

Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2007

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District (LRMD) Board convened at the Oakland Town Hall on April 21, 2007. Chairman Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present included Mike Burow, Mike Sabella, John Molinaro, Gene Kapsner and Dennis McCarthy. Jane Jacobsen-Brown and Derek Hoffman were absent. Also present were Paul Dearlove (LRMD Lake Manager), Larry Gephardt, and Cambridge Cable TV Channel 12.

II. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

III. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 17, 2007 meeting and had no additions or corrections. *McCarthy moved to approve the minutes as written, and was seconded by Kapsner. Motion carried 4-0 with Sabella abstaining.*

IV. Treasurer's Report

Sabella presented the first-quarter financial report ending March 31, 2007. Handouts included a balance sheet, statement of operations, transaction listing and general ledger. A summary is provided below.

Total current assets of \$196,171.25 consisted of: \$200.00 in petty cash, \$70,988.28 in general checking (LRMD), \$73.20 in the Priority Lake Project checking account, \$27,418.24 in the cost-sharing checking account, and \$97,491.53 in a bank certificate of deposit due to expire on 6/26/07. Current liabilities included \$963.88 in accrued federal payroll taxes, \$216.00 in accrued state payroll taxes, and \$874.58 in accrued pension. Total equity of \$194,116.79 consisted of: \$500.00 in the Friends of the Preserve restricted fund, \$89,815.00 in the Land Acquisition restricted fund, \$33.00 in the F.K. Elson Memorial restricted fund, an \$80,523.18 fund balance, and \$23,245.61 in net income. The statement of operations showed total revenues for the three-month period of \$45,780.14. Revenues consisted of \$44,013.50 in property taxes, \$716.64 in interest income, and \$1,050 in donations. There was \$5,162.50 in direct costs for cost-share projects. General operating expenses were \$16,642.21.

Burow moved to accept the treasurer's report, and was seconded by Kapsner. Motion carried 5-0.

V. Lake Manager's Report

Dearlove distributed copies of his lake manager's report, phone logs and other handouts. He said he was pleased to report that official notice was received from DNR confirming that the District was awarded \$20,000 in grants. Grant-related work was already underway, with sediment coring to begin as early as May. He estimated the overall grant-funded effort would take about 1.5 years to complete. He added that ample opportunity would be allowed for Board and public input in terms of identifying needs and charting a long-term course of action.

Dearlove provided an update on the U.W.-Madison partnership (partially funded by the grant), and the progress being made in designing two community-based social marketing programs. It was announced that twice-weekly class meetings would wrap up in a couple weeks, and that the final reports are nearing completion. Invitations were then distributed to the May 9th student presentation to be held at the Oakland Town Hall from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Dearlove commended the graduate students for all their hard work, and said he was impressed with the quality of their findings and recommendations.

In terms of cost sharing, it was noted that two proposed shoreline projects and one rain garden installation had been evaluated by the subcommittee. Project descriptions and funding recommendations were postponed until later in the agenda. Three additional project proposals are in the process of being reviewed.

Activities at the Lake District Preserve included the production and mounting of a donor plaque to the new observation deck. Dearlove noted that the prairie burn had been rescheduled for May 1st due to high soil-moisture conditions. The Cambridge Aquatic Environmental Club was then thanked for its assistance in cleaning the bluebird and wood duck nesting boxes, and for burning the town hall rain garden. Club members were also thanked for the leadership role they provided during the April 20th community litter cleanup. The event involved the participation of over 120 mostly student volunteers from Cambridge High School. Trash was collected from area shorelines, parks, businesses and roadsides around Lake Ripley and downtown Cambridge. Kapsner suggested that, in the future, additional consideration be given to

hosting a more family-oriented cleanup on the following Saturday. He felt that would be a good way to target more cleanup sites.

VI. Old Business

A. Kaashagen easement violation and restitution status

Dearlove reported that the District was now in receipt of a \$2,221 check and a signed settlement agreement. He said he intended on depositing the check on Monday. He also said he was informed by DNR that Kaashagen's restoration consultant was not fully reimbursed for expenses owed, and will therefore not be performing any additional work. Dearlove explained that while most of the restoration was complete, outstanding work included follow-up spraying of some reed canary grass and three years of monitoring.

