



**Lake Ripley Management District  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
November 16, 2019  
9:00 A.M. at Oakland Town Hall  
N4450 County Road A, Cambridge WI 53523**

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

Jimmy DeGidio, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. Board members present: Deb Kutz, Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Craig Kempel, Doug Maurer, and Walt Christensen. Keith Kolb excused. Also present: Beth Gehred, Lake Manager. In audience Dave DeGidio, Rick Kutz, Jan Papa, Mary Heynis, Mark Heynis, James Papa, Jon Tilp, Diane Kledzik, Gail Beaver

**II. Public Comment**

Jon Tilp asked where and how he could donate to the Lake Ripley Management District to show his appreciation for the work we do. He said he'd looked to the website for an opportunity and found none. The Chair said that people can meet up with the treasurer or hand the Lake Manager a check and are free to designate the funds to certain projects.

Gail Beaver mentioned that Majestic Pines HOA would be holding an informational meeting on Saturday, Nov 23 at 9 AM at the Oakland Town Hall regarding the Majestic Pines outlot 5 wetland restoration project. Jefferson County Land and Water Department's Patricia Cicero and Beth Gehred, the Lake Manager will be on hand to do Q&A about potential DNR grants and the District's Cost Share process for these types of projects. Until then, she requested no questions posed by anyone other than Majestic Pines Board President be answered about the project or potential grants.

**III. Approve Minutes of October 19, 2019 regular meeting and Oct 29, 2019 special meeting**

Kutz moved to approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Board on October 19, 2019, Second by Gómez-Ibáñez. Motion carried. Gómez-Ibáñez moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board on October 29, 2019. Second by Christensen. Motion carried.

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Kutz distributed to the Board copies of the Treasurer's Report ending October 31, 2019. As of that date checking account balance was \$118,328 Income included \$163 in interest and a final DNR payment closing out a GPS grant of \$617.07. She drew attention to this month's wrap up of all payroll for year 2019 with exception of Lake Manager. She noted that payroll is being direct deposited for the Lake Manager at a cost of \$2 per transaction she & the chair felt justified. More bills are also being paid using the District charge card to simplify paperwork. Maurer suggested that we get a card that has pay-back rewards. Kutz will look into it but expressed some doubt that those are allowed for a government entity. Gómez-Ibáñez expressed support for the simplifications.

**Christensen moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into record. Motion seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Motion carried.**

V. Lake Manager's Report and Correspondence –

Gehred highlighted activities as outlined in her written Lake Manager's Report. Most notable were responding to cost share inquiries, the completion of two grants and the research done on the spreading of cremains in the lake, second repair to the inlet bank on Hwy 18, compilation of over 250 returned Public Opinion surveys into a spreadsheet, research about wake boats on inland lakes, conversations with DNR Lake Coordinator regarding next year's weed harvesting program, both public and private grantwriting for a variety of programs and efforts. Correspondence and trainings included attendance of Advanced Lake Leader trainings on creation of partnerships with watershed-area farmers and District-Land Trust partnerships and their promise. Also 3-part class in woodland restoration taught by Frank Hasseler of Good Oak Restoration offered by Olbrich Gardens. Gehred spoke to her intention to apply to the 13<sup>th</sup> round of Lake Leader trainings when recruitment opens in January 2020. Kempel suggested that BG pass along to CBCW organizers that they be tipped off to the special concerns presented by large ballasts in wake boats.

New Business

a. Lake Management Plan Update

Gehred summarized the work advancing the Plan Update. Of particular note was a suggestion by Susan Graham that we consider doing a scope reduction of the Large Scale Planning Grant we have been working under to close it out and then re-applying for a new Large Scale Planning Grant that more accurately identifies our needs now that there has been a change of Lake Managers. The Board expressed approval for this effort. In addition, Gehred met with Gerald Kokkonen, JeffCo's GIS Specialist, and talked through his updating many figures and tables that we'd need to better understand the watershed, as uses have changed in the past ten years. In addition to Graham, Gehred has spoken with Patricia Cicero, limnologist Paul Garrison, water resource specialist Lianna Spencer, restoration ecologist Jay Settersten, and fisheries biologist Travis Motl with relation to helping with the Plan update under a new grant opportunity. Gehred also is nearing the completion of an updated timeline of significant events that will be included in the plan.

