

**Lake Ripley Management District
Annual Meeting Minutes
August 29, 2009**

NOTE: These minutes are considered DRAFT until approved at the next Annual Meeting of the electors.

I. Call to Order

The Annual Meeting of the Lake Ripley Management District electors was called to order by Chairman Molinaro at 10:04 a.m. on August 29, 2009, at the Oakland Town Hall. Board members in attendance: John Molinaro, Mike Sabella, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Gene Kapsner, Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Walt Christensen and Dennis McCarthy. With the exception of Christensen, all Board members are also eligible electors for voting purposes. Other eligible electors in attendance: Kent Brown, Ann Molinaro, Jimmy DeGidio, Dave DeGidio, Chuck Seeley and Dorothy Seeley. Also present: Paul Dearlove (Lake Manager), Bill Ratzberg (District harvester operator), and Gary Zibell (Cambridge Cable TV 12). A total of 12 electors and four non-electors were in attendance.

II. Approval of 2008 Annual Meeting Minutes

Dorothy Seeley moved to approve the 2008 Annual Meeting minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Ann Molinaro. Motion approved unanimously.

III. Nomination of Board Candidates (Name appearing on the ballot: Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, incumbent)

Ballots were distributed for the purpose of filling one open position on the Board. Molinaro noted that Gomez-Ibanez, whose term was expiring, was running for reelection. Gomez-Ibanez was the only nominee appearing on the ballot, with additional space provided for write-in candidates. Molinaro asked if there were motions from the floor to nominate additional candidates. *Dave DeGidio moved to nominate Jimmy DeGidio as a write-in candidate. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried unanimously.* Eligible electors were then asked to cast their ballots so they could be tabulated by the election committee. The election committee consisted of Ann Molinaro and Dorothy Seeley.

IV. Chairman's Report

Chairman Molinaro said the highlight of the past year was the purchase of additional lands surrounding the Lake District Preserve. He commended Dearlove for his contributions to the effort, which included securing the necessary grant awards that helped fund the acquisition. He also thanked all the individual donors who helped make the purchase possible. The District was now focused on managing and improving the newly acquired lands.

Another big accomplishment was the completion of a Lake Ripley floodplain analysis. This project was successful in sparing many homeowners around the lake from having to purchase expensive flood insurance. Molinaro expressed his appreciation to those who donated to the effort.

Other activities of the past year included completing several additional shoreline restorations, continued weed harvesting, performing an annual watercraft survey, general education and outreach, and ongoing management-planning work funded by a DNR grant. Molinaro said he anticipated that updates to our management plans would be completed by the end of the calendar year. He encouraged people to come to the public hearing on September 26th to learn more about the draft plan and provide feedback. He said the plan will provide important direction for the District over the coming years, allowing it to be more proactive rather than reactive in response to various challenges. It also will allow us to evaluate the progress and effectiveness of current management programs.

Molinaro then noted that there was some interest among a group of property owners to re-dredge the inlet channel. He said he will be in close communication with DNR about the proposed project, and anticipated the matter might soon be the subject of future meeting discussions. Molinaro concluded by saying that it was a busy year for the District, and that he looked forward to another busy year ahead.

V. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Sabella reviewed his various responsibilities, which primarily related to safeguarding the District's assets. These responsibilities include collecting funds and paying operating expenses, investing any excess funds, developing and presenting financial statements and monthly summary reports to the Board, and preparing staff payroll and related government reports. He said he also serves as a member of the budget committee.

Next, Sabella reviewed a comparative statement of net assets as of June 30, 2008 and 2009. He noted that the report was somewhat distorted this year as a result of purchasing additional land next to the Preserve at the end of 2008. Total net assets were \$213,029 as of June 30, 2008, compared to \$62,943 (after accounting for a \$41,000 liability) as of June 30, 2009. He indicated that the loan liability was paid off in July using federal grant monies.

As per Section 33.29(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes, Sabella explained the Board's mandate to conduct an annual audit of the District's financial transactions. Minutes from the July 25, 2009 Audit Committee meeting and a summary report were presented. Audit Committee members consisted of electors Chuck Seeley (Chair), George Kledzik and Jim Rank. Sabella was also in attendance at the meeting to present the 2008 accounting records and answer any questions. The meeting minutes and a summary letter were read into the record by Committee Chair Chuck Seeley. It was concluded that the financial records reflect properly, accurately and fairly the financial condition of the District for the year ended December 31, 2008. *Dorothy Seeley moved to accept the audit committee minutes and findings into the official record. Motion seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried unanimously.*

VI. Budget and Tax Levy

Copies of the proposed 2010 budget were distributed (see attached). Molinaro noted that the budget had been duly noticed and published, and was the subject of a public hearing immediately preceding the Annual Meeting. The budget reflected total estimated disbursements of \$116,888, requiring a tax levy of \$112,888 and a projected \$4,000 carry-over of unspent funds from the current fiscal year. He pointed out that the requested tax levy would represent a \$2,371 (2.1%) increase over the prior levy. Assuming zero growth in the assessed valuation of the District, the associated mill rate would be approximately \$46.92 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. *Kent Brown moved to approve the 2010 budget and tax levy as proposed. Motion seconded by Chuck Seeley. Motion approved unanimously.*

VII. Tabulation of Vote and Election of Board Members

The election committee reported receiving a total of 12 completed ballots from eligible electors. After tallying the results, committee member Ann Molinaro reported 11 votes in favor of Gomez-Ibanez, and one write-in vote in favor of Jimmy DeGidio. Gomez-Ibanez was thereby re-elected to serve on the Board for a three-year term.

