

**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2014**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on September 20, 2014. Chairman Molinaro was unable to attend the meeting. Board members present at roll call: Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Walt Christensen, Craig Kempel, Mike Sabella and Jimmy DeGidio. Also in attendance: Lisa Griffin (LRMD Lake Manager), Kent Brown, Debra and Rick Kutz, and Isiah Fischer of Cambridge Cable TV 98. *A nomination from the floor to elect Sabella as Chairman pro tem. was made by DeGidio. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 6-0.*

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 July 19, and August 16 meetings were reviewed. A correction was noted in the August 16th meeting to change the time of adjournment from 8:58 p.m. to 8:58 a.m. *Jacobsen-Brown moved to approve the July 19, and August 16 meeting minutes with the time correction. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 6-0.*

IV. Election of Board Officers

Sabella explained that, by statute, the election of board officers was to occur at the first opportunity following the annual meeting. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to nominate Molinaro for chair. Motion seconded by DeGidio. Seeing no other nominations, motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote. Gomez-Ibanez moved to nominate Sabella for treasurer. Motion seconded by DeGidio. Seeing no other nominations, motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote. Christensen moved to nominate Jacobsen-Brown for secretary. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Seeing no other nominations, motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.*

V. Treasurer's Report

Receipts for the 2 month period ending August 31, 2014, amounted to \$41,615.39 comprised of tax income, a donation, and interest income. Disbursements of \$13,884.50 mostly related to staff payroll and general office expenses. Sabella discussed the annual maintenance contract payment to Gordon Fleish Company for the office copier. A transaction listing was presented showing the details of individual disbursements. As of August 31, asset balances included \$200 in petty cash and \$198,693.32 in the checking account. *DeGidio moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 6-0.*

VI. Lake Manager's Report

Activity Highlights

- Hybrid Milfoil species confirmed (notified 08/13/2014)
- Stream Monitoring with Dave Marshall ended September 4th. Phosphorus samples continue to be collected through May 2015
- Annual and Budget meeting related actions
- UW-W student withdrew from college Spring 2014. Faculty advisor Dr. Compass will offer web map opportunity to students in high level GIS class. No response to date.
- Repairs on both trucks completed
- Mapping training through Jefferson County Land Records
- Phragmites Management Plan submitted to Susan at WDNR for approval
- Volunteer Work Day at the preserve to remove invasive species 09/13
- Cost-share committee meeting with John Molinaro and Jay Settersten on two properties
- Pre-construction meeting for WillerUp, work to commence the week of September 22nd

- Outreach: Ripples with annual meeting notice, Facebook, press releases (Plant sale and Ripley Edition)
- Training for shoreline restoration certification (August 27-28, September 24-25)
- Site visit to Aquarius on weed harvesting equipment
- Trees delivered on September 13th, and most planted by Mike of Sustainable Wildlife Habitats- Lisa Reas to commence plantings soon, Rain Barrels TBD
- Coordination of weed harvesting crew and equipment maintenance
- Weed Harvesting season information (Handout)
- CBCW program (Handout)
- Stream Monitoring equipment (Handout)

Near-Term Plans

- Work with contractor, Town of Oakland Sanitary District, and property manager at WillerUp camp for cost-share riprap installation.
- Continued research and coordination of next steps, grant opportunities, and remediation effort for possible Phragmites stand.
- Weed harvesting report submission to the WDNR
- Certification test for shoreline restoration practices (September 24-25) in Rice Lake
- Toxicity test water collection September 24, 26.
- Ripples fall/winter edition: Weed harvesting updates to include challenges and goals, Chemical Treatment vs mechanical treatment, new board member profiles, winter preserve opportunities (tracking), Ripley Reward Highlights: Koi herpes virus, new cost-share opportunities

VII. Old Business

A. Discussion and possible action on Phragmites stand

Continued discussion included the types of treatments that would be used for control of the phragmites stand. Griffin stated that the grant has not been applied for since the management plan has not been approved by the WNDNR. Griffin also noted the prior owner (Kasshagan) enforcement action that showed a stand of phragmites was present in 2006. Sabella inquired on the total cost of control of this species. Griffin indicated that no concrete costs were known but a general cost of \$5,000-10,000 may occur during the term of the grant. Gomez-Ibanez inquired on the use of volunteers to remove the seed heads. Griffin relayed that volunteers could be used but caution should be shown to minimize the chance of seed dispersal and proper training would need to be given to volunteers prior to a site visit. Griffin relayed the homeowners desire to install a pier. Sabella asked to not make any action on the pier issue but to discuss this at a future meeting with the homeowner present.

