



**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
September 21, 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, Craig Kempel, Doug Maurer, and Walt Christensen. Keith Kolb excused. Also present: Beth Gehred, Lake Manager. In audience Dave DeGidio, Rick Kutz, Mike Sabella, Mike Doman, and Jameil Doman

II. Public Comment

Mike Sabella, former treasurer for the LRMD, explained he was in attendance in order to answer any questions the Board may have for the time he was yet treasurer and to support the new treasurer.

**III. Approve Minutes of July 20, 2019 regular meeting and August 17, 2019 special meeting
Christensen moved to approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Board on July 20, 2019, Second by Gómez-Ibáñez. Motion carried. Gómez-Ibáñez moved to approve the minutes of the Board on August 17, 2019. Second by Christensen. Motion carried.**

IV. Treasurer's Report

Kutz distributed to the Board copies of her Financial Report for months of July and August, 2019. She highlighted that payroll pension for August was paid in July. Also \$2000 was received from the Jacobson-Brown recurring donations that come multiple times per year. These donated funds are placed into restricted funds for general lake maintenance. Kutz reported that August income included computer exempt aid, property tax settlement and Frontier refund. She highlighted two expenses -- the first of the employee insurance reimbursements and the annual insurance payment to Horton Insurance Group. This annual payment customarily is made in the third quarter. DeGidio thanked the Jacobsen-Browns for their on-going support.

Gómez-Ibáñez moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into record. Motion seconded by Christensen. 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 two months. These included on-going creek and lake monitoring, website updating, erosion control reporting, upland woods tree plantings doing well, handrail repaired on boardwalk, signage hung, burn preparation, volunteer needs, pontoon classroom, Phrag control, Majestic Pines island restoration progress, conservation easements, land acquisitions, endowment fund, need for political engagement on issues of importance for lake districts.

VI. New Business

- a. Lake Management Plan Update

We are now attempting to get the Public Opinion Survey out to 10 – 15 random people for a preview of the survey for feedback. Costs for mailing estimates being received.

- b. Discussion and possible action on scheduling District Board meeting dates, times and locations for calendar year 2020.

DeGidio moved to continue regular Board meeting on the third Saturdays of each month, 9 am, at the Oakland Town Hall for Jan-Dec 2020 with one exception that the November 2020 meeting will take place at 9 am on Saturday, November 14, 2020. Gómez-Ibáñez seconded. Carried.

- c. Discussion and possible action on use of leftover 2019 intern budget

It was determined that no action was necessary as the intern was paid out of the miscellaneous budget line item. This line item is already approved for expenses broader than the intern wages. The Board expressed support for having the consultation services of SetterTech as an on-going resource for the Lake Manager to the extent of the line item (approximately \$900.)

- d. Discussion and possible action for changes to the Employee Benefits Plan Document

Slight changes to clarify the intent and process of the employee insurance stipend were made to the Employee Benefits Plan Document. No monetary impact. **Christensen moved to approve the updated language to the Employee Benefits Plan Document. Gómez-Ibáñez seconded. Motion carried.**

- e. Discussion and possible action on creating policy to recognize volunteers for their service

DeGidio shared some background of the desire to recognize volunteers who are doing important and valued work for the District. Christensen suggested thank yous could be published in the Ripples Newsletter. Kutz gave the background for the genesis of the idea for gift cards being given to honor the most committed volunteers. Modeled on the food pantry plan. After discussion, the Chair directed the Lake Manager to create a system around thanking volunteers and asked the Board to come up with a not-to-exceed amount for the remainder of 2019 while we collect data on how this would be budgeted in following years. **Christensen moved to cap the amount given as thank you tokens to volunteers in 2019 at \$100. Maurer seconded. Carried.**

- f. Discussion and possible action on creating policy for Board members doing work for the District

It was clarified that if a Board member asked to be paid for work that they do for the District outside of their on-going scope of work as Board members, they would need to get approval ahead of time by the Chair and/or the Board. They would need to fill in the paperwork to become an employee of the District and receive a W-2 at the end of the year. Maurer gave the opinion that written process for these situations should be put together by a subcommittee to be brought together at the next meeting. Kempel expressed agreement. The Chair suggested that he, the Lake Manager, and Gómez-Ibáñez meet as a subcommittee to put together a short policy around this issue to be brought back to the Board for review in the October meeting. No vote taken.

VII. Old Business

- a. Discussion and possible action on applying for a grant to control invasive phragmites.
Gómez-Ibáñez made a motion to approve an application being submitted for the Early Detection and Response grant in 2019 for Phragmites Control. Kempel seconded. Motion carried.

- b. Discussion and possible action on land purchase
Christensen moved to enter closed session for agenda item VII b. Seconded by Gómez-Ibáñez. Roll call vote to enter closed session at 10:18 am. Carried unanimously.

The meeting re-opened at 11:17 am.

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

Adjournment

Christensen moved to adjourn. Second by Maurer. Meeting adjourned at 11:18 am.

Next meeting: October 19, 2019, with start time of 9 am, at the Oakland Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Georgia Gómez-Ibáñez, Secretary
Recorder: Beth Gehred
Approved by District Board 10/19/2019

Date September 21, 2019