VIII. Action on Advisory Committee Recommendations for Bringing By-laws into Statutory Compliance

The following handouts were distributed: 11/14/08 letter from the By-law Committee to the Lake District Board presenting its recommendations in the form of a revised by-law document; proposed document titled "Lake Ripley Management District Operating Authority and By-Laws;" and 11/15/08 Lake District meeting minutes relating to the By-law Committee report and recommendations. By-law Committee

members consisted of Jimmy DeGidio (Chair) and Mike Sabella, with Dearlove acting as an advisor to the committee.

Sabella and Dearlove reviewed the committee's charge and recommendations, explaining that the issue was the subject of discussion at the last two Annual Meetings. It was pointed out that Lake District operations would still be governed by the latest version of Chapter 33 of the Wisconsin Statutes, Wisconsin Open Meetings Law, and any legal by-laws adopted by the electors of prior Annual Meetings. Although no by-laws were proposed to be added or deleted at this time, updated statutory language had been incorporated into the proposed guidance document as an addendum. Any future changes to Wisconsin Statute would then automatically become part of the Lake District's operating authority, and any future by-law adoptions could be added by amendment. If approved, Dearlove agreed to post the District's operating requirements and by-laws on the Lake District's website. ***Dave DeGidio moved to approve the committee's recommendations and the proposed guidance document titled "Lake Ripley Management District Operating Authority and By-Laws." Motion seconded by Kent Brown. Motion carried unanimously.***

IX. Adjournment

Chuck Seeley moved to adjourn at approximately 10:45 a.m. Motion seconded by Kent Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary

Date

Recorder: PDD

LAKE RIPLEY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
2010 BUDGET

	2008 <u>ACTUAL</u>	2009 JAN-JUNE <u>ACTUAL</u>	2009 JAN-DEC <u>ESTIMATED</u>	2010 PROPOSED <u>BUDGET</u>
Revenues:				
Real Estate Tax Levy	\$ 110,211	\$ 71,608	\$ 110,517	\$ 112,888
Grants	240,830	-	75,000	-
Interest Income	5,695	337	837	-
Carry-over	2,700	1,572	1,572	4,000
Other	1,107	2,048	4,006	-
Restricted Funds Transferred	<u>117,523</u>	<u>10,250</u>	<u>10,250</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenues	<u>478,066</u>	<u>85,815</u>	<u>202,182</u>	<u>116,888</u>
Projects:				
Staff Payroll/Fringes/Taxes	60,448	31,679	63,359	64,598
Landowner Cost Sharing	7,304	13,635	28,635	10,000
Weed Harvesting	6,749	1,506	5,314	5,775
Lake District Preserve	1,710	50	2,000	3,000
Special Programs	72	33	250	250
Conservation Easements	-	-	-	-
Grant Expenses	6,595	-	-	-
Preserve Restoration/Development	-	2,800	2,800	-
Insurance:				
General Liability	1,879	-	1,956	2,000
Marine & Truck	1,053	-	1,149	1,300
Worker's Compensation	923	918	918	950
Operations:				
Legal Counsel	574	-	-	3,000
Dues & Conferences	501	80	510	1,400
Office & Community Outreach	6,897	1,532	5,424	6,415
Contingency	1,000	-	1,500	1,500
Commissioner Stipends	4,700	2,450	4,900	4,900
Rent	1,800	1,050	1,800	1,800
Capital Reserve, Land/Equipment Acquisition	<u>408,254</u>	<u>674</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>510,459</u>	<u>56,407</u>	<u>130,515</u>	<u>116,888</u>
Balance	<u>\$ (32,393)</u>	<u>\$ 29,408</u>	<u>\$ 71,667</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

Non-lapsible Fund:	Capital Reserve, Land & Equipment Acquisition	F.K. Elson Memorial	Friends of the Preserve	Floodplain Study	Lake Planning Grant	Preserve Restoration & Development
Est. Balance (12/31/08)	\$ 120,045	\$ 198	\$ 1,792	\$ 82	\$ 12,722	
Add. 2008 activity:						
Increase	288,209	5				
Decrease	-408,254			-82	-3	
Final Balance (12/31/08)	0	203	1,792	0	12,719	
2009 Est. Additions	92,250					\$ 3,000
2009 Est. Interest	50	1	9			
2009 Est. Expenditures	-42,524				-12,719	-2,800
Est. Balance (12/31/09):	\$ 49,776	\$ 204	\$ 1,801	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200