

## The Proposed 2010 AIA Budget: A Note from your Treasurer

The Board of Directors and the functional managers have been crunching budget numbers since August. Several hours of workshop discussions and email correspondence have resulted in a tentative budget that was presented at the October Board meeting. Since so few members are able to attend those meetings, we decided to post the document on the website for all members to review and to delay final approval until the next Board meeting next January. The budget worksheet that is posted with other financial documents includes historical figures for the years from 2005 through 2009. All are end of year actual numbers except for 2009, which is still a work in progress. The reason for including the history is to show the financial growth and program changes that the association has experienced.

Five years ago the Board of Directors asked for and the membership approved a five-year plan to increase the income of the Association. Your dues have gone up \$36 per year starting in 2006, for a total increase of \$180 for 5 years. Next year's budget includes the last of those dues increases. Our mission and our challenge during the budgeting process was to preserve as much of that increase as possible, with the goal of rebuilding the reserves for future needs. We've had major expenditures in the last couple years such as the new RV dump and parking lot bathroom, the grader replacement, the blade for the front-end loader, a new security snowmobile and the replacement of the security vehicle. Those investments and several other significant improvements in operations and facilities were made possible by the increase in income from our members.

Here are some of the key decisions or facts that impacted the 2010 AIA budget. Salaries were frozen at 2009 amounts except for a well-deserved pay raise for the Security staff. Boundary wildfire mitigation is nearing an end, so both the grant request for income and the budgeted expense amounts are significantly less than in previous years. The Board is negotiating a contract arrangement with the Snowmobile Club for grooming of the filing roads, using their new groomer and personnel at an agreed upon hourly rate. The stump dump (forest refuse site) lease has been renegotiated after much anxiety on our part, but our considerate neighbors have asked for a reasonable annual compensation. The bottom line math shows a projected increase in income of about \$31,000 and Net Income after expenses of \$28,000. We feel good about this proposed budget and welcome your comments. I'll be happy to answer any questions or address any concerns.

Randy Touslee, Treasurer  
superhood@lanset.com