



**Lake Ripley Management District  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
April 21, 2018  
9:00 A.M. at Oakland Town Hall**

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call**  
Chairman Jimmy DeGidio called the meeting to order at 9:00. 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, Rick Kutz and Dave DeGidio
- II. **Public Comment**  
DeGidio called for public comment for any items not on the agenda. There were none.
- III. **Approval of March 17, 2018 minutes**  
**Motion Gomez-Ibanez to accept meeting minutes. Christensen second. Motion passed**
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** Sabella presented the first quarter treasure's report. One statement received from the bookkeeping firm, the total budget remaining, needed work and will be distributed to the board, at a later date. The balance sheets show \$141,717, there were no outstanding liabilities, restricted funds totaled \$22,000, and fund balance \$58,000. Net income for first quarter was \$61,000. The LRMD received advance payments on GPS and Clean Boats Clean Waters grants. The first quarter was quiet for expenses, except employee salary and purchases of equipment and supplies for the stream monitoring program approved in February. Sabella also explained the line items for the employee and employer contributions to the pension. Sabella distributed a statement of checks written. Sabella explained the check paid to Sabai for reimbursement of stream monitoring equipment that he purchased using his personal credit card. DeGidio asked if there was some way that we could avoid doing that in the future, like increasing the District's \$1,000 credit limit. Sabella explained that this was an unusual situation and only recalled having to reimburse other lake managers for the Ripples newsletter postage. He felt comfortable with the process because he has all the receipts for purchases.  
**Motion by Gomez-Ibanez to accept treasure's report. Second Kempel. Motion passed**
- V. **Lake Manager's Report**
  - A. **Activity** Sabai explained ongoing projects. The Agrecol plant order was made, he will be picking it up in May, and ordered two flats for the Lake District Preserve. Stream monitoring had begun, and good data is being collected, and he is also beginning to sample more in the former DNR section of the stream. He handed out a graph showing the results of the water level logger data, and how it can capture water events that might otherwise be missed. A planned repair on the ditch plug on the far eastern portion of the Lake District Preserve will be delayed until next winter because the contractor was not able to get out there while the ground was still frozen. Gomez-Ibanez commented that the project had already been delayed once, and it was supposed to happen the previous winter.  
Sabai presented some the phosphorus data from the lake. The data shows a steady increase in phosphorus over the last decade and that 2017 had the highest phosphorus concentration since 1993. DeGidio commented that it might have had something to do with last year being the shortest time that ice was on the lake. Sabai replied that longer ice-free periods are often associated with reduced water quality. Kempel asked if the duplicate samples collected by the DNR, and Lisa and himself were similar. Sabai replied that the results were very similar, which make sense because the sampling protocols were the same. Christensen noted the periodic spikes and declines in phosphorus was interesting and wondered what caused it.

**Near term plans.** The Ripples newsletter will be put together and will include the following subjects; the tree replacement program, introduce the new lake manager, name the creek, phosphorus stream monitoring project etc. Sabai explained that he wanted to purchase a different GPS unit than was originally planned. He thought one with sonar abilities would greatly expand the usefulness of the unit. It could be used for mapping the lake bottom and identifying habitat if mounted to a boat. There will not be a conflict with changing the GPS purchased the grant requirements, because no specific unit was mentioned in the grant application. Sabai also said he would be looking for spring wildflowers in the woodland as part of the biotic inventory in the Lake District Preserve. Gomez-Ibanez mentioned she would like to help with that project.

- B. **Mid-term plans.** Sabai would like to set up a meeting with the budget committee in May to begin formulating the 2019 budget. Sabai and Kempel will continue lake monitoring. Weed harvester will be prepped for summer harvest season.
- C. **Long-term plans.** The management plans for the Lake District Preserve and Lake Ripley will be updated. This fall Sabai will seek a WI DNR lake planning grant to help fund the Lake Management plan update. The invasive cattail study will also begin this summer and carry over until at least 2020.

