that he/she be eligible to vote at the _____ (year) District of Powers Lake Annual Meeting. Sincerely, _____”

ADDITIONALLY, where a property is owned by multiple non-resident owners, the co-owners shall select no more than two of the co-owners to represent them and each shall cast one vote.

- Based on the foregoing information, the following Q&A examples illustrate how these rules translate to voting rights.

Q - My husband and I are residents of Illinois, but we own our Powers Lake home in both of our names. What voting rights do we have?

A - If both of your names are on the December 3rd District assessment role or you can provide proof of title with both of your names, you will each be eligible voters and will each have one vote.

Q - My wife and I are residents of Illinois, but our Powers Lake home is owned in the name of the ABC Family Trust. What voting rights do we have?

A - A Trust can appoint one eligible voter who will be entitled to one vote. The trustee of the Trust must write and sign a letter authorizing the official representative to vote on behalf of the Trust (see form letter above).

Q - My 6 siblings and I are residents of Illinois, but our Powers Lake home is owned in the name of an LLC. What voting rights do we have?

A - An LLC is allowed to appoint one eligible voter who will be entitled to one vote. The members of the LLC must write and sign a letter authorizing the official representative to vote on behalf of the LLC.

Q - My husband and I are full-time residents on Powers Lake. We share a house with my father who is also a resident. What voting rights do we have?

A - As residents of the District, you, your husband and your father are each eligible voters and will each have one vote.

Q - My 4 siblings and I are residents of Illinois, but we own our Powers Lake home as Tenants-In-Common. What voting rights do we have?

A - Non-resident property owners are limited to a maximum of two eligible voters with one vote each. The co-owners must agree to no more than two co-owners to represent them in voting.

If you have a specific question related to voting eligibility, please email *****.

ELECTION PROCESS:

1. Commissioners are elected to staggering three (3) year terms, with 2 commissioners in year one, 2 commissioners in year two and 1 commissioner in year three.
2. The election process will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Revised Rules of Order with one commissioner (who is not up for re-election) presiding over the election.
3. The presiding commissioner will identify the number of open seats up for election and open the floor for commissioner nominations.
4. Each nomination will need a second (to be recorded) and the name will be added as a candidate.
5. The candidate (or candidate's representative, if candidate cannot be present) will need to provide his/her address and the election committee will confirm that he/she is an eligible candidate prior to the vote. **NOTE:** Where a candidate is unable to attend the Annual Meeting and is having a representative stand in for him/her, the candidate must contact the presiding commissioner prior to the election (1) stating his/her willingness to be a candidate, (2) providing the name of the candidate's representative and (3) providing reasoning for the candidate's inability to attend the meeting.
6. The presiding commissioner will ask the voters three (3) times if there are any additional nominees before closing the nomination process.
7. Each candidate or candidate's representative will give a brief speech to all voters present.
8. The election will be by secret ballot.
9. Absentee voting and proxy voting will not be allowed.
10. The election committee will announce the number of eligible voters in attendance prior to the vote.
11. One (1) blank ballot will be given to each eligible voter and each voter will be instructed to write in the name(s) of the nominees he/she wants to elect. Voters must vote the number of open seats without voting for the same candidate more than once. Failure to complete the ballot fully or completing the ballot with multiple votes for the same candidate will invalidate the entire ballot.
12. Voters will be given five (5) minutes to vote.
13. Ballots will be gathered directly by the election committee.
14. The election committee will provide a breakdown of the votes cast for each candidate, confirm that the total votes do not exceed the number of eligible votes, and acknowledge the number of ballots deemed invalid by the election committee.
15. The candidate(s) that receive the most votes at the annual meeting will fill the vacant seat(s) immediately. **NOTE:** Where an election year includes the open seat for the District's only resident commissioner(s), a resident candidate will automatically fill the seat if no other resident candidates are running for election. Where there are multiple resident candidates willing to be elected, the election will proceed through the regular process, provided that at least one vacancy is filled by a resident candidate.