

**Lake Ripley Management District  
Meeting Minutes  
October 21, 2017**

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on October 21, 2017. Chairman DeGidio called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present at roll call: Jimmy DeGidio, Mike Sabella, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Craig Kempel, Mike Doman, Keith Kolb and Walt Christensen. Also in attendance: Lisa Griffin (LRMD Lake Manager), Jamiel Doman, Dave DeGidio, Shelia Palinkas and Debbie and Rick Kutz.

**II. Public Comment**

Roger Rude was asking for considerations for improvements to the Town Launch as loading weed harvesting equipment onto the trailer is challenging due to large hole beyond the cement platform.

**III. Approve Minutes of Last Meetings September 16, 2017**

Draft minutes from the September 16, 2017, meeting were reviewed. *Kolb moved to approve the September 16, 2017, meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Doman. Motion carried 7-0.*

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

The Board was provided copies of the treasurer's report prior to the meeting. Sabella distributed and reviewed financial reports for the end of the third quarter September 2017 to include a Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Equity, a Statement of Revenue and Expenses, the General Ledger and a transaction listing. Sabella noted that formatting of the documents is altered based on software used at Drews Tax who produced the documents. As of September 30, asset balances included \$200 in petty cash and \$129,952.01 in the checking account. Sabella relayed liabilities of \$659.69 consisting of staff expenses that are later paid in early October. A total of \$25,365.35 is held in restricted funds, with a fund balance of \$58,802.68. The district's current year to date revenue over expenses now listing as "net income" is \$45,324.29. A statement of Revenues and Expenses showed the 3 month period ending and 9 month period. Revenue for the 3 month period was \$42,149.56 which consisted of property taxes, interest income, and donations. Expenses including cost-share projects, grant expenses, weed harvesting and operations costs were reviewed totaling to \$33,452.98 for the 3 month period. Total revenue for the 9 month period was \$132,973.88 and total expenses for the 9 month period was \$80,281.21. A general ledger was presented for each budget category. A transaction listing was presented showing the details of individual disbursements. It was noted that the Actual to Budget statement was not included at this meeting, but will be included in the future once form formatting has occurred. DeGidio thanked Sabella for the thorough report and his attention to details with the new software changes.

**VI. Lake Manager's Report**

Griffin informed the Board of the outreach efforts including 3<sup>rd</sup> pontoon classroom for 20 Cambridge High School students and receipt of the Snapshot WI trail camera. It was noted that the weed harvesting season ended on 9/25 with 88 loads collected. Griffin relayed that Amy and Larry Gebhart rescinded their request for cost-share assistance for their wetland restoration. Seed heads were collected along the north prairie firebreak by staff, Gomez-Ibanez and volunteers. Information pertaining to non compliant cost-share properties were discussed along with a grant reimbursement request for 2017 Clean Boats, Clean Waters costs. Griffin also relayed contacts with neighbors of the FEMA property and our request to not mow or store equipment at the site per FEMA deed restrictions. Tax levy information was discussed along with the drop of equalized value for the District. Future plans include the next edition of the *Ripples*, volunteer wood collection day, continued action on the wetland purchase, funding opportunities, wage analysis, 2018 CBCW Grant application and management plan updates.

**VI. Old Business**

**A. Discussion and possible action on Possible DNR Lands for Sale within the Watershed**

DeGidio relayed that the survey is completed and are awaiting closing documents. Once received, it's anticipated to sign documents and provide payment. A November meeting with Ducks Unlimited is scheduled for grant opportunities with them. Sabella noted that a \$20,000.00 grant was received from the Cambridge Foundation.

**B. Discussion and possible action WDNR Waterway permit IP-SC-2016-28-04055.**

DeGidio relayed that an agreement has been reached and all parties have entered into a signed contract.

**VII. New Business**

**A. Discussion and possible action on Cambridge Welcome Signage**

DeGidio relayed he was approached by the Village of Cambridge Chamber of Commerce for support of the placement of welcome signs, one of which one is currently on Hwy 18. Shelia from the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce provided information to the Board on the history of the sign, placement, DOT compliance issues, ownership issues, maintenance considerations and replacement costs of \$3000.00. Currently, only a unit of government may place and maintain this type of sign. Questions were raised as to whether this project furthers the mission of the District as this seemed more appropriate as an economic development tool. Further discussion included this to increase outreach capacity. Some felt that the Town of Oakland and Village of Cambridge should be approached. This item will be further discussed at the next meeting.

**B. Discussion and possible action on Clean Boats, Clean Waters Grant Request**

Griffin relayed an overview of the past program and concerns for aquatic invasive species in nearby lakes. Discussion on the amount of grant available versus the amount we are applying for included comments on launch use, intern staffing availability, and the ability to staff multiple launches. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to apply for the grant as written. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 7-0.*

**C. Updates on Volunteer Wood Harvest Day**

DeGidio invited people to join us on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> to cut and harvest downed wood. Discussion included outreach of the event, limiting the number of participants and allowing to only downed wood to be harvested.

**IX. Correspondence/Announcements**

- o 09/14/2017 Receipt and thank you for membership to Wisconsin Lakes
- o 09/26/2017 Three Notices of Public Hearing from the Town of Oakland on October 17, 2017
- o 09/28/2017 Notice from the Department of Revenue on 2017 and 2018 exempt computer notice changes
- o 09/28/2017 Notice from Department of Revenue on certificate of Equalized Value
- o 10/02/2017 Thank you from John Molinaro for retirement party
- o 10/04/2017 Email pertaining minutes from the 10/03/2017 Planning meeting
- o 10/05/2017 Plant Harvest report submitted to Susan Graham
- o 10/11/2017 Letter to DNR rescinding contested case hearing request.
- o 10/13/2017 Email from Dovgin on cost-share shoreline buffer maintenance
- o 10/17/2017 Letter and Grant award from Cambridge Foundation for DNR Land Sale

**X. Adjournment**

*Kempel moved for adjournment at 11:00 a.m. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 7-0.*

Next meeting: November 11, 2017 (9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall).

Respectfully Submitted,

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Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Secretary                      Date  
Recorder: LAG