The new property owner, Larry Gephardt, was in attendance. Molinaro explained to the Board that Mr. Gephardt had been in contact with him and Dearlove, and that he was aware of the easement restrictions. Kapsner asked if there was anything the District could do to expand the restoration work to other areas on the property. Molinaro said that was up to the new landowner. He offered that Dearlove, if requested, could meet with Mr. Gephardt on the property to provide restoration advice. He said as long as the easement requirements were met, he was personally open to considering additional restoration proposals. Gephardt responded that he would be interested in meeting.

B. Resolution to endorse Wisconsin ban on phosphorus lawn fertilizers

Molinaro said the Jefferson County Board recently adopted a resolution supporting statewide legislation to ban phosphorus lawn fertilizers. He explained that the move came after the county learned that if it were to enact a countywide ban, its authority would not extend to incorporated areas. He then asked that the LRMD Board to consider adopting a similar resolution which was distributed for consideration.

Sabella moved to approve Resolution #2007-2 requesting that Jefferson County's legislative representatives sponsor a new state law prohibiting the sale or application of phosphorus lawn fertilizers, or to provide county governments with the authority to adopt county-wide phosphorus lawn fertilizer bans (subject to limited exceptions) that would be applicable to incorporated areas. Motion was seconded by Kapsner. As a point of discussion, Kapsner asked if language should be added regarding the findings of past soil tests showing consistently elevated phosphorus levels throughout most of the region. Board members felt the resolution was sufficient in its current draft and that such specifics were not needed in this type of resolution. Motion carried 5-0.

VII. New Business

A. Memorandum of Understanding authorizing DNR to conduct sediment core analysis

Dearlove requested that the Board enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) authorizing DNR to conduct a paleoecology study as part of the grant. Copies of the MOU were distributed for review and consideration. This was followed by a brief review as to the purpose of the study. *Kapsner moved to approve the MOU authorizing DNR to extract a sediment core and complete a paleoecology analysis as part of the grant. Motion was seconded by Burow. Motion carried 5-0.*

B. Board review of subcommittee-approved cost-share projects

Molinaro noted that he, Hoffman and Dearlove met on March 19th and April 4th to review and score proposed cost-share projects. Copies of the completed scoring sheets were distributed for review. The first project, reviewed on 3/19, was for a proposed rain garden at property located at N4524 Linda Street and owned by Tom and Colleen Staley. This project received a score of 10 and was recommended for 50% cost-share funding. The second project, reviewed on 4/4, was for a proposed shoreline stabilization effort using riprap at property located at N4146 Sleepy Hollow Road and owned by Jim and Susan Rank. This project received a score of 10 and was approved for 50% cost-share funding. The third project, also reviewed on 4/4, was for a proposed shoreline stabilization effort using riprap at property located at W9221 Ripley Road and owned by Bill and Rhonda Rohloff. This project received a score of 6 given the degree of erosion, and was not recommended for funding. It was then re-scored to include a buffer strip, which bumped the score up to 13. Molinaro explained that the subcommittee recommended 50% funding if riprap was installed in combination with a planted buffer.

Kapsner moved to approve 50% cost sharing for the Staley rain garden project, the Rank shoreline riprap project, and the Rohloff shoreline riprap project assuming it also includes a 20-ft buffer. Motion was seconded by Sabella. As a point of discussion, Sabella asked that the Rank should also be encouraged to do some plantings, but that a buffer would remain optional in terms of cost sharing. Motion carried 5-0.

VIII. Correspondence

Sabella said he received e-mail confirmation from the President of the Cambridge State Bank agreeing to pay the District interest on its checking account equal to the Wisconsin Investment Fund. He noted that if the Wisconsin Investment Fund rate drops below the bank's stated rate, the bank will not penalize the District but pay the higher rate. Sabella commended the bank for its willingness to offer such an attractive rate of interest.

IX. Adjournment

Kapsner moved for adjournment at 9:52 a.m., and was seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: May 12, 2007.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary

Date

Recorder: PDD