**D. Correspondence:**

- 4/2/2018 Jimmy DeGidio and I met with Mike Rumpf at Ripley Park to discuss the Cambridge Foundations plant to drain and fill wetlands (currently lawn) at Ripley Park. We also discussed significant gully formation and beach erosion.
- 4/10/2018 Mike Rumpf sent us a copy of the documents he sent the DNR regarding permits for their proposed wetland drainage at Ripley Park
- 4/6- 4/11 Received plant orders from several residents.
- 4/12/2018 I met with Jay Settersten to discuss the invasive species work project in the woodland, and other issues. Jay strongly believes the woodland work should continue

**VI. Old Business**

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

Paperwork was continuing to come in for the DNR land purchase. The appraisal for the land cost \$750. The land was appraised at \$47,000 and the purchase price was \$41,600. Kempel asked how the appraisal was done. Sabai explained the appraiser looked at similar properties in the area that recently sold, and adjusted the price down due to restrictions on the deed for public access etc. Ducks Unlimited requires an audit, or some sort of financial statement as one of the requirements to receive the grant. Sabai sent in the last year-end financial statement, which should work. Sabella commented that an official audit of the Lake District finances would cost between \$4-7,000, but the district has a volunteer audit committee that goes over the district's finances and reports at the annual meeting.

- B. **Discussion and possible action on the purchase of a new dump truck.** Kempel went over the size of the town dump truck box and believed that the truck would be able to carry a half a load. Christensen did some research to find users of similar dump trucks and found that they should be adequate for our use in terms of weight capacity and hitch height. Doman asked if the gate for the gate at the Scout Camp should be widened. DeGidio would like the committee to have a recommendation for the purchase of the truck at a future meeting. Doman motioned that we look at the Kelly Bluebook price for the town dump truck and get an independent analysis of the truck's value, second Kempel. Motion passed 5-1.

**VII. New Business**

- A. **Ripley Park Project.** Sabai explained the Cambridge Foundation's plan to increase usability in the park by putting in drainage tile, a pump, and a holding tank to drain the wetland by the beach that fills after rain events. This wetland is low quality because it is maintained as lawn, but does fulfill a water quality function by allowing sediment and nutrients to settle out before the water

enters the lake. Unfortunately, when water overflows from the wetland it cuts a deep channel through the beach sand, delivering that sand into the lake. DeGidio and Sabai's main concern at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting with Mike Rumpf was this beach erosion. Sabai mentioned several more natural alternatives to drain tile such as rain gardens, but Mr. Rumpf was not receptive to these ideas at the meeting. Sabai will continue to monitor the project and work with the Cambridge Foundation as it goes through the permit process.

- B. **Pier permit amendment:** Sabai explained the request to amend the Majestic Pines permit to allow boat slips on the east side of the pier had been denied. The denial for the amendment was made on the grounds that it was located in Critical Habitat/sensitive area. Gomez-Ibanez and others questioned why the Gebhart permit was approved, while permit amendment was denied because it is in a sensitive area. The board had strongly opposed the Gebhart permit, which was also located in Critical Habitat
- C. **Lake District Preserve – woodland invasive species control project.** Sabai explained the project designed to control Garlic Mustard, Dame's Rocket and Buckthorn in the Lake District Preserve's woodland. There have been questions about its effectiveness, and the long-term sustainability of the project. To date there has been \$19,938 spent on the project and another \$6,700 is expected to be spent this year. Sabai said it was difficult for him to evaluate the project because there was no data that he could find that showed the situation prior to work being done. Gomez-Ibanez commented that she thought that the results were not what they had hoped for. **DeGidio made a motioned that Sabai re-evaluate the woodland invasive species project and make a decision on whether or not to continue the project. Second Christensen. Motion passed.**

**VIII. Adjournment: Christensen motioned to adjourn, Gomez-Ibanez second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 11:26 am.**

Next meeting: May 19, 2018 (9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall).

Respectfully Submitted,

-----  
Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Secretary                      Date  
Recorder: Andrew Sabai