

**Lake Ripley Management District  
Meeting Minutes  
June 18, 2011**

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on June 18, 2011. Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Board members present: Dennis McCarthy, Walt Christensen, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, John Molinaro, Mike Sabella and Jane Jacobsen-Brown. Gene Kapsner was absent. Also in attendance: Paul Dearlove (Lake Manager), Rick Kutz, Debbie Kutz, Shirley Teske, Kelly Teske, Kent Brown, and Tim Anderson (Jefferson County Health Department).

**II. Public Comment**

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

**III. Invited Speaker: Tim Anderson, Jefferson County Health Department, to talk about bacteria monitoring at the Ripley Park beach**

Molinaro introduced Tim Anderson who spoke about beach-monitoring procedures. Anderson noted that this was only one of many health department responsibilities. Currently, three public beaches are sampled in Jefferson County. Beach-testing locations include Rock Lake, Little Blue Spring Lake, and Lake Ripley. Basic sampling protocols for E. coli bacteria were reviewed. It was explained that E. coli bacteria is naturally present in all lakes. Samples are usually collected once per week throughout the summer, with most sampling done mid-week and at least a couple days after any storms. It then takes 24 hours to get the results back from the lab.

Anderson said that fecal material left behind by large congregations of Canada geese and seagulls are usually to blame for any bacteria spikes on Ripley. This prompted discussion on various geese-control strategies that could be implemented by effected property owners. Typical readings for this time of year are 0-12 colony-forming units (cfu). As the summer progresses, readings generally rise to 100-200 cfu. USEPA guidelines recommend a single sample maximum of 235 cfu. If exceeded, beach managers are then encouraged, but not required, to post advisories or close the beach for a week. Highest bacteria readings are normally recorded in August, and especially after high winds and large storms move through the area. Bacterial levels usually recede within a couple days. At the Board's request, Anderson agreed to provide notification to the District whenever a high reading is detected. Also discussed was the possibility of the District collecting its own samples

**IV. Approve Minutes of Last Meeting**

Draft minutes from the 05-21-11 meeting were previously distributed for Board review. *Christensen moved to approve the minutes without additions or corrections. Motion seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried 6-0.*

**V. Treasurer's Report**

Sabella presented the Treasurer's Report for the one-month period ending May 31, 2011. Receipts for the period amounted to \$1,663.14, consisting of \$70.00 in interest earned and \$1,593.00 in real estate tax revenues. Disbursements totaled \$8,593.80, and were individually described in an attached Transaction Listing. Disbursements generally consisted of staff payroll, a prescribed prairie burn at the Preserve, annual membership dues, and miscellaneous office expenses. Asset balances at the end of the period included \$200.00 in petty cash and \$159,380.34 in the checking *McCarthy moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 6-0.*

**VI. Lake Manager's Report**

• **Weed Harvesting and Aquatic Plant Survey**

Weed harvester was launched on June 1<sup>st</sup> with cutting commencing immediately afterwards to target invasive curly-leaf pondweed (early-season weed). Dominance is now shifting to milfoil, with recent cutting focused on East Bay out from the inlet and around Arbor Dell. Fieldwork for the aquatic plant survey is underway with over half the lake completed. The following individuals were thanked for their contributions: Kent Brown and Jane Jacobsen-Brown for use of their boat and garage; Mike Sabella for use of a trolling motor; Patricia Cicero and Jeanne Scherer for their help with the inventory.

- **Landowner Cost Sharing**

*Hoard-Curtis Scout Camp:* The last phase of the restoration will wrap up prior to the end of the month with the aquatic emergent plantings. Work is underway to prepare the final report and apply for DNR grant reimbursement.

*Lindelof:* Removal of the collapsed seawall and installation of riprap is anticipated to start next week. Progress is now being made to gather contractor proposals for the shoreline-planting phase.

*Hoiby:* Landowner still anticipates an early summer start date for the rain garden and lakeshore work.

*Mar-Pohl:* Still waiting to receive contractor bids from the landowner who is shooting for a fall completion date.

*Trout:* Rain garden proposal is currently in development and will soon require review by the screening committee.

- **Lake District Preserve**

The first mowing of the new, 26-acre prairie is now complete. Rill erosion in the field was smoothed out, reinforced with some field stones, and seeded with an oat cover crop as part of the mowing. As an internship activity, GPS coordinates were obtained for the proposed trail locations and GIS base mapping has started for the long-range plan. SetterTech is currently wrapping up the Request for Proposals for the forestry mowing work. Molinaro noted that money will need to be budgeted to remove remaining trash and farm debris from the woodlot.

- **Community Outreach and Events**

A Facebook photo contest was initiated as an internship task to increase traffic to the site. Recent publicity included a press release, website posting, e-bulletin, and posters. Other activities included the posting of new AIS signs at the boat landings. Articles are currently being written for the Ripples newsletter and Lake Ripley Edition of The Cambridge News. Board members were invited to submit ideas or help author special-interest articles if interested. In light of an illegal sand-dumping incident, Sabella recommended publicizing the rules pertaining to this type of activity to help increase public awareness.

## **VII. Old Business**

There were no requests for Old Business items.

## **VIII. New Business**

- **Schedule upcoming board meetings and Annual Meeting**

The Board set the budget hearing and Annual Meeting for August 27, 2011. Budget hearing would start at 8:00 a.m. and the Annual Meeting will follow at 9:00 a.m. Molinaro and McCarthy had terms that were expiring and were up for reelection. Sabella asked for an Annual Meeting agenda item to request the ability to move future meeting dates to later in September than is currently allowed by statute. Molinaro agreed to add that item to the agenda. Future board meetings were then scheduled as follows: 9/17/11, 10/15/11, 11/19/11, no meeting in December, 1/21/12, and no meeting in February. All board meetings would start at 9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall. Molinaro indicated that he, Sabella and Dearlove would be meeting soon to draft a proposed 2012 budget. Board members were invited to attend. A notice of the meeting will be posted if a quorum of board members plans to attend. The proposed budget will then be presented for review and comment at the July board meeting.

## **IX. Correspondence/Announcements**

There was no correspondence of note. Christensen recognized Molinaro as the recipient of this year's "Water Protector" award from the Rock River Coalition. Molinaro was congratulated for his county board service in support of area lakes and waterways. Molinaro announced that Jonathan Kaiser, a deputy warden from the Wisconsin DNR's Water Guard Program, had accepted an invitation to speak at the July board meeting. Mr. Kaiser will be talking to the board about ongoing efforts to control the spread of AIS.

## **X. Adjournment**

*McCarthy moved for adjournment at 10:20 a.m. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 6-0.*

Next meeting: July 16, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary

Date

Recorder: PDD