



**Lake Ripley Management District  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
December 5th, 2020, 9AM  
N4450 County Road A  
Cambridge, Wisconsin, 53523  
Agenda**

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call**  
Jimmy DeGidio, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Board members present in addition to DeGidio: Debbie Kutz, Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Doug Maurer, Craig Kempel, and Walt Christensen. Present remotely: Keith Kolb. Also present: Lianna Spencer, Interim Lake Manager, Dave DeGidio, Jon Tilp.
- II. Public Comment** – Jon Tilp related an early morning Preserve adventure on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020, when he saw an albino deer moving with other deer, up near the Preserve woods.
- III. Approve Minutes of October 17, 2020 Board meeting**  
Without discussion needed, DeGidio entertained a motion to approve the minutes.  
**Kutz made a motion to approve the October 17, 2020 minutes. Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez seconded. Motion passed.**
- IV. Treasurer's Report**  
Because we had no November meeting, Kutz reported on both the October and November budget and expenditures. Receipts for October were \$371.61; disbursements were \$19,007.81 and \$160,968.88 was in our checking account. Kutz was pleased to announce all lost checks were now added back in. A reimbursement to Groundswell Conservatory, Inc., was the large expense in October: \$8,780 for soil testing. Kutz also noted that this month pretty much finishes the extra payroll expenses for summer help. Next, Kutz reported the November financial report. Receipts were \$20.13; and disbursements were \$7,256.07. \$154,990.39 remained in our checking account. The two noteworthy, unexpected expenses were \$250 for pontoon storage and \$1,249.81 to repair our Ranger. DeGidio noted that the Ranger also needs new tires, and that will be accomplished as soon as possible in 2021. General thanks were expressed for Kutz's clear reports and careful work. DeGidio entertained a motion to accept the report as given.  
**Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as given. Kempel seconded. Motion passed.**

V. **Lake Manager's Report and Correspondence**

Spencer went through a rather lengthy list of accomplishments since our last meeting on October 17, some of which were to be discussed later as agenda items. Spencer was pleased to announce all three grants had been submitted on time; they accounted for much of her time. Other highlights included: meetings with Town Web Designs, EOR for possible carp gate, UW-Madison professor for an Engineering Capstone Project, progress on the new Management Plan, completing chapters 1, 2, and 3, joining chapters 5 and 6 in the “nearly complete” category. Spencer was able to complete the PI report with Gerry Kokkonen’s maps and scheduled a meeting with DNR’s Susan Graham and Laura Stremick-Thompson to update our current weed harvest map. This will mean that we can weed harvest more appropriately in Summer 2021. We did a walk-through in our Preserve woods with A-1 Tree Service, who will be taking down about 40 dead (some of them are dangerous), trees. Spencer and Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez have worked in Woodland 1 (across A from our Preserve parking lot) to remove invasive Buckthorn. Spencer and DeGidio repaired the Raingarden kiosk and tracked down our missing boat! Maurer agreed to replace three more kiosks, most likely in 2021. Many thanks for Doug for the generous contribution!

a. **UW-Madison engineering capstone project discussion and possible action**

Spencer explained the scope of their project. Kutz noted this furthers our inlet study work at no cost to us. Christensen wondered if it would require a lot of Spencer’s time. Spencer assured us it would not. The students will present their findings to us at our April meeting, in person, or remotely if necessary.

**Kolb made a motion to proceed with this project. Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez seconded. Motion passed.**

b. **Town Web Designs – website remodel discussion and possible action**

Spencer investigated several companies before finding Town Web Designs, which is also used by the Town of Oakland, and recommended highly by the Town Clerk. It also fit our budget. Kutz hoped people could make donations on this website. Spencer thought they could. Christensen took himself to the Town website and found it easy to access. He hoped Spencer felt comfortable being the website manager. She is.

**Kutz made a motion to proceed with Town Web Designs. Maurer seconded. Motion passed.**

c. **Carp gate discussion and possible action**

Spencer is doing the permit work herself, which cuts our cost by \$2,100. If we get Town (or County) approval to use the culvert, the EOR company will design a simple, removable barrier and do the site visits necessary, for about \$1,300. This is a preventative measure, as the DNR believes we do not currently have a carp problem in the lake. This will be a removable barrier, to be in place only during carp spawning season. Maurer encouraged Spencer to let the public know what we are doing. It will be in our winter Ripples.

**Kolb made a motion to proceed, cost not to exceed \$2,000, Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez seconded. Motion passed.**

**d. Resolution 3 – Expanding Scope of Watershed Study**

This is a grant proposal already submitted. It had prior approval.

**VI. New Business**

**a. Employee handbook draft discussion and possible action**

Christensen encouraged that the full Board be involved with the Annual Review of the Lake Manager. DeGidio thought that this was an inadvertent omission, and that we would include the Board, as we have done in the past.

**Kolb made a motion to accept the handbook with minor amendments or corrections. Kutz seconded. Motion passed.**

**b. Approve 2021 board meeting dates discussion and possible action (Jan 16, Feb 20, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21)**

Without discussion needed, **Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez made the motion to accept the dates as listed. Christensen seconded. Motion passed.**

**c. Wood for observation deck discussion and possible action**

DeGidio recommended that we rebuild deck floor with composite rather than treated wood. It will cost more but will last forever. Kutz worried it might be more slippery. DeGidio explained this would be textured like wood to reduce that problem. This could be a good volunteer project, possibly an Eagle Scout project. This is probably a spring 2021 project. DeGidio suggested a cap of \$2,000 since it was not in our budget.

**Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to proceed with the project, but not to exceed \$2,000. Christensen seconded. Motion passed.**

**d. Firewood winter pick-up discussion and possible action**

A-1 Tree Service has marked about 40 trees to drop. The hope is to have 1 or more cut-your-own-and-haul firewood days this winter, probably beginning in January. It was decided no motion was needed. Everyone is in agreement that it would be good to restart this previously successful event.

**e. Credit card policy discussion and possible action**

Maurer urged us to change the language to read “faxing or emailing credit card information is prohibited”. The rest of the policy was agreeable to everyone.

**DeGidio entertained a motion to adopt the policy as amended by Maurer. Christensen seconded. Motion passed.**

Kutz wants it understood that this is the way she already does things.

**VII. Old Business**

**Christensen made a motion to go into closed session. Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez seconded. Roll count all ayes.** (We have no way to include a remote in a closed session, so Kolb left our meeting at this point). **Closed session began at 10:15am.**

**a. Lake Manager job position update – discussion and possible action**

[Meeting may enter Closed Session [as per §Wis. Statute 19.85 (1)(c) to consider employment]

**VIII. Return to Open Session**

**Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to return to open session at 10:30am. Kempel seconded.**

DeGidio entertained a motion to hire Lianna Spencer as our new Lake Manager, giving him the authority to negotiate the terms. Maurer reminded him that we wished to also pay Spencer for the 2 holiday days associated with Thanksgiving and said that we would also have a 6-month review, but no 60-day review.

**Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to hire Lianna Spencer including the additional specifics that Maurer added. Maurer seconded. Motion passed.**

**IX. Adjournment**

**Christensen made the motion to adjourn at 10:32am. Kempel seconded.**

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Secretary  
Recorder: Lianna Spencer

Date: December 7, 2020