

**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2016**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on November 12, 2016. Chairman Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present at roll call: John Molinaro, Mike Sabella, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Craig Kempel, Mike Doman, Jimmy DeGidio, and Walt Christensen. Also in attendance: Lisa Griffin (LRMD Lake Manager), Dave DeGidio, Amy Gebhart and Gary Zibell of 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 October 15, 2016

Draft minutes from the October 15 meeting was reviewed. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the October 15, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 7-0.*

IV. Treasurer's Report

Sabella distributed to the Board copies of his treasurer's report. The report consisted of the one month period ending October 31, 2016. Receipts for the period amount to \$94.98 consisting of interest income and a trapping fee of \$50.00. Disbursements for the period amounted to \$7,798.17. Sabella noted the voiding of lost check #3668 which was reissued and an \$84.00 check for bus transportation for the pontoon classroom. Sabella noted he submitted the rental payment for Hoard & Curtis Scout Camp in early November for placement of weed harvesting equipment over the summer. *DeGidio moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 7-0.*

VI. Lake Manager's Report

Griffin discussed outreach efforts and her attendance along with Gomez-Ibanez and Christensen to an Advocacy 101 training. Preserve updates included continued invasive species work by ERC in the woodland areas final permits received by DNR for wetland restoration work. Other items included the placement of the LRMD logo and phone number on the vehicle, continued phragmites control work, the conclusion on phosphorus sample collection at the inlet on Hwy 18, submission of the draft Aquatic Plant Management plan to Susan Graham, graduation from the Lake Leaders Institute, and proposed harvesting map. Completion of the draft Blue-green algae survey, and the next edition of the *Ripples* newsletter, along with Clean Boat Clean Water 2017 grant request along with various project and cost-share coordination are proposed for the future. Molinaro noted that Atty. Brantmeier is seeking candidacy for Jefferson County Circuit Court. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to accept the lake manager's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 7-0.*

VI. Old Business

A. Discussion and possible action on Possible DNR Lands for Sale within the Watershed

Griffin relayed that a purchase price for the DNR land for sale may not be available until late December or early January as the DNR is placing priority on pricing lands for public bid first. Molinaro commented on property owner concerns provided to staff that taxpayer money was being used by one taxing authority and provided to another. It was also mentioned that John Marchant, a lobbyist, offered his services to assist in this land purchase.

VII. New Business

A. Discussion and possible action on Gebhart Wetland Restoration Plan

Griffin discussed the amended plan provided by Amy Gebhart to include information provided in a conversation between Griffin and Amy Gebhart. Discussion also included favorable environmental conditions and the need for a permit for herbicide application in this area which may govern the timeframe for work to be completed. *Christensen moved to accept the Gebhart plan for wetland restoration. Motion seconded by DeGidio. Motion carried 7-0.*

- B. Discussion and possible action on Cost-share funding for Gebhart Wetland Restoration**
 Griffin relayed that this project qualifies as a eligible practice and that the scoring performed by the Cost-Share Committee was 11 where a minimum of 8 is required. DeGidio inquired on the amount available for cost-share funding, of which Sabella indicated a budget of \$10,000 is available for 2017. Molinaro shared his personal concern with funding beneficial projects for property owners who also install practices that negatively impact the lake. Sabella offered that an amendment in our cost-share evaluation criteria may be warranted with many Board members in agreement. DeGidio requested the cost-share program and evaluation be discussed at the next meeting. *Sabella moved to approve cost-share funding for the Gebhart Wetland Restoration. Motion seconded by DeGidio. Motion carried 6-1.*
- C. Discussion and possible action on DNR Mechanical Plant Harvesting Permit**
 Griffin relayed the submission of an amended plant management plan to the DNR and future goal of submitting a permit for continue plant harvesting operations. 2
DeGidio moved to authorize Griffin to submit a mechanical harvesting permit to the DNR for similar areas with inclusion of floating native plants and the possibility of select harvesting of dense sago beds to reduce floating material. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 7-0.
- D. Discussion and possible action on Road Construction Impacts**
 Molinaro relayed the contacts he had in regard to upcoming construction on Ripley Road. He relayed his concerns for unabated runoff into the lake. A letter was drafted with recommendations to be provided to the Town of Oakland Board. Sabella asked for additional language which enhances our position on erosion control compliance with financial penalties for non compliance. *DeGidio moved to accept the LRMD letter as amended to be presented to the Town of Oakland Board. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.*
- E. Discussion and possible action on Resolution 2016-1 relating to a Healthy Lakes Grant Application**
 Griffin discussed the Healthy Lakes program and the requirement of including the resolution as a part of the grant application. Sabella reminded the Board of the need for diligence of tracking and approving these projects. *DeGidio moved to approve the Resolution 2016-1 and apply for the Healthy Lakes Grant. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.*
- F. Discussion and possible action on Lakes In Action Workshop**
 Griffin discussed the Advocacy workshops which were also attended by Christensen and Gomez-Ibanez. Christensen stated it was well attended and personally felt we have a role in lobbying as a lake district. Christensen asked that we review the Wisconsin Lakes budget. Gomez-Ibanez felt items discussed at the workshop should be part of the strategic plan discussion.
- G. Discussion and possible action on Lake Protection Strategies**
 Griffin asked if there were any Board consideration at this point to the strategies outlined. Kempel commended the thoroughness of the plan. Sabella commented on items listed in the plan but thus far not implemented is providing free soil tests for homeowners and agricultural fields and advocacy for impacts of high capacity wells. Molinaro suggested we schedule a special meeting to discuss lake protection strategies more in depth. Christensen mentioned UW-Stevens Point water analysis at reduced costs.
- H. Closed Session [as per Wis. Statute §19.85 (1)(g) conferring with legal counsel concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation of cost-share agreement violations; as per Wis. Statute §19.85 (1)(e) negotiating the purchase of public properties]**
 Molinaro read into record the reason for entering into closed session. *DeGidio moved to enter into closed session. Motion seconded by Kempel. Roll call vote 7 ayes, 0 noes. DeGidio moved to return to open session. Motion seconded by Christensen. Roll call vote 7 ayes, 0 noes.*

IX. Correspondence/Announcements

- 10/17/2016 Updates from Atty. Brantmeier
- 10/18/2016 Letter from Atty. Brantmeier
- 10/19/2016 Letter to Atty. Harlowe from Brantmeier
- 10/19/2016 Certificate of Equalized Value Department of Revenue
- 10/21/2016 Pamela Phelan (WDNR) letter inquiring on signed court order findings
- 10/21/2016 Updates and images from Atty. Brantmeier
- 10/27/2016 Certification of Taxes for Village of Cambridge
- 10/27/2016 Certification of Taxes for Town of Oakland
- 11/08/2016 Updated Gebhart Management Plan

X. Adjournment

Doman moved for adjournment at 10:49 a.m. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 7-0.

Next meeting: March 18, 2017 (9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall).

Respectfully Submitted,

Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Secretary Date
Recorder: LAG