

Chairman's Report for Deerhaven Conference

November 8th, 2025 @ Clearwater Congregation, FL

Good Afternoon, I will try and keep my report short as I'm aware most of us are ready to get home and just enjoy this Saturday afternoon.

- **Well, it's been another challenging year for the Deerhaven board with the changes that were implemented from last year in changing from how we used to do business to how it's now done to comply with the law changes we faced.**
- **Then we had to change from salaried to hourly pay for the Caretaker / Manager position to again comply with FLSA law which we accomplished with Robert.**
- **Changing from the old assessment concept for funding to generosity-based funding from congregations.**
- **Getting all of the Deerhaven Bylaws brought up to date and current.**
- **Some of the Board attending another Campground Summit learning more about Risk Management for campgrounds.**

So, what else have we dealt with over this past year?

- **Road and driveway repair for \$11,500.**
- **Completed new roofs on the Kitchen – Main Hall – Nursery – BBQ building from the Hurricane damages. Majority of cost paid by World Church insurance company.**
- **Forest fire – however it didn't cause any damages to campground but came close.**
- **Continued refreshing some of the campground documents for rental groups for clarity of responsibility and requirements.**
- **In process of trying to replace the tractor that finally gave up and still in process of locating one.**
- **Electrical panel – breakers for the well failed due to an electrical surge causing the loss of rental group due to no fresh water.**

- **Debbie's resignation in mid-June to accept a church appointment caused the need to hire someone to fill her job.**
- **Interviews for the job vacancy resulting in the hiring of Lisbeth (Liz) Wood as the Deerhaven Bookkeeper /Reservationist.**

These are just some of the things the board has dealt with over the past year but not everything.

I would like to acknowledge the board and thank them for their willingness to do the work and taking the time needed. I also want to thank them for the support they have given me over these past 2 years in making some tough decisions and changes that were needed. I want to thank Charles Greenberg and Bill Wegner for their many years of service. Also Tracy and Heather Baker for their service on the board as all these folks are leaving the Board. I too am resigning from the board at the end of this meeting as I felt it was time for new eyes and ears to see into the future.

The new board is going to be faced with some continuing needs do to the campground being over 55 years old and like all property things wear out and break down. The swimming pool tiles still needs to be fixed; the clay drainage tiles need to be replaced and the central AC units will need to be considered for replacement as well. The biggest infrastructure item is the waste water treatment facility. Just for everyone's knowledge it is 55 years old built in 1970. As I had been looking into what the future may hold for major expenses this was one that always kept coming to my mind. I spoke with the company that inspects it "Bolivar Engineering LLC" and was informed that the life of a facility like this is between 40 to 60 years and an approximate cost to replace is somewhere between \$350 to \$450,000. This plants license expires in January 2032.

I leave you with these thoughts as you move forward and pray you listen to the discerning spirit to guide you forward.