

**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2009**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District Board met at the Oakland Town Hall on November 21, 2009. Chairman Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present: Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, John Molinaro, Walt Christensen, Mike Sabella, Gene Kapsner, Dennis McCarthy and Jane Jacobsen-Brown. Also present: Paul Dearlove (Lake Manager), Kent Brown, and Cambridge Cable TV 98.

II. Public Comment

There were no public comments concerning issues not already on the agenda.

III. Approve Minutes of Last Meeting

Draft minutes from the 10-17-09 Board meeting were previously distributed for review. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Jacobsen-Brown. Motion carried 7-0.*

IV. Treasurer's Report

Sabella distributed and reviewed his one-month report ending October 31, 2009. Receipts for the month were limited to \$55.74 in interest income. Disbursements totaled \$7,046.48, consisting mainly of payroll, Lake District Preserve maintenance, and general office expenses. Asset balances included 200.00 in office petty cash, and \$127,403.97 in checking. It was noted that a \$184.76 refund was forthcoming for four gallons of a defective de-scaling solvent for the weed harvester. Also noted was the receipt of a \$1,950.00 rental payment from our tenant farmer. *McCarthy moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.*

V. Lake Manager's Report

Dearlove distributed handouts consisting of an activity summary report, phone logs, end-of-season harvesting report, and other related materials. He reported that the writing and development of the Lake Ripley Improvement Plan was now complete. The next step was to prepare the publication for printing. Twenty-five copies would be ordered for distribution. All individuals and entities to receive a copy of the Plan were reviewed. Once an invoice is received for the printing, paperwork would be submitted to claim final cost-share reimbursement and close out the grant.

Dearlove said he was now working with Paul Garrison (DNR) to publish a research manuscript detailing Lake Ripley's rehabilitation over the last 20 years. The paper would focus on documented water quality improvements that could be linked to the implementation of watershed-conservation practices.

In regards to the Lake District Preserve, activities included the successful hosting of an October 17th dedication event. The event included a slide presentation and walking tours of the recently expanded Preserve, and was attended by about 20 people. Other ongoing Preserve-related activities included developing plans and obtaining cost estimates for a grass-swale waterway, getting proposals for a new information kiosk, and working with a state forester to start developing a woodland management plan. He said that year-end grant reporting was also on his near-term agenda. This represents a requirement related to the \$75,000 NAWCA grant and the \$1,000 C.D. Besadny grant that helped pay for acquisition and restoration.

Landowner cost-sharing activities consisted of completing permit applications and bid specifications for the Fischer, Schabowski and Thompson shoreline projects. It was expected that the riprap phase for each project would be completed this winter, while the planting work would take place next spring. Confirmation was received from the Board that the landowners needed to get back on a future meeting agenda so contractor bids could be reviewed and a cost-share amount approved. Dearlove said he was also still in the process of putting together an amended riprap permit application, at DNR's request, for the Hoard-Curtis Scout Camp restoration. A Lake Protection Grant application would be resubmitted for consideration once a permit is approved. He remained optimistic that a permit approval would eventually be granted, particularly once an acceptable riprap-vegetation plan was developed. A cost-sharing request for another lakeshore-planting project was received from the Paramore/Snellman Family on the lake's east shore. This project proposal will be scheduled for review by the cost-sharing committee.

Dearlove concluded with an end-of-season harvesting report. This included a yearly comparison summary of hours worked, loads harvested, and costs incurred. It also included a description of pending harvester repairs, some of which would be addressed under the next budget cycle. He noted that the increased number of loads this year was largely due to: 1) a lack of equipment problems which allowed more time on the water, 2) more early-season cutting of curly-leaf pondweed beds in East Bay, and 3) the apparent expansion of East Bay weed growth into deeper water areas, possibly as a consequence of increased water clarity.

VI. Old Business

A. Discussion and possible action on resolution to formally adopt Lake Ripley Improvement Plan

Molinaro complimented Dearlove for all his work in developing the updated Plan. He noted that, to date, the Board and public had the opportunity to review and comment on all major components of the document. In addition, he said he had recently reviewed the Plan in its entirety and felt it was ready to be officially adopted. He then gave Dearlove the opportunity to field last-minute questions and editing suggestions related to the final planning recommendations. Discussion included a recognized need to develop a system of tracking and communicating future revisions and updates to the Plan. After all questions from the Board were addressed, Molinaro asked Dearlove to read aloud Resolution #2009-2 that called for formal adoption of the Plan. *Sabella moved to approve Resolution #2009-2 and officially adopt the Lake Ripley Improvement Plan. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.*

B. Proposed Memorandum of Agreement with Larry Aschbrenner to install a grass-swale waterway beyond the Lake District Preserve property line to control erosion

A draft MOA and two bids were distributed for Board review. The draft MOA, if accepted by Aschbrenner, called for the Lake District to install and pay for the specified erosion-control practice that would extend across both properties. It also stipulated that Aschbrenner would be responsible for maintaining the grass swale for a period of no less than 10 years. The preliminary bids to do the work were from Bob Riege (\$525) and Ty Rohloff of Awesome Landscaping (\$1,206). The use of a seed drill and straw matting was part of the Rohloff bid, but not the Riege proposal. Discussion ensued as to the different methods proposed and the preferred timing of the work. The Board agreed that the installation would likely take place in the spring before the crops are planted. It was also agreed that no action would be taken on approving a bid until after the MOA was signed and the matter could be put on the agenda. *Kapsner moved to approve the MOA as presented. Motion seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried 7-0.*

C. Discussion and possible action on new information kiosk to be located at Lake District Preserve

Molinaro reviewed the different kiosk proposals and quotes he was able to track down from various local sign companies. These were for the actual structure and message board, and not the display materials. In total, four different companies were contacted: Schmeckle Reserve, Openwood Studios, Best Exhibits, and Max-R. Quotes were subsequently received from UW-Stevens Point Schmeckle Reserve (\$1,500 for the structure without delivery, and not including message boards), Best Exhibits (\$1,800 for the structure delivered + \$1,475 for the two message boards), and Max-R (\$1,600 for all kiosk components, including waterproof message boards). Product information was distributed, and the advantages and disadvantages of each proposal were critiqued, including design, materials and cost. It was noted that a desired brochure dispenser could be added to any of the products, but it would be through a different source and at additional cost. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the Max-R proposal for a cost not to exceed \$1,700. Motion seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried 7-0.*

VII. New Business

Sabella suggested contacting Ducks Unlimited to explore sign options for the observation deck at the Preserve.

VIII. Correspondence

Molinaro reported receiving an e-mail dated 11/10/09 from Jon Lefers of Montgomery Associates. The e-mail clarified the cost and procedure (\$1,000) for preparing a FEMA Letter of Map Revision (LOMR). The purpose of a LOMR is to allow for easier verification by mortgage companies of the actual floodplain elevation around Lake Ripley, which would not be shown on the official maps. Molinaro explained that this LOMR work was now able to be covered by an existing FEMA grant to the county.

IX. Adjournment

Kapsner moved for adjournment at 10:39 a.m. Motion seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be January 9, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary Date

Recorder: PDD