



**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
January 20, 2018
9:00 A.M. at Oakland Town Hall**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on January 20, 2018. Chairman DeGidio called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present at roll call: Jimmy DeGidio, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Mike Sabella, Craig Kempel, Mike Doman. Keith Kolb and Walt Christensen were absent. Also in attendance: Andrew Sabai (LRMD Lake Manager)

II. Public Comment

There were no public comments concerning issues not already on the agenda. However, Doman asked, what can be done about the pier stations that are frozen in the lake. DeGidio had brought this issue to the attention of the board of the Town of Oakland. Where he was told that for structures left in the water that are not attached to the shore it is the responsibility of the DNR to enforce regulations regarding these structures, not the Lake District or the Town of Oakland. DeGidio also noted that Lisa Griffin had emailed the DNR of the Lake District's concern.

III. Approve Minutes of last December 16 and December 22, 2017

Gomez-Ibanez noted that the minutes of the December 16, 2017 in the Correspondence/Announcement section that the name Gene was not capitalized and suggested we add the last name Kapsner to be specific. **Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the minutes with the correction. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 5-0**

IV. Treasure's Report

Sabella noted this is the time of year he usually distributes the December 31st year-to-date financial statements for the District. He talked to the outside bookkeeper that the district now uses to prepare financial statements. After conversations with the bookkeeper, he does not feel that the financial statement completed is in a format that he feels comfortable presenting to the board. He then presented the normal treasures report for the month ending December 31, 2017. Receipts for the period were \$92.00 interest earned on checking account and a donation in the memory of Karen Bennett. Total disbursements for the period were \$7,579. No unusual items. He noted they did have an appreciation lunch for the harvester staff. At the end of the year accounts were \$200 petty cash, and \$80,434 checking. Sabella also noted that he just received a check for \$51,254 which is the first instalment of 2017 real estate taxes. Sabella hopes to have the year-end statements for the February meeting. He also noted to the board that 1099 w-2 will get distributed. There were no questions. **Motion to accept the Treasurer's disbursements report by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion seconded by Kempel. Motion carried 5-0.**

V. Lake Manager's Report.

DeGidio introduced and welcomed and the new Lake Manager, Sabai. DeGidio also thanked the Hiring Committee and also Lisa Griffin for her guidance in the transition. Sabai thanked the board for the opportunity and to Griffin's assistance during the transition. Sabai then gave a short description of his of past work. He told the board of the activities of his first week which included: getting to know the office, visiting the Lake District Preserve, and also work planning. He mentioned studies that he found, that were not in the District files: *The Pressure of Society on Water Quality: A Land Use Impact Study of Lake Ripley in Oakland, Wisconsin* and *The Production of Northern Pike in a Managed Marsh, Lake Ripley Wisconsin*. The latter was a study conducted in the 1960's at the marsh the Lake District recently purchased from the DNR. DeGidio mentioned that his father used to shine walleyes at night in the same place. Sabai said that the habitat there has changed since the study with shrubs encroaching on the marsh that would degrade the habitat for the spawning of fish. Sabai's next step is to review the goals outlined in the Lake and Lake District Preserves Management plans.

Sabai then read the Lake Manager's report authored by Griffin: Activity Highlights >Assistance to Town of Oakland regarding public launch permit- permit submitted >Hiring coordination, meetings and emails > Winter

Ripples completed > Kisow cost-share project: DNR exemption received, awaiting Jefferson County permit > Reimbursement grant request for Phragmites complete, additional request after 2019-2020 monitoring needed > Informational binder for new staff and transition guide Near-Term Plans > Awaiting 2018 Agrecol plant order forms, bid request for GPS equipment, Ducks Unlimited Grant Correspondence/Announcements > 12/12/2017- Donation from Cedar Shores in memory of Karen Bennett > 12/28/2017- Agricultural Audit sent from Mike Sabella > 1/4/2018-Notice from the Town of Oakland on meeting room conflict > 1/11/2018-Village of Cambridge January Tax Settlement received > 1/11/2018- Town of Oakland January Tax Settlement received > 1/11/2018- Town of Oakland Launch permit received

VI. Discussion and Possible Action of Possible DNR Land for Sale with the Watershed.

Sabai said he is working with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to advance the paperwork regarding the property.

VII. Discussion and Possible Action on the Purchase of the Town of Oakland Dump Truck.

DeGidio recalled the Weed Harvest Committee had an issue with the Town of Oakland's dump truck's box being too small. Kempel also mentioned that one of the crew was also concerned about the height of the hitch being too low. DeGidio recommended that Sabai and the Weed Harvest Committee continue to investigate the efficiency of using a smaller truck.

VIII. Discussion and possible action on the February Meeting. The town of Oakland notified DeGidio that the usual meeting space in the Town of Oakland Town Hall will be occupied for the election on February 17. Sabella noted that the board does not usually meet in February, he said that approving the financial statement could wait until March. Kempel would like to have a February meeting to know what the plans are for spring and to get Sabai more on board with projects. **Kempel moved to change February 17 meeting to February 24. Motion seconded by Doman. Motion carried 5-0**

IX. Closed Session [as per Wis. Statute §19.85 (1)(c) to consider possible action on Lake Manger interview process.

Gomez-Ibanez moved to enter into closed session. Motion seconded by Doman. Roll call vote indicated all in favor.

X. Return to Open Session

Doman moved to enter into open session. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion by Gomez-Ibanez that The board reviewed the hiring process and decided the process was a good one. Motion seconded by Kempel Motion passed 5-0

XI. Adjournment

Doman motioned to adjourn at 3:20. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 5-0.

Next meeting: February 24, 2018 (9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall).

Respectfully Submitted,

Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Secretary
Recorder: LAG

Date