



**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
October 19, 2019
9:00 A.M. at Oakland Town Hall**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Jimmy DeGidio, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Board members present: Deb Kutz, Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Keith Kolb, Craig Kempel, Doug Maurer, and Walt Christensen. Also present: Beth Gehred, Lake Manager. In audience Dave DeGidio, Rick Kutz, Michael Rumpf, Michael Engleson, Gail Beaver, Joel Winn, Richard Nelson.

II. Public Comment

Joel Winn spoke favorably of the partnership between the Hoard Curtis Scout Camp and Lake District. Said that \$70,000 has been invested in the Camp in the past year and that use is up. Camp may be asking District for some financial assistance to replace some gravel landside of the bank where we park the harvester as it is getting sparse in part due to our activities.

III. Approve Minutes of September 21, 2019 regular meeting

Gómez-Ibáñez moved/Kempel second to approve the September 21, 2019 minutes of the Meeting of the Board. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Kutz distributed to the Board copies of the September 2019 Treasurer's Report. Before going through it, she made the Board aware of a revision needed in the August report that had been approved in September's meeting. There were electronic fund transfer (EFTs) in August made by the previous treasurer that had not been included in the reported disbursements, so August disbursements were actually \$20,873.49 where they had been reported as \$10,000. September items of note were checking account balance at \$128,238.25, with \$200 in petty cash. There are two months of phone bill included and \$756 of the computer invoice. The remaining will be paid in 2020 as earlier agreed by the Board.

Kutz then went through the quarterly report ending September 30th. Before the meeting, she had gone over it with the long-time treasurer who suggested some changes to how some expenditures had been recorded to budget lines. The totals were consistent, but Kutz let the Board know that some account adjustments will be made.

Assets, liability and equity show balances of restricted funds of \$40,862.53. Fund balance is \$60,239.38 and left in the budget is \$25,924.38 of which \$15,000 capital reserve land acquisition will be transferred to restricted funds at year's end if not spent. Interest is coming in stronger than earlier anticipated. An unexpected payment of \$155 of property tax was recorded. Cost Share is overbudget as anticipated due to the agreement the Board made to accommodate the needs of its Shore Place project. Weed harvesting payroll taxes had not been taken from the proper account which will be corrected with the bookkeeper next month. Pension is coming in over budget, because of the closing out of the long-standing debt by a lump sum payment in August. With these changes we are fiscally on track to close the year.

Kolb moved to accept the treasurer's report with revision and enter it into record. Motion seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Motion carried.

V. Lake Manager's Report and Correspondence –

Gehred highlighted activities in lake and inlet creek management, administration and education efforts of the past month. These included final creek and lake monitoring of the season, website updating, erosion control reporting, Phrag control conducted by ERC on Oct 4, Donor Designated Fund meetings, Critical Habitat Area Designation again on Susan Graham's to do list for this Winter, all field cams in operation and deployed, finalized 2019 weed harvesting season with report sent to DNR. Operator's wages made up 65% of the budget, winter storage 19% and supplies, rental and fuel 15%.

Correspondence – congratulation Friends of Chicago River for being a finalist for international stewardship award; DNR's new water quality lists have been published for 2020. Lake Ripley on Healthy Lakes list; the Inlet Creek on Impaired Waters list.

VI. New Business

- a. Lake Management Plan Update – Gehred said 89 of the ~1000 surveys (8.9%) have been completed and returned to the District since being sent out a week prior. Printing and mailing costs ran \$1825, covered under the Planning Grant. District members have a deadline of November 15th to get them in; those coming in after that date still accepted. We are aiming for a 20% return rate – which is approximately what we got in 2007 when the last survey went out. The phase we are in is organizing the data in order to analyze it for its insights for the Management Plan update. As part of our education efforts ahead of the plan, we invited Michael Engleson to speak about advocacy and District resident engagement. (See below.) A white paper by Paul Rodamski and Donna Perleberg of the Minnesota DNR had good insights on current Aquatic Non-Indigenous Plant Management that were discussed for including in the Plan Update.
- b. Michael Engleson, Executive Director of Wisconsin Lakes (WL), gave a presentation about the mission, history and programs of the organization. WL promotes healthy lakes, provides education and technical assistance to lake organizations, advocates for sound, science-based lake policy, and works with regional and statewide partners. Slides are attached to these minutes. Educational focus was on effective issue advocacy. As a special purpose unit of government we do not have limitations on the time we spend advocating for issues under review in the DNR and bills in various Legislature. Engleson brought up issues and policies of interest to Lake Districts that are being worked on now including -- Lake District Law (CH 33) has proposed changes to introduce process to lake district commissioner elections and increase the maximum amount a district can spend on a purchase before being required to put out a bid from \$2500 to \$10000. The Governor has declared 2019 the "Year of Clean Drinking Water" and the legislature established a joint committee to explore water quality issues around the state. Wakeboats, WI's Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan, the New Surface Water Grant Cod, and Presumption of Riparian Rights were other items of note.

VII. Old Business

- a. Discussion and possible action on policies for paying Board members for doing District work outside of their scope as Board members and recognizing volunteers

DeGidio shared that our lawyer's review of our draft policy came in late Friday afternoon and the committee had not had time to incorporate her comments. **Christensen moved to postpone policy review until next month. Maurer seconded. Carried.**

- b. Update and possible action from the Endowment and Land Trust Committee on the establishment of an MOU with the Cambridge Foundation to create a designated fund

DeGidio updated the Board on the meeting the committee had with Cambridge Foundation Executive Director Michael Rumpf, and the draft of an MOU that had been created to establish a fund at the Cambridge Foundation. Rumpf was present and took questions from the Board. That ranged from risk and fund management, how the money would be recorded in District books and process. The conclusion was that the Fund would be separate from the District, but would show up on our books as a restricted fund. Rumpf updated the Board on the Ripley Park proposal for slowing and filtering runoff water. It was agreed that the Foundation committee and the District Endowment and Land Trust Committee should meet to meet and greet. The MOU will be brought back to the District Board when a draft is worked out with both committees' input.

- c. Discussion and possible action on land purchase
Christensen moved to enter closed session for agenda item VII c. Seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Roll call vote to enter closed session at 10:47am. Carried unanimously.

The meeting re-opened at 11:50 am.

- d. Discussion and possible action on closed session items.
No action taken.

VIII. Adjournment

DeGidio moved to adjourn. Second by Maurer. Meeting adjourned at 11:52 am.

Next meeting: November 16, 2019, with start time of 9 am, at the Oakland Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Secretary
Recorder: Beth Gehred

Date October 19, 2019