



**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
September 21st, 2024, 9:00 AM
N4450 County Road A
Cambridge, Wisconsin, 53523
Meeting Minutes**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Jimmy DeGidio, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Board members present in addition to DeGidio: Debbie Kutz, Doug Maurer, Steve Bieschke, and Meg Turville-Heitz (Jefferson County Representative). Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez was excused. Also present: Lianna Spencer – Lake Manager, Jon Tilp, Dave DeGidio, Roxane Schiller, Jim Jermain, Laura Payne and Jennifer Quimby.

II. Public Comment

Jennifer Quimby, the Mayor of Waterloo, is running for State Assembly and spoke about why she is running for this position. She was thanked for attending our meeting.

III. Approve Minutes of July 20th, 2024, Board meeting

Without discussion, Turville-Heitz made a motion to approve the July minutes, seconded by Bieschke. All ayes. Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Kutz reported on the budget and expenditures for July and August. The receipts for July were zero. Disbursements for the month amounted to \$23,534.47. Kutz noted that the reed canary grass bill and the bill for removing the Preserve wetland boardwalk were expenses in the month of July that made the disbursements higher than normal. There is \$50 in petty cash and \$154,214.28 in the checking account. The 15-month CD has \$104,808.76, and matures in May 2025 and the 12-month CD has \$105,712.43 and it matures in March 2025. **Bieschke made a motion to approve the July Treasurer's report, seconded by Turville-Heitz. All ayes. Motion passed.**

The receipts for August were \$55,490.53 of which \$11.43 was computer aid, \$55,285.96 was tax settlement from the Town of Oakland and \$193.14 was tax settlement from the Village of Cambridge. Disbursements for the month was \$17,141.44. There is \$50 in petty cash and

\$186,219.89 in the checking account. On the VISA bill there were charges for weed harvesting repairs, vehicle expenses, fuel and water quality monitoring expenses. Kutz mentioned working with EMC insurance to lower our rates for employees. The equalized value for the District has not been released yet, but Kutz is checking. She needs that number to determine the mil rate. Kutz was thanked for her report. **Maurer made a motion to approve the August Treasurer's report, seconded by Bieschke. All ayes. Motion passed.**

V. Town of Oakland Representative Update

Laura Payne, the Town of Oakland chairperson, gave an update for the Town of Oakland. Payne is not the appointed representative for the District but came to share Town updates. She noted that the patrol boat is coming out of the water this weekend and that the Town is very pleased with the effort and work that was put into the program this summer. Payne updated the board on the status of Park Road. The road is open, but there is landscaping left to be completed; the project should be completed no later than October 4th, 2024. Payne was thanked for all her work since she has been in the Town Chairperson position.

VI. Jefferson County Representative Update

Turville-Heitz did not have anything new that would have an impact on the District.

VII. Lake Manager's Report and Correspondence

Spencer provided updates on a few ongoing projects that she is managing. The Critical Habitat Designations are official, with no further public comment being submitted to Arthur Watkinson at the DNR. Shoreplace Homeowner's Association cost-share project has been completed. Signage has been installed for residents to read and hopefully become encouraged to install a project in their yard that would help the lake's water quality. Clean Boats, Clean Waters has finished, with Tony completing the mandatory 200 hours at the public boat launch. Spencer submitted three DNR Surface Water Grant applications; these will be awarded in February if successful. The District has hired Stantec as the engineering firm to help us design an inlet stream restoration project that would reduce the amount of nutrients and sediments entering Lake Ripley through our inlet stream. Spencer worked with the County Surveyor, Chris Ruetten, to install three Magnails (durable markers that are magnetically locatable) at the public boat launch to help the District and the Town determine when the lake levels are near or above the elevation that enacts the Town's Emergency Slow-No-Wake ordinance. Spencer attended the County's Executive Committee meeting to lobby for the Executive Committee to support resolutions pertinent to the District's mission. Weed harvesting efforts have been reduced to two days/week until the end of the season, which is going to be September 30th. The harvester and conveyor will be pulled out of the lake and will get winterized for storage. Lastly, Spencer mentioned a few different potential developments that could be happening in the Town of Oakland, and reminded folks to attend their Town meetings when projects like this arise. Spencer was thanked for all of her work.

VIII. New Business

a. 10-Year Lake Management Plan amendment discussion and possible action

DeGidio stated that these are additions to the current plan that includes updates to our goals and activities. Spencer added that these updates will help us in our grant applications with the DNR and other entities as some of the language is either more clear, broad or updated. **Turville-Heitz made a motion to approve the 10-Year Lake Management Plan amendments, seconded by Maurer. All ayes. Motion passed.**

b. 10-Year Preserve Management Plan amendment discussion and possible action

Spencer discussed how these updates were similar to the 10-Year Lake Management Plan updates, as the changes were made to enhance the plans and will allow us more grant opportunities. **Bieschke made a motion to approve the 10-Year Preserve Management Plan amendments, seconded by Turville-Heitz. All ayes. Motion passed.**

c. Storage Building discussion and possible action

DeGidio discussed how the District has been searching for possible storage buildings over the last couple of years to store all of our equipment in (weed harvester, conveyor, pontoon boat, dump truck, vehicles, etc.). We have been talking to the Town about constructing a storage building on the Town Hall property and want to keep looking into our options. **Turville-Heitz made a motion to give the District permission to investigate the potential of constructing a storage building on the Town's property, seconded by Bieschke. All ayes. Motion passed.**

d. Employee Benefits discussion and possible action

A roll call vote was held to enter into closed session for the purpose of item VIII(d) on the agenda. Kutz made the motion to go into closed session, seconded by Turville-Heitz. All ayes. Motion passed. Meeting went into closed session at 9:43 AM.

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

DeGidio made a motion to return to open session, seconded by Turville-Heitz. All ayes. Motion passed. Meeting returned to open session at 10:09 AM.

Maurer made a motion to offer life insurance to our Lake Manager, and to be paid at 100%, seconded by Bieschke. All ayes. Motion passed.

Bieschke made a motion to institute a short-term disability policy with a 30-day elimination period, seconded by Turville-Heitz. All ayes. Motion passed.

IX. Old Business

There was none.

X. **Announcements**
There were none.

XI. **Adjournment**
Turville-Heitz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kutz. All ayes. Motion passed.
Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Secretary
Recorder: Lianna Spencer

Date: October 3, 2024