

**Lake Ripley Management District
Annual Meeting Minutes
September 4, 2010**

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 9:00 a.m. on September 4, 2010, 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. Others eligible electors who were present for voting: Kent Brown, Charles Seeley, Dorothy Seeley, Rick Kutz, Debra Kutz, Shirley Teske, Ted Teske, Leslie Cleaver, James Christle, Dawn Kubly, George Kledzik, Robert Dillingham, Bill Trout, Pat Walter, Maureen Belleson, Jennifer Beaumont, Sharon Tomasello, Jameil Breit, Len Tomasello, Donna Brunger and Paul Brunger. Also present: Paul Dearlove (lake manager) and Bill Ratzberg (harvester operator).

II. Approval of 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes

Kent Brown moved to approve the August 29, 2009 Annual Meeting minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Bob Dillingham. Motion approved unanimously.

III. Nomination of Board Candidates (Names appearing on the ballot: Mike Sabella and Jane Jacobsen-Brown, incumbents)

Ballots were distributed to fill two open positions on the Board due to term expirations. Molinaro noted that Sabella and Jacobsen-Brown were running for reelection to additional three-year terms. They were the only nominees appearing on the ballot, but with additional space provided for write-in candidates. Molinaro asked if there were motions from the floor to nominate write-in candidates. Hearing none, all eligible electors were asked to cast their ballots so they could be tabulated.

IV. Chairman's Report

Molinaro provided a state-of-the-lake report. He recognized the work of the Board and the many other volunteers who help with special projects around the lake. Also thanked were Bill Ratzburg and Ted Teske (weed-harvesting crew), and James Daly who served as a non-paid intern this summer. Next, he reported on the condition of the lake. The summer was characterized by greatly improved water clarity and heavier than normal plant and filamentous algae growth. Suspected culprits included an unusually warm and wet spring, zebra mussel activity, and the lag effects of high nutrient loading from the floods of 2007 and 2008. He noted that weed harvesting started a month earlier than normal, and that more than double the usual number of loads had already been harvested.

A brief account of Lake District Preserve activities was presented. They included the installation of new signage and a 4.5-acre prairie restoration, among others. Near-term plans include the seeding of an additional 26 acres of cropland to prairie with help from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and rerouting existing trails. Dearlove was then commended for all his work in directing District activities, and in particular, for his success in obtaining grants and developing an updated lake-improvement plan. Molinaro highlighted one grant for \$62,682 that will be used for a lakeshore restoration project at the Hoard-Curtis Scout Camp. He then summarized a number of landowner cost-share projects, such as rain gardens and shoreline restorations, designed to curb erosion and reduce runoff to the lake.

Molinaro concluded his report by announcing an October 1st public hearing, hosted by DNR, and concerning a proposal by Ripley Waters Association to re-dredge Lake Ripley's inlet channel. He

pointed out that the project was being advanced by a group of property owners, and not the Lake District. It was explained that the hearing was being mandated by DNR as part of its permit review.

V. Treasurer's Report

Sabella reviewed his various responsibilities as treasurer, which primarily involved safeguarding the District's financial assets. 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. The treasurer also serves as a member of the budget committee, and assists the citizen audit committee in an advisory capacity. Next, Sabella reviewed a comparative statement of net assets as of June 30, 2009 and 2010. Total net assets were \$62,943 as of June 30, 2009, compared to \$140,115 as of June 30, 2010. On June 30, 2009, there was a note payable to the Cambridge State Bank of approximately \$41,000. This represented monies borrowed to enlarge the Lake District Preserve. A \$75,000 grant was received in the second half of the year which allowed the loan to be paid off in full. The District currently has no outstanding debt.

