



**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
September 17, 2022, 9:00 AM
N4450 County Road A
Cambridge, Wisconsin, 53523
Meeting Minutes**

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, Keith Kolb, and Meg Turville-Heitz. Also present: Lianna Spencer - Lake Manager, Elizabeth Fischer, Dan Schultz, Polly and Charlie Haller, Mary Brophy, Roxane Schiller, and Tom Schabowski.

II. Public Comment

There was none.

III. Approve Minutes of July 16, 2022, Board meeting

Without discussion, Kolb made a motion to approve the July minutes as presented, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Kutz reported on both the July and August budgets and expenditures. Receipts for July were \$375.57. Interest earned was \$25.57, and \$150 was profit from the Pizza Fundraiser and \$200 was a donation from Badger Bank for the pizza fundraiser. Disbursements for July were \$15,014.74. (Note: 6 people are on payroll this month.) \$479.36 was postage for Ripples. **DeGidio made a motion to accept the report as presented, Gómez-Ibáñez seconded. Motion passed.**

Receipts for August were \$41,591.31. Interest earned was \$29.35, \$11.43 was computer aid from the state, and \$41,550.53 was tax settlement from Town of Oakland and Village of Cambridge. Disbursements were \$16,980.34. Kutz clarified the expense for the Phragmites: though it will be eventually paid for as a reimbursement through a DNR grant, we must pay the expenses up front. The Visa bill was explained for both July and August for transparency. Water testing is still a big item, as part of our important study of

nutrients entering the lake. August payroll was for 6 people. **Gómez-Ibáñez made motion to accept report as presented, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed.**

Kutz also presented a month-by-month spreadsheet of expenditures that is very helpful to understanding the pattern of expenses the District experiences. Kutz was thanked for her clear and careful presentation.

V. Lake Manager's Report and Correspondence

Spencer had prepared a lengthy report in great detail for work accomplished in July and August, but spoke to selected highlights of interest, including a successful Pontoon Classroom for residents, a meaningful Lake Leaders conference, and presenting at the Lakes and Rivers Partnership meeting on August 22. The important partnership with Jefferson County Zoning continues. The Town of Oakland passed the tree stand ordinance! This will help our Preserve. Work is moving forward on the Town erosion control ordinance, which will help the lake's water quality. Spencer is seeking information from a variety of experts to prepare for the upcoming round of grants to pursue. Spencer was thanked for her great work.

VI. New Business

a. Weed Harvester update

As of this week, 38 loads have been harvested and 169 hours clocked on the machine. The harvester has been working 5 days/week in July, and August. Now, mid-September, they will harvest 3 days/week, and plan to take the harvester out of the lake at the end of September.

b. Prop-chop discussion and possible action

Spencer discussed what she had learned about the program at Delevan Lake. They have a property-owner paid pier pick-up system, but they are a sanitary district, not a lake district. Other lakes contacted are not similar enough to be of value to our situation. Several residents spoke to the unpleasant chore of cleaning out floating weeds, but clearly there was confusion about whether it was "prop-chop" or late-summer floating water celery. Dan Schultz reported that a representative from Eco Waterway had estimated weed-removal at a cost of \$2,200/day, which was cost-prohibitive. He challenged the DNR authority and wants cutting to occur parallel to lakeshore, more than navigational lanes, which our permit cannot do. Spencer explained that the DNR's opinion of our lake aquatic plants was that it is not a problem. Mary Brophy suggested that continued education through Ripples would help everyone understand all aspects of this issue, that becomes a problem in August and September.

VII. Old Business

a. Ditch Program discussion and possible action

A homeowner on Ripley Road has expressed interest in being the demonstration ditch site. **After much discussion, Maurer made a motion to authorize up to \$500 for removal of sod in the ditch (prior to installation of the vegetated mats donated by Agrecol) on the condition that herbiciding of the lawn stop, seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Motion passed.**

b. Oakland Hills update

Spencer reported that the project is stalled while the traffic study continues.

c. Critical Habitat Designation (CHD) update

Spencer reported that she has finished incorporating all of our other pertinent studies and surveys into the CHD report. We are waiting on the DNR Fishery biologist's comments to get reviewed by the Lake's biologist. A letter is being draft for affected property owners. The public input session will be here at the Oakland Town Hall but will be hosted by the DNR.

d. Discussion and possible action on land purchase for the benefit of the LRMD

Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to go into Closed Session, seconded by Turville-Heitz. Motion passed. A roll call vote was held to enter in to closed session for the purposes of items VII. d. on the agenda. All ayes. Meeting went into Closed Session at 10:07am.

Meeting entered Closed Session [as per §Wis. Statute 19.85 (1)(e) to consider land purchase

VIII. Return to Open Session

DeGidio made a motion to return to Open Session, seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Motion passed. Meeting returned to Open Session at 11:09am.

DeGidio made a motion to send the letter as amended, seconded by Turville-Heitz. Motion passed.

Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to continue land purchase options, seconded by Turville-Heitz. Motion passed.

Maurer made a motion to keep our loan for now, seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Motion passed.

IX. Adjournment

DeGidio made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Maurer. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 11:11am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Secretary
Recorder: Lianna Spencer

Date: September 19, 2022