b. Resolutions for submission of DNR grants with upcoming deadlines

2019-2 Resolution of the Lake Ripley Management District regarding Submission of a Grant for Control of Nuisance Species *Phragmites Australis* from wetlands and shoreline of Lake Ripley  
**Gómez-Ibáñez moved to pass Resolution 2019-2 authorizing the submission of a Early Detection and Rapid Response Grant for the Control of Nuisance Species *Phragmites Australis*. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 6-0-0.**

2019-3 Resolution of the Lake Ripley Management District regarding Submission of a Clean Boats, Clean Waters Grant

**Maurer moved to pass Resolution 2019-3 authorizing the submission of a Clean Boats, Clean Water Grant for education to take place at the public and Marina landing for boating season 2020. Motion seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Carried 6-0-0.**

2019-4 Resolution of the Lake Ripley Management District regarding Submission of a Large Scale Wisconsin Lake Management Planning Grant for the purpose of updating the *Lake Ripley Improvement Plan: A Condition Assessment and Strategy for Protection and Rehabilitation*

**Kutz moved to pass Resolution 2019-4 authorizing the submission of a Large Scale Lake Planning Grant to the DNR for the update of the *Lake Ripley Improvement Plan: A***

***Condition Assessment and Strategy for Protection and Rehabilitation. Motion seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Carried 6-0-0.***

- c. Discussion and possible action on submission of private grants for land acquisition  
Lake Manager explained that she intended to fill in grant applications for private grants that she has found on the internet and from searches through District files for land acquisition and referred to list as presented. Wanted assurances that the Board was comfortable with this list. **Kempel moved to authorize the District to apply for private grants for the purpose of land acquisition. Seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Passed unanimously.**
- d. Discussion and possible action on creating policy for Board members doing work for the District  
DeGidio advised the Board that the document they had for review that included policies around how to acknowledge volunteer contributions and also how to reimburse Board members for work performed outside the scope of their Board duties had been reviewed and approved by the District's attorney. The Chair walked through the policy outlining that all volunteer work performed by non-Board members, even office work, would need to be accompanied by a volunteer waiver. The Board Chair responded to a Gómez-Ibáñez question about her many and varied volunteer activities and how they'd be covered. It was determined that best practice would be to have her sign a waiver that covered each project and was flexible for the amount of time it may take.
- e. Discussion of a potential Oakland Town ordinance regarding large wakes and heavy ballasts  
Chair spoke to a desire to get information into the hands of the Town to make them aware of a potential need for an ordinance regulating wake surfing on the lake. Christensen said he would approach JeffCo Corporation Counsel to see if there could be work done at the county level to create an ordinance. Gehred mentioned that Wisconsin Lakes Assoc may be looking at a statewide action, pending results of studies taking place in New Hampshire. Maurer felt that we cannot rely on the size of our lake being deterrent to this activity. Kutz suggested that perhaps the Town could look into writing a grant for lake ordinance overhauls. Chair to approach Clerk and make him aware of the need. Lake Manager to continue to keep Board appraised.

**Old Business**

- a. Update on Legislative Action Alerts  
Gehred handed out information and gave status updates about Rule NR 193 (Reorganizing WDNR rules and procedures for Surface Water Grant Program), Senate Bill 169 (referring to new stipulations around Wetlands Mitigation Banks), Senate Bill 335 (clarifying procedures for Lake District and Lake Association elections procedures), and Senate Bill 559 (increasing for Lake Districts/Association the amount from \$2500 to \$10,000 before the State-mandated bidding procedures must go into effect. Board members and citizens were invited to contact their legislators with comments on these. Gómez-Ibáñez reminded all that Wetlands cannot be entirely mitigated by "created" wetlands, as it takes thousands of years for their full function to be realized. Our manmade attempts are approximations.
- b. Discussion and possible action on land purchase  
**Kempel moved to enter closed session for agenda item VII b. Seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Roll call vote to enter closed session at 10:15 am. Carried unanimously.**

The meeting re-opened at 11:00 am.

- c. Discussion and possible action on closed session items.  
No action taken.

**Adjournment**

**Christensen moved to adjourn. Second by Gómez-Ibáñez..** Meeting adjourned at 11:05am.

Next meeting: December 21, 2019, with start time of 9 am, at the Oakland Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Secretary  
Recorder: Beth Gehred

Date November 16, 2019

These minutes approved at the 12/21/19 meeting of the Board

APPROVED