



Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2021, 9:00 AM
N4450 County Road A
Cambridge, Wisconsin, 53523

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, Craig Kempel, Doug Maurer, and Walt Christensen. Present remotely: Keith Kolb. Also present: Lianna Spencer - Lake Manager, Jon Tilp, and Arthur Watkinson from the WDNR, who has assumed Susan Graham's position.

II. Public Comment

None

III. Approve Minutes of October 16, 2021, Board meeting

Christensen made a motion to approve the October minutes as presented, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Kutz reported on both the October and November budgets and expenditures. Receipts for October were \$16.15 (all interest earned), and disbursements were \$12,993.31, with \$195,285.99 remaining in our checking account. Receipts for November totaled \$16.73 (all interest earned), and disbursements were \$15,451.12, with \$178,888.00 remaining in our checking account. There were no unexpected expenses during these months. Kutz had also prepared an end-of-year summary of our financial situation, so we could have a clear idea of where we stand financially, especially in terms of unrestricted funds available. **Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Maurer. Motion passed.** Kutz was thanked for her clear presentation and careful work for the District.

V. Lake Manager's Report and Correspondence

Spencer received spontaneous applause when she reminded us that just one year ago, we hired her officially as our Lake Manager, (though she had been our "acting" manager since August). These have been very busy months, with the biggest achievements being the completion of both our Lake Management Plan and Preserve Management Plan. Meetings held to address concerns about culverts along the new Ripley Road and water

quality in the lake led to learning that regular sump maintenance is important. Only 2 of the 11 sumps were full, but henceforth all will be cleaned on a regular schedule. The 2021 CBCW grant was closed out and a new grant for 2022 has been submitted, as well as a Water Quality Monitoring grant. Spencer attended the Oakland Town meeting concerning the Oakland Hills Subdivision, to speak for stormwater management and erosion control. This subdivision will be just north of the Wetland 1 zone in our Preserve. A meeting with the Oakland Conservation Club brings us closer to a new lease agreement, and so the south boundary of the Preserve will be surveyed and marked later this month. The water quality monitoring has been completed and data entered into SWIMS for 2021. General appreciation for Spencer's work was voiced, with special gladness expressed about the completion of the plans. Maurer expressed his frustration that the Critical Habitat Designation report has still not been completed after some 20 years. Spencer and DeGidio both spoke to this situation and concern, noting the retirement of Susan Graham and introducing Arthur Watkinson, her replacement, who was attending our meeting. Spencer explained that his primary commitment these past months has been to review all the Surface Waters grants coming into his office. Mr. Watkinson spoke to this himself, declaring his intention to get up to speed on our Critical Habitat Designation report in January and come to our February 2022 meeting to report any updates.

VI. New Business

a. 2022 meeting dates discussion and possible action

DeGidio proposed that our meeting dates remain the 3rd Saturday of every month except November, when we would meet on the first Saturday of December (and no regular December meeting). We will set the date for the Annual Meeting at another time. Meeting dates for 2022: January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, September 17, October 15, December 3. **Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to adopt this calendar as proposed, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed.**

b. Proposed Town ordinances discussion and possible action

i. Town of Oakland Tree Stand Ordinance #2022-68

Spencer explained the need for a Town ordinance because DNR wardens can't enforce violations not occurring on state land. Kutz advised omitting the words "207-acre" describing our Preserve. Christensen thought we should add words to include tower stands. That being agreed with, **Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to accept the ordinance as written but adding the two amending ideas, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed.** This will now go to the WDNR and Town Board for approval.

ii. Town of Oakland Wake Enhancement Ordinance #2022-69

Spencer explained the difficulty of writing an ordinance of this kind, since we can't prohibit wake boats per se. Christensen wondered how the police

feel about enforcement. Spencer explained they're for it. Gómez-Ibáñez wondered how the Public Trust Doctrine can uphold a practice which destroys property and ruins other peoples' right to enjoy the lake. After much discussion, **Kempel made a motion to accept the ordinance as written, seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Motion passed.** This document will now go the WDNR and Town Board for approval.

c. 10-year Preserve Management Plan discussion and possible action

Kutz made two recommendations to clarify wording. Thank you, Deb! **Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to accept the plan with Kutz's recommendations added, seconded by Maurer. Motion passed.** Both plans are designed to begin officially in December of 2021 and run concurrently.

VII. Old Business

a. Jefferson County tourism book discussion and possible action

The Board was presented with a mock-up version of what our page would look like. Kutz wondered why we would give free advertising to local restaurants and places to stay. Christensen wondered why the text did not include our mission to protect the lake. Much lively discussion ensued, which clarified new information: that the Lake District can't have a page on its own: we must do it with the Town of Oakland, each having a half page and each paying half the cost. **DeGidio made a motion to go ahead with this project, adding words to clarify our mission and let Oakland do as it pleases with their half, as a one-year trial to see how it goes. Christensen seconded. All ayes and one abstention. Motion passed.**

b. Lake Management Plan final discussion and possible action

Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to accept the plan with the corrections suggested at the October meeting, seconded by Maurer. Motion passed. Everyone expressed again their appreciation for all work that went into completing both plans.

VIII. Adjournment

Christensen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 10:38am.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Secretary
Recorder: Lianna Spencer

Date: December 6, 2021