



Lake Ripley Management District
Budget Hearing
August 20, 2022
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 went through the 2023 proposed budget line by line, explaining the rationale behind each decision to increase or decrease. Landowner Cost-share is up because interest in that program is up. Weed Harvesting is up because costs are up. Preserve Restoration/Management is up to accomplish projects required in the 10-year plan. Staff Payroll/Fringes/Taxes is up to keep pace with cost-of-living as well as merit pay for 2 staff persons. Insurance remains the same. Legal and Accounting remains the same. Dues/Conferences has been reduced. Office and Community Outreach has been reduced. Commissioner Stipends remains the same. Rent remains the same. Capital Reserve and Land/Equipment Acquisition has been increased to cover monthly loan payments and to build the fund for buying a new pickup truck. Miscellaneous and General Lake Management is up because so many items fall into this category. Special Programs is reduced because we have consistently needed less.

Dan Schultz asked numerous questions about the Weed Harvesting budget, Capital Reserve, Land/Equipment Acquisition Budget and Restricted Funds. DeGidio concluded the Budget Hearing at 9:13am.

Annual Meeting

Immediately following budget hearing
Oakland Town Hall

I. Call to Order

Jimmy DeGidio, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:13am. Board members present were Jimmy DeGidio, Deb Kutz, Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Craig Kempel, Doug Maurer, Keith Kolb, and Meg Turville-Heitz. Also in attendance: Lianna Spencer, Lake Manager, Jerry Haferman, Town of Oakland Police Chief, Richard Kutz, Todd and Robin Touton, Betty Bauer, Joe Arington, Steve Bieschke, Roxane Schiller, Richard Nelson, Jon Tilp, Dave DeGidio, Joe Pleshek, Julie Rowe, Jackie Weber, Tony Tobiasz, Laura Zibell, Dan Schultz, Peggy Davis, Ellen Joyce, Tammy Eggers, Stephanie Woloshin, Tom Schabowski, Terry Sivesind, Elizabeth Fischer and Bruce Larson.

II. Approval of 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

Deb Kutz made a motion to approve the 2021 Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Richard Nelson. Motion passed, all ayes.

III. Nomination of Board candidates, Statements of candidates, and Election - two open positions

(Names on Ballot: Debbie Kutz, Doug Maurer)

DeGidio announced the two candidates currently running. DeGidio asked three times if there were any other nominations. No other nominations were announced. **Before candidates gave their statements, Richard Nelson made a motion to unanimously elect Deb Kutz and Doug Maurer, seconded by Keith Kolb. DeGidio asked for ayes in favor. All ayes. Motion passed. Kutz and Maurer elected to three-year terms.**

IV. Chairman's report

DeGidio first reported the findings of the Boat Census Survey. Although there were more vessels, the trend is towards non-motorized vessels, which is good for the lake. Next he reported on the Weed Harvesting (up through present, as the season is not yet over!). This month they are harvesting 5 days per week. A recent meeting with DNR may allow for a few more navigational lanes to be cut. Collaboration with Jefferson County Zoning and new job responsibilities for the Oakland Building Inspector should help with erosion control problems around the lake. DeGidio then invited the Town's Police Chief to speak. Jerry Haferman spoke briefly about the dedicated crew on Boat Patrol.

V. Treasurer's report

Kutz first explained the many duties of the Treasurer, and that an audit is required annually. Our audit committee, Joe Pleshek, Dave DeGidio and Jeanne DeGidio met on July 29, 2022, to perform the audit, with Jimmy DeGidio, Deb Kutz and Lianna Spencer available to answer questions. Joe Pleshek, Chair, presented the audit report, which confirmed that our books are in good order. **Steve Bieschke made a motion, seconded by Roxane Schiller, to approve the report as presented. Motion passed. All ayes.**

VI. Approval of the budget and tax levy

Without discussion, Joe Pleshek made a motion to approve the 2023 Budget and Tax Levy, seconded by Steve Bieschke. Motion passed. All ayes.

VII. Approval of changes to the District's Bylaws

DeGidio explained that the intent of these changes is to clarify the wording and streamline the process of electing board members. **Deb Kutz made a motion, seconded by Steve Bieschke, to approve the changes in the Bylaws. Motion passed. All ayes.**

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

Eight residents, including Laura Zibell, Dan Schultz, Todd Touton, Ellen Joyce, Tammy Eggers, Jackie Weber, Bud Rumpf, and Elizabeth Fischer spoke to complain about the challenging amount of "prop chop" or "weeds" fouling their shorelines. Dan Schultz and Todd Touton urged that we investigate the purchase and implementation of a more maneuverable weed harvester to clean between piers. Joe Arington wondered if Homeowner Associations could address their concerns to the DNR directly. Bruce Larson wondered what Arthur Watkinson had said about the weed problem. Joe Pleshek recommended the District set up a special session for residents to speak directly to a DNR representative concerning their weed issues. DeGidio expressed thanks to all who had spoken.

IX. Tabulation of vote and election of board members

Unnecessary because of action taken in III.

X. Adjournment

Richard Nelson, seconded by Steve Bieschke, made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 10:23am.

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

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Richard Nelson, acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:24am noting all Board members present.

II. Election of Board Officers

Deb Kutz nominated Jimmy DeGidio for Chair, seconded by Kolb. All ayes. DeGidio remains Chair. DeGidio nominated Deb Kutz for Treasurer, seconded by Maurer. All ayes. Kutz remains Treasurer. DeGidio nominated Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez for Secretary, seconded by Nelson. All ayes. Gómez-Ibáñez remains Secretary.

III. Adjournment

DeGidio made a motion, seconded by Richard Nelson, to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:26am.