



**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 17th, 2023, 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, Craig Kempel, Keith Kolb, Meg Turville-Heitz and Doug Maurer. Excused: Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez. Also present: Lianna Spencer - Lake Manager, Dave DeGidio, Jon Tilp, Tom Lorden, Roxane Schiller and Richard Nelson.

II. Public Comment

Tom Lorden thanked the District Board for the time and energy they commit to protecting Lake Ripley and its watershed. He went on to express his concerns with the weed growth and how they become overwhelming in the northeast bay. He spoke about how the boats travel through the weed-line and create a large amount of propchop that ends up accumulating on the shoreline. Wondered what the District could do to help the propchop issues.

III. Approve Minutes of May 20th, 2023, Board meeting

Turville-Heitz asked for her absence to be changed to excused as she was excused during the last board meeting. **Kolb made a motion to approve the May minutes with one correction, seconded by Kutz. Motion passed.**

IV. Treasurer's Report

Kutz reported on the May budget and expenditures. Receipts for May totaled \$85.60. Of that total, \$75.07 was for Wisconsin Personal Property Aid, \$5.00 reimbursement for an overpayment to the DMV, and \$5.53 from the United States Treasury (unclear what for). Disbursements amounted to \$19,415.95. There was \$195,592.86 in the checking account. There were no unusual expenses. Kolb asked about the CD renewal. The renewal is dependent on Board decisions during the budget discussion. Kutz was thanked for her work. **Maurer made a motion to approve the report as presented, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed.**

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

Spencer has had an administrative-heavy month with six employees working throughout the weeks. She has set up calendars for each employee to detail which tasks are to be completed that day, timesheets for each, and coordinated any training necessary. Ongoing water quality monitoring is being conducted by our Water Quality Technician. She received a \$6,000 grant from Silver Linings Foundation to monitor stormwater runoff at point sources along Ripley Road. There are meetings set up with our Lakes Biologist and an engineering firm to discuss potential grant ideas for 2024. The District was able to provide 1,360 plants to District residents through our native plant sale – this was a great success! The weed harvesting brochure is almost complete; board members have one week to submit any changes and/or recommendations for the brochure. The boxelder thicket project is just about complete, with four large boxelders left to be removed. Andrew, our Nature Preserve Technician, has been diligently applying herbicide to the stumps. The reed canary grass management is off to a great start; the invasive is noticeably being affected by the herbicide spray. Spencer saw a Blanding's turtle in the Preserve! Lastly, the orange dump truck has officially been sold. Spencer read updates from the Water Quality Technician, Nature Preserve Technician and the Watercraft Inspector. All three employee's seasons are off to a great start!

VI. **New Business**

a. **Educational Brochure discussion and possible action**

Discussion ensued regarding the educational brochure. This brochure includes history about the weed-harvesting program, current information, and what landowners can do to help. DeGidio asked any recommendations or corrections be sent to Spencer no later than Saturday, June 24th. Kolb suggested that Maurer's donation be represented on the brochure. **Kutz made a motion to approve the information within the brochure and send it to everyone who gets the Ripples (Lake District, Town of Oakland, and Sanitary District residents), seconded by Turville-Heitz. Motion passed.**

b. **Board budget requests discussion and possible action**

DeGidio asked the Board for any requests for the 2024 budget. Any request will be brought to the Budget Committee on Tuesday, June 20th. Kutz explained why some budget lines are predicted to be over and/or under. Kempel suggested looking at raising the harvester budget for repairs and supplies as the harvester is aging. Maurer suggested looking at storage budget for the weed harvesting equipment.

VII. Old Business

a. Critical Habitat Designation (CHD) update

Public comment is still open until June 30th. No new updates until the public comment period is closed. Turville-Heitz asked if there was a lot of feedback at the public hearing. Spencer stated that the meeting was well attended and the information that needed to be shared with the public was well presented.

b. Oakland Hills update

DeGidio let the board know that the Town has sent a letter with the District's questions to the engineering firm that the developer is working with.

c. Lake Manager Evaluation discussion and possible action

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

A roll call vote was held to enter in to closed session for the purposes of items VII. c. and d. on the agenda. All ayes. Closed session began at 10:01am.

Meeting entered Closed Session as per §Wis. Statute 19.85 (1)(c) to consider staff-related employment and compensation and as per §Wis. Statute 19.85 (1)(e) to consider land purchase

VIII. Return to Open Session

Turville-Heitz made a motion to enter open session, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed. Open session began at 11:15 A.M.

Turville-Heitz made a motion that in the event that the current chair is no longer able to serve as chair, the District decided that DeGidio will hold an interim advisor position and the Board will immediately appoint Keith Kolb as interim chair until the annual meeting in August where a vote will be held. Maurer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Kolb made a motion to cancel the purchase agreement on the church property as discussed, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed.

Maurer made a motion to approve the Lake Manager's evaluation as discussed in closed session, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed.

IX. Announcements

There were none.

X. Adjournment

Maurer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kempel. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 11:17 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Secretary
Recorder: Lianna Spencer

Date: June 22nd, 2023