

**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2017**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on March 18, 2017. 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), Larry and Amy Gebhart, Debbie and Rich Kutz, and Craig Wilson.

II. Public Comment

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

III. Approve Minutes of Last Meeting November 12, 2016

Draft minutes from the November 12th meeting was reviewed. *Sabella moved to approve the November 12, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.*

IV. Treasurer's Report

Sabella distributed to the Board copies of his treasurer's reports. The reports consisted of the end of year financial statements ending December 31, 2016 and the two month period ending February 28, 2017. The review of the 2016 end of year financial statements included a Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Equity (balance sheet), a Statement of Revenues and Expenses, Actual-to-Budget/Budget-Remaining Statement, and a General Ledger. The year end adjusted balance sheet showed \$92,160.78 in total current assets, consisting of \$200.00 in petty cash and the remainder in the bank checking account. There were no current liabilities. Equity consisted of \$25,658.10 in restricted funds, a non-restricted fund balance of \$69,730.27, and a deficit of \$3,227.59 in revenue compared to expenses. Sabella provided a detailed review of actual to budget and budget remaining information. Discussion also included areas such as weed harvesting costs, Lake District Preserve costs, and the overall financial standing. Sabella then discussed the two month period ending February 28, 2017. Asset balances included \$200 in petty cash and \$163,850.02 in the checking account. Receipts for the two month period amount to \$82,373.87 consisting of the first installment of real estate taxes, a DNR grant award advance and interest income. Disbursements for the period amounted to \$10,484.63. *DeGidio moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into record. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.*

VI. Lake Manager's Report

Griffin discussed outreach efforts attending the Wisconsin Wetland Convention with Board Member Gomez-Ibanez. Preserve updates included a review by the DNR forester on possible management objectives, the felling of over 40 dead trees along the woodland path, and a volunteer day resulting in over 30 volunteers who helped establish habitat, clean out duck boxes, widen areas of the woodland path, and cut and remove over 12 truckloads of dead material. It was also relayed that restoration work in wetland 3 is postponed until winter 2017. Griffin also relayed the receipt of a Clean Boats- Clean Waters grant, information on the status of the weed harvesting permit, updates to the Town of Oakland Buoy map, contacts with cost-share participants, and upcoming near term plans. *DeGidio moved to accept the lake manager's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. 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 was established and a contract to purchase has been signed with an anticipated closing date prior to June 16, 2016. Potential partners who may wish to support the purchase have been contacted along with a request for donations to be placed in the next edition of the Ripples.

VII. New Business

A. Discussion and possible action on Wetland Cost-Share Bids for N4083 Island Lane.

Griffin provided the board two bids received for the wetland restoration. There was a large discrepancy between the two bids received of almost \$28,000.00. Sabella inquired if the same scope of work was provided to each bidder along with the location of work to be performed. The property owners relayed that it was, but felt the higher bid may have bid high in order to not be accepted. *Doman moved to accept the low bid provided by Hasheider Habitat and Invasive Species Management for \$5,250.00. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.*

B. Discussion and possible action on Cost-share funding for W9437 Ripley Rd.

Griffin relayed that this project was postponed at the last meeting as contact with the property owner in regard to establishing a buffer did not occur in time for the meeting. Since then, the property owner wishes to install riprap in front of the deteriorating sea wall and also include a shoreline buffer behind. It was noted that this property has applied for a Healthy Lakes Grant through the DNR for assistance with the buffer. Molinaro noted that this project is unique that the property owner would like to install it himself. Molinaro felt he was capable to do so as this he has experience through his work. Molinaro also stated that the owner's labor costs are not cost-share eligible. *DeGidio moved to approve cost-share funding for the installation of riprap and a buffer at W9437 Ripley Road with the condition that no property owner labor costs would be cost-share eligible for reimbursement. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 7-0.*

C. Discussion and possible action on Cost-share Amendments

Griffin relayed the research conducted over the winter on possible amendments to the plan. Multiple Board Members commented on ways to modify the program including extending the maintenance period for more points, funding future maintenance needs, awarding funding based on a percentage increase if certain parameters are met and other types of practices for inclusion. Molinaro requested a ad-hoc committee form to review potential consideration for Board approval and requested Sabella also be included in the group for financial considerations. DeGidio and Christensen both volunteered to serve on the committee.

D. Discussion and possible action on Upcoming Meeting Dates

Upcoming meeting dates are as followed: A change made from April 15 to April 22, May 20th, June 17, July 15th, August 19th as the Annual meeting.

E. Closed session: Discussion and possible action [as per Wis. Statute §19.85 (1)(g) conferring with legal counsel to review legal opinion concerning lake protection and the WDNR Waterway permit IP-SC-2016-28-04055] DeGidio moved to enter into closed session as per Wis. Statute §19.85 (1)(g) conferring with legal counsel to review legal opinion concerning lake protection and the WDNR Waterway permit IP-SC-2016-28-04055. Motion seconded by Christensen. Roll call vote 7 ayes, 0 noes.

F. Return to open session.

DeGidio moved to enter into open session. Motion seconded by Christensen. Roll call vote 7 ayes, 0 noes.

G. Discussion and possible action on WDNR Waterway Permit IP-SC-2016-28-04055.

Molinaro moved to allot an additional \$7,700.00 in legal fees in order to oppose the approval of WDNR Waterway permit IP-SC-2016-28-04055. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.

IX. Correspondence/Announcements

- 12/5/2016 Offer to purchase and supporting documents from DNR on land sale
- 12/14/2016 Letter to McAvoy's requesting permission to use property for stream monitoring
- 12/14/2016 Notification from DNR for CBCW 2017 funding
- 12/22/2016 Letter from Dr. Stewart-requesting ice on/off information
- 01/06/2017 Copy of Letter from Richard Moen to Town of Oakland on Road work concerns
- 01/06/2017 Donation request to Cambridge Foundation
- 01/25/2017 Request from Cambridge Elementary to attend the science fair
- 01/31/2017 Receipt of Rock River Coalition donation
- 02/02/2017 Email from Mike Rumpf on potential donation
- 02/10/2017 Department of Revenue confirmation of District Boundary
- 02/20/2017 Guidance provided by DNR Forester on potential management options
- 02/21/2017 Notice of Pending Application for Proposed Gebhart Pier

Christensen moved that due to the lack of Cambridge Cable not recording the meeting to have the findings of the meeting written up and distributed to local newspapers including the Daily Union, Cambridge News, and the Lake Mills Leader. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.

Molinaro announced that he had contacts in regard to the Ripley Road project and the capacity for the Lake District involvement. He commented that our concerns were drafted and submitted to the Town of Oakland in a letter and follow up contacts with the engineer and Town have occurred.

X. Adjournment

Kempel moved for adjournment at 11:24 a.m. Motion seconded by DeGidio. Motion carried 7-0.

Next meeting: April 22, 2017 (9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall).

Respectfully Submitted,

Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Secretary
Recorder: LAG

Date