

## Kabekona Village Association Testimony – New Item MN Rule 6115

Starting in 2006, individual owners living in the Kabekona Village Association hired a licensed contractor to construct canopies over their slips in our Association harbor on Leech Lake. The contractor hired for this work had built other similar structures on Leech Lake. In good faith, we relied on the contractor to build structures that would meet all safety and DNR regulations. As properties in the Association were sold, several other canopies were constructed. We now have 21 similar canopies covering 42 individually owned harbor slips. The canopies are green metal and continue to look virtually new. We are proud to have one of the cleanest, best kept and most beautiful harbors on Leech Lake.

The Association meticulously maintains the navigable waters of our harbor. We have obtained permits from the DNR to dredge the mouth of the harbor several times since 2006. The first time we were notified that our canopies were not permitted was 2022, when we applied for the latest dredging permit. Since that notification, the Association has not allowed additional metal canopies to be constructed.

Kabekona Village Association is a primarily a retirement community. Being forced to replace the 21 metal canopies would be an extreme financial hardship, as all aspects of the work would need to be done by a contractor, costing individual owners thousands of dollars. Additionally, the Association does not own the slips and canopies, individual homeowners do. Therefore individual owners would need to arrange for removal and canvas retrofitting as well as proper disposal of the sheet metal.

Our homeowners would welcome your approval of the proposed exception. We are grateful for your support.

Kind regards,

Nancy Rezac, President  
Kabekona Village Homeowners' Association