

**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2015**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on October 17, 2015. Chairman Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Board members present at roll call: John Molinaro, Mike Sabella, Walt Christensen, Craig Kempel and Georgia Gomez-Ibanez. Jimmy DeGidio and Jane Jacobsen-Brown were absent. Also in attendance: Lisa Griffin (LRMD Lake Manager), Susan Graham (WDNR), Jeanne Scherer (WDNR), Lianna Spencer (LRMD-CBCW intern), Lenore Keating, Jeanne Clark, Tristan McGough, Blair Ward and Gary Zibell of Cambridge Cable TV 98.

II. Public Comment

Blair Ward was introduced by Walt Christensen. Blair is the Corporation Counsel for Jefferson County.

III. Approve Minutes of Last Meeting

Draft minutes from the July 18th meeting was reviewed. One correction in sentence structure was made. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the July 18, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 5-0.*

IV. Treasurer's Report

Sabella distributed and reviewed financial reports for the end of the third quarter September 30, 2015 to include a Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Equity, a Statement of Revenue and Expenses, Actual Budget and Budget remaining, the General Ledger, and a transaction listing. As of September 30, asset balances included \$200 in petty cash and \$124,616.27 in the checking account. A total of \$23,637.41 is held in restricted funds, with a fund balance of \$49,207.29. The district's current year to date revenue over expenses is \$51,971.57. A statement of Revenues and Expenses showed the 3 month period and 9 month period. Revenue for the 3 month period was \$38,613.02 which consisted of property taxes, interest income, a donation from the Jacobsen-Brown Foundation, and income earned from tax exempt property. Expenses and insurance payments were reviewed totaling to \$17,620.70 for the 3 month period. Total revenue for the 9 month period was \$118,213.17. A transaction listing was presented showing the details of individual disbursements.

Gomez-Ibanez moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 5-0.

VI. Lake Manager's Report

- Critical Habitat Designation
 - Meetings and calls with DNR lake, fisheries, and wildlife to discuss processes and survey components required for designation
- Monitoring
 - Phragmites was cut and herbicide applied
 - Lake Ripley Beach did not exceed 2016 listing criteria for E.coli
 - Lake Ripley Inlet exceeded 2016 listing criteria for phosphorus
- Grants and Awards
 - CBCW analysis was provided by Lianna Spencer
 - Healthy Lakes Initiative review
 - Post-Watershed-Restoration Stream Evaluation returned with suggestions
- Outreach
 - Speaker at Advanced Lake Leaders training highlighting our cost-share program and examples of restored shorelines- Nominations for Lake Leaders Crew 11 open in November
 - Press release on Critical Habitat Designation
- Preserve
 - Fire break around main upland mowed for 2016 spring burn
 - Friends of the GHA walk October 24th

- Cost-share
 - DNR Permits received for Gabion project, bids requested and received, awaiting cost-share forms with signatures
 - DNR permit for Sylvan Mounds II pending. Received signed cost-share forms.
- Weed harvesting
 - Removed equipment Sep 30, submitted annual report to DNR, 78 engine hours, 49 loads
- Remote Access
 - Research on options for remote access- trial run with Webex 10/12/2015
- Fisheries
 - Approximately 8,000 large fingerling walleye were stocked
 - 2015 Electroshocking to occur in the next few weeks

Near-Term Plans

- Friends of the GHA walk October 24th, 10-noon
- Bid requests for Sylvan Mounds 1st addition
- Submit CBCW payment request
- Prepare Resolution for 2016 proposed grant programs
- Assist Kyle Whalley with thesis information

VI. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss

VII. New Business

A. Discussion and possible action on Susan Graham-WDNR- Critical Habitat Assessment

Susan Graham and Jeanne Scherer discussed the designation of critical habitat on Lake Ripley. Items covered included the purpose of the designation, methods used to determine sites, property owner impacts, and the course of actions yet to be accomplished. Questions were raised on whether manual removal of aquatic plants within these areas would be impacted and also if this designation would alter our plant harvesting program.

B. Discussion and possible action on Outlet Dam

Molinaro discussed the past history of the outlet dam. He was approached by a local landowner who asked to have this issue addressed at the next meeting. Molinaro stated this individual had a possible plan for consideration. No plan was presented to the board from the local landowner and no action was taken.

C. Discussion and possible action on Gabion Project Bids

Two bids were received for considerations of the Gabion project. Molinaro relayed that while the cost-share program will cover 50% of the lowest responsible bid, the property owners may select either contractor. *Christensen moved to accept the lowest bid and pay 50% cost-sharing based on that value. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 5-0.*

D. Discussion and possible action on Cost-Share Project Review

Griffin relayed information on the three projects that were evaluated by the cost-share committee for consideration. Two projects were proposed on the Gebhart property including a shoreline buffer in the Vasby channel area and also a wetland restoration in the area protected under a conservation easement held jointly by the WDNR and LRMD. The wetland restoration scored an 11 exceeding the minimum of 8 needed for cost-share consideration. Griffin relayed that any work to be performed on lands controlled by the easement should be submitted as a plan that is presented to both the DNR and LRMD for review. Molinaro stated that since no plan has been submitted, approval of cost-share consideration should wait until that time. The second project on the property of establishing a shoreland buffer and removal of invasive plants scored 13.

Kempel moved to accept the buffer project for cost-share funding. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carries 5-0.

Sabella reminded the board of the amounts of monies budgeted for cost-sharing in 2016.

The third project is located off of Island Lane where severe ice ridging has occurred and the bank is undercutting and failing. This project scored a 13, above the minimum criteria of 8. *Kempel moved accept the committee's recommendation and approve the project for cost-share funding. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 5-0.*