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. The audit can be performed either by an outside accounting firm or a chair-appointed, citizen audit committee. Minutes from the August 1, 2010 Audit Committee meeting and a summary report were presented. Audit Committee members consisted of electors Chuck Seeley (Chair), George Kledzik and Debra Kutz. Sabella was also in attendance at the meeting to present the accounting records and answer any questions. The meeting minutes and a summary letter of audit findings were read into the record by 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, 2009. *James Christle moved to accept the audit committee minutes and findings, and to enter them into the official record. Motion seconded by Dorothy Seeley. Motion carried unanimously.*

VI. Budget and Tax Levy

Copies of the proposed 2011 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. Sabella summarize the budget, noting any items of significance over the prior year's budget. The budget reflected total estimated disbursements of \$125,425, requiring a tax levy of \$118,775, and based on a projected \$6,650 carryover of unspent funds from the current fiscal year. It was pointed out that the requested tax levy would represent a \$5,887 (5.2%) increase over the prior levy. The proposed increase mostly related to weed harvesting, payroll adjustments, Preserve activities and contingency—all of which were explained in detail. *Pat Walter moved to approve the 2011 budget and tax levy as proposed. Motion seconded by Charles Seeley. Motion approved unanimously.*

VII. Tabulation of Vote and Election of Board Members

Dorothy Seeley, chair of the election committee, reported receiving a total of 26 completed ballots from eligible electors. After tallying the results, the final outcome was a unanimous vote to re-elect Mike Sabella and Jane Jacobsen-Brown to additional three-year terms on the Board.

VIII. Adjournment

George Kledzik moved to adjourn at 9:40 a.m. Motion seconded by Bill Trout. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary Date
Recorder: PDD

**LAKE RIPLEY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
2011 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	2009 <u>ACTUAL</u>	2010 JAN-JUNE <u>ACTUAL</u>	2010 JAN-DEC <u>ESTIMATED</u>	2011 PROPOSED <u>BUDGET</u>
Revenues:				
Real Estate Tax Levy	\$ 110,517	\$ 72,866	\$ 112,888	\$ 118,775
Grants		5,000	5,000	
Interest Income		374	750	
Carry-over	1,572	4,000	4,000	6,650
Other	<u>4,824</u>	<u>1,977</u>	<u>3,934</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenues	<u>116,913</u>	<u>84,217</u>	<u>126,572</u>	<u>125,425</u>
Projects:				
Staff Payroll/Fringes/Taxes	63,358	32,488	64,977	67,275
Landowner Cost Sharing	16,663	7,509	10,000	10,000
Weed Harvesting	6,456	2,310	7,156	7,150
Lake District Preserve	5,180	2,566	3,000	4,500
Special Programs	112	--	--	250
Insurance:				
General Liability	1,956	--	2,200	2,300
Marine & Truck	1,149	--	1,350	1,400
Worker's Compensation	918	919	950	950
Operations:				
Legal Counsel	--	--	3,000	3,000
Dues & Conferences	410	55	400	1,400
Office & Community Outreach	4,391	3,203	6,330	6,800
Contingency	1,097	162	1,500	3,700
Commissioner Stipends	4,650	2,400	4,800	4,900
Rent	1,800	1,050	1,800	1,800
Capital Reserve, Land/Equipment Acquisition	<u>10,000</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>118,140</u>	<u>52,662</u>	<u>117,463</u>	<u>125,425</u>
Balance	<u>\$ (1,227)</u>	<u>\$ 31,555</u>	<u>\$ 9,109</u>	<u>\$ --</u>

Non-lapsible Fund:	Capital Reserve, Land & Equipment Acquisition	F.K. Elson Memorial	Friends of the Preserve	Preserve Restoration & Development
Est. Balance (12/31/09)	\$ 49,776	\$ 204	\$ 1,801	\$ 200
Add'l. 2009 activity:				
Increase				
Decrease	(2,016)			(200)
Final Balance (12/31/09)	47,760	204	1,801	0
2010 Est. Additions	73,012			
2010 Est. Interest	225	1	9	
2010 Est. Expenditures	(63,012)			
Est. Balance (12/31/10)	\$ 57,985	\$ 205	\$ 1,810	\$ 0