



Lake Ripley Management District
Budget Hearing
August 21, 2021
9 a.m. at Oakland Town Hall

Jimmy DeGidio, Chair, opened the Budget Hearing at 9:00 AM and turned the meeting over to Deb Kutz, Treasurer. Kutz explained that the budget process really begins in May, when board members and staff are asked to propose recommendations for what should be included in the budget for 2022. The Budget Committee, Jimmy DeGidio, Deb Kutz, Keith Kolb, and Lianna Spencer, Lake Manager, then meets and builds the actual budget. That meeting was held on July 7th, 2021 and produced the budget proposal being discussed today.

Kutz then explained the reasons behind each line item. Funds for cost-share projects were reduced because of a lack of interest. Weed Harvest funding was raised because we will need to rent storage place for our harvester, conveyor system, and dump truck. Preserve Management is up to complete several projects that had previously been put on hold. Staff Payroll is up because it includes funding for a summer scientist and two summer interns as well as the Lake Manager. Insurance, Legal, and Office Expenses are all up slightly because costs went up. Dues and Conferences are down. Commissioner Stipends, Office Rent, and Special Programs remain the same. Capital Reserve and Miscellaneous are down slightly, even though Kutz noted that we are saving up for a new pickup truck. The estimated balance in our restricted funds was \$109,379, down by \$5,140 from last year's balance, because we used money from that source to pay for some unexpected expenses in the Preserve, refurbishing our pontoon boat, and repairs on the harvester and pickup truck. DeGidio explained that since last year we have "right-sized" our budget instead of using restricted funds for our normal and expected expenses, as a means of keeping the mil-rate steady. DeGidio asked if there were any questions. There were none, so that concluded the Budget Hearing at 9:20 AM.

Annual Meeting
Immediately following budget hearing
Oakland Town Hall

I. Call to Order

Jimmy DeGidio, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:20 AM, following the Budget Hearing. Board members present were Jimmy DeGidio, Deb Kutz, Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Craig Kempel, Doug Maurer, and Walt Christensen. Also in attendance: Lianna Spencer, Lake Manager, Roxane Schiller, Richard Nelson, Mary Heynis, Mark Heynis, Dave DeGidio, Steve Bieschke, Mark McNally, and Mike Doman. Absent (excused): Keith Kolb.

II. Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes

Without any discussion, **Kutz made the motion to approve the 2020 annual meeting minutes with several small corrections. Mark McNally seconded. Motion passed.**

III. Nomination of Board candidates, Statements of candidates, and Election - one open position

a. (Name(s) on Ballot: Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez)

DeGidio asked three times if there were any candidates other than Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez. Being none, Roxane Schiller and Richard Nelson handed out ballots and then collected them.

IV. Chairman's report

DeGidio began his report by praising the hardworking harvesting crew: Ed Grunden, Bruce Crump, Richard Moen, and Dennis Zick, who at this point have worked on the lake for 40 days, harvesting 55 loads. They will continue working five days/week through September. Resident Steve Bieschke asked to speak and voiced his appreciation for the state of the lake this summer.

DeGidio then explained the work of summer scientist Dwight Osmon, who has spent the summer out in the field monitoring water quality and collecting data, installing some additional flow devices to develop the lake's water budget. Our CBCW interns have been doing a great job at the public launch on weekends, and also work two days each week in our Preserve, mostly removing invasives. It was noted that the DNR point person working on our Critical Habitat Areas designation, Susan Graham, has retired, but that the work continues with her supervisor. The 10-Year Plan is nearly complete. There will be a public input session on it October 19th, 2021. The District pontoon boat is ready to launch. DeGidio concluded his report with high praise for our Lake Manager, Lianna Spencer.

V. Treasurer's report

Kutz explained the many duties of the Treasurer, and that an audit is required annually. Our audit committee, Joe Pleschek, Dave DeGidio, and Jeanne DeGidio met on August 11th, 2021 to preform the audit. Chair Joe Pleschek, Chair, couldn't be present today to present the report, so Jimmy DeGidio read the report, which confirms that our books are in good order.

VI. Discussion and possible action on other business that can be legally considered by the District

DeGidio opened this section by asking the public present if there were any comments. Steve Bieschke spoke about wake boats. He feels they damage shorelines with their waves, and that our lake is too small for wake boats. Mike Doman asked about the non-repair of Island Lane and the loss of the dumpster, both creating problems. DeGidio reminded the audience that these are all Oakland Town Board issues, but that the Lake Board can pass along Doman's concerns. Mark McNally, President of the Village of Cambridge Board, expressed his admiration for the hard work at the District to protect and improve Lake Ripley, and how much the lake means to Cambridge residents. McNally thinks the lake's presence benefits everyone. He hopes the village board and the lake board can continue to strengthen their partnership. He would like us to be part of next year's Memorial Day Parade.

VII. Approval of the budget and tax levy

DeGidio voiced his belief that although the 2022 budget is larger than last year's, property values continue to rise enough that the taxes people pay will not rise. DeGidio asked for a motion to approve the budget and tax levy. **Steve Bieschke made this motion, seconded by Richard Nelson. Motion passed, all ayes.**

VIII. Tabulation of vote and election of board members

Richard Nelson confirmed 12 votes for Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez. Gómez-Ibáñez will serve another 3-year term.

IX. Adjournment

Richard Nelson made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Steve Bieschke. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

Meeting of the Board of Directors
Immediately following Annual Meeting
Oakland Town Hall

I. Call to Order

DeGidio called the meeting to order at 9:46 AM.

II. Election of Board Officers

Kutz nominated Jimmy DeGidio for Chair. All ayes. DeGidio remains Chair.

DeGidio nominated Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez for Secretary. All ayes. Gómez-Ibáñez remains Secretary.

Christensen nominated Deb Kutz for Treasurer. All ayes. Kutz remains Treasurer.

III. Adjournment

DeGidio entertained a motion to adjourn. **Kutz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Christensen. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM.**