B. Discussion and possible action on Stream Monitoring Equipment

Griffin relayed that our current meter that is used for Lake Monitoring can be used for our stream monitoring. Also relayed that additional equipment such as the transparency tube will be given free of charge to us by WAV II coordinators. No additional costs would need for equipment but regular maintenance on the DO meter could incur costs. Coordination as to who would conduct the monitoring still needs to be sought. Kempel stated he would assist McCarthy on the next sampling event and possibly be able to continue in the future. No action to purchase equipment was taken at this time. Jacobsen-Brown inquired as to whether Dave Marshall wanted to continue monitoring. Griffin stated that he may be able to but would most likely ask for compensation to do so.

C. Discussion and possible action on Clean Boats, Clean Waters Program

An overview of the program was provided to the Board in a handout and discussed. Sabella inquired on the use of volunteers or staff at the marina in addition to the public boat launch. *DeGidio moved to continue to participate in the CBCW program. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 6-0.* Kempel asked to seek solutions to address the issue of garbage being left on the ice from ice fisherman. Discussion continued as to seeking funding or allocating funds for this as an education event and to place this on as a future agenda and funded through line item other programs. *Jacobsen-Brown moved to apply for grant assistance through the WDNR to continue of CBCW efforts. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 6-0.*

VIII. New Business

A. Discussion and possible action on Preserve Trapping Permit Applications.

Discussion and review of permit application by Travis Olson. The application was received on time. Griffin also relayed that Olson would like the board to consider opening the lands for coyote trapping. Gomez-Ibanez commented on the lack of open water and the use of muskrats as a tool to provide open water for waterfowl. Discussion continued on the rights of the district to change the season due to the verbiage written on application. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to deny the application of Travis Olson. Motion seconded by Jacobsen-Brown.* Discussion continued as Christensen inquired if Olson has had contact with the Lake Manger. Griffin relayed that he personally picked up the application and also called to verify the status of the application prior to the meeting. Kempel stated his recommendation that we allow trapping of coyote. Sabella asked that we bring up animals included for trapping at a future meeting. Christensen relayed that his vote will be made based on the information provided by Gomez-Ibanez on the use of muskrats as a tool to provide open water. Sabella commented that by denying the application, by default we are not allowing trapping for the season. *DeGidio called for the question resulting in a roll call vote. Motion carries 5-1.*

B. Discussion and possible action on Weed Harvesting Equipment Purchase.

Griffin shared with the board a video of retractable paddle wheels options. Discussion continued on our current method of wheel removal and the challenges faced with storage and transport of the equipment without this option.

C. Closed Session [as per Wis. Statute §19.85 (1)(c) to consider staff-related employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data; as per Wis. Statute §19.85 (1)(e) to consider competitive or bargaining business] Christensen moved to enter into closed session. Motion was seconded by DeGidio. Roll call vote proceeded with all present board members accepting motion. DeGidio motioned to come out of closed session. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 6-0.

Christensen moved to postpone Employee Handbook decisions until the next Board Meeting. Motion was seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carries 6-0.

Gomez-Ibanez moved to authorize Lake Manager to enter into further discussion with Aquarius Systems for weed harvesting equipment purchase after confirmation of WWC grant application. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carries with a roll call vote 6-0. Kempel asked for clarification on schedule of payments, down payment amounts, and timeline of equipment delivery be completed.

IX. Correspondence/Announcements

- Trapping permit via Travis Olson 08/20

X. Adjournment

DeGidio moved for adjournment at 11:40 a.m. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 6-0.

Next meeting: October 18, 2014 (9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall).

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary
Recorder: LAG

Date