



**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting of the Board of Directors
March 17, 2018
9:00 A.M. at Oakland Town Hall**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman DeGidio called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Board members present at roll call: Jimmy DeGidio, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Mike Sabella, Craig Kempel, Walt Christensen, Mike Doman. Keith Kolb was excused. Also in attendance: Andrew Sabai (LRMD Lake Manager) Deb and Rick Kutz.

II. Public Comment

DeGidio called for public comment for any items not on the agenda. There were none.

III. Approval of February 21, 2018 minutes

Sabella motioned to accept the minutes as presented, second Christensen. Motion passed.

IV. Treasure's Report.

A. Sabella presented the treasure's report. Receipts for February were \$962. We received an advance on the grant for the harvester GPS unit for \$875. Reimbursement for a pension payment for Lisa Griffin for \$45. Total disbursements were \$5,057. Balance in checking account is \$119,374.

Last month there was a question on two budget items; Equipment Purchase and Rental and also Preserve Restoration and Development. We were over budget \$2,600, because of the purchase of a printer/copy machine, which was \$2,800. Preserve Restoration and Development was over budget by \$3,400. We had expenses that were not budgeted for and or went over budget on. Sabai commented that most of the costs for the preserve in 2017 were to treat invasive species in the woodland: garlic mustard, buckthorn, and dame's rocket herbicide. Sabai would like to see what response the treatment has had in the woodland. Sabai will report further on the project at a later meeting.

Gomez-Ibanez motion to accept the treasurer's report, Christensen second. Motion passed.

V. Lake Manager's Report

A. **Activity** – Sabai gave an update about recent mammal and bird sightings at the preserve, including seven white-fronted geese. He is documenting habitat, activities, species etc. at the preserve with geotagged photos. He showed several deer stands that are not supposed to be on the preserve property. He will mark them with a reminder to their owners, that stands must be taken down each day. The stream monitoring project began by installing staff gauges, but he is waiting to get official sampling station status on two new locations. Tree Replacement will be announced and promoted in the Ripples newsletter.

B. **Mid and long-term plans include:** Naming the inlet stream to highlight its importance and to get public support for protecting and restoring the creek. It was suggested that several possible names for the creek be brought to the annual meeting for voting by the district members.

C. **Correspondence:** The town of Oakland received a letter from the USACE about the permit for the town boat launch. It was not clear if they required any additional permits. Sabai contacted the USACE and they confirmed no new permits are required by them.

Patricia Cicero forwarded me a request to change the DNR permit for the Majestic Pines pier to allow boat slips on the east side, but to not to increase the total number of slips. Gomez-Ibanez noted that the LRMD fought against the pier and was able to a concession that limited the boat slips to only the west side of the pier. Sabai will update the board on the progress of the possible amendment to the permit and send more information.

VI. New Business

- A. Invasive Cattail Study** Sabai gave a PowerPoint presentation on invasive cattails and how they affect wetland environments. He will be conducting experiments involving cutting cattails to determine best management practices at the preserve. Cutting is probably the best long-term solution to managing the cattails on the preserve. Herbicide could be used sparingly on new outbreaks, or to stop advancement of cattail clones.

VII. Old Business

A. Discussion and possible action on DNR lands for sale within the watershed

Sabai gave an update that an appraisal would be required to receive grant funds from Ducks Unlimited. He asked for quotes on the appraisal from four appraisers. Only one responded, AJ Appraisals, who had done an appraisal for us in the past. The appraisal will cost no more than \$1,500 and take about a month to complete.

B. Discussion and possible action on the purchase of a new dump truck.

Christensen said after viewing the truck that matching the truck's hitch to the harvester trailer will not be an issue, because both the truck and the trailer hitch height can be adjusted. The sides may need to be modified to increase the height of the side boards. Sabella suggested that if the truck was not capable of launching the harvester or pulling it out of the water we could contract that task out.

VIII. Adjournment

Christensen motioned for adjournment, second by Kempel. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 10:11

Next meeting: April 21, 2018 (9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall).

Respectfully Submitted,

Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Secretary Date
Recorder: Andrew Sabai