

**Lake Ripley Management District**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 12, 2007**

**I. Call to Order & Roll Call**

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

**II. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**III. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the April 21, 2007 meeting and had no additions or corrections. *Kapsner moved to approve the minutes as written, and was seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 5-0.*

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Sabella presented an Actual to Budget/Budget Remaining report for the three months ended March 31, 2007. The report detailed budgeted and actual revenues and expenses for the first quarter of the current fiscal year. Kapsner received clarification from Sabella that the "budget remaining" column (E) was based on first-quarter, rather than annual, budgeted amounts.

Sabella also presented a treasurer's report for the one-month period ending April 30, 2007. Receipts for the period were \$396.00 in interest earned on investments. Disbursements were \$8,162.74, mainly consisting of insurance, legal fees, staff wages and board member stipends. A transaction listing was distributed that documented each disbursement. As of April 30, there were cash balances of \$65,115.00 in the general checking account and \$97,492.00 in the investment account. Other items reported were \$74.00 in the Priority Lake Project account and \$27,537.00 in the Nonpoint Source (cost sharing) account. Deposits in transit on the reporting date included \$2,221.00 from Dag Kaashagen, and \$1,273.00 in real estate taxes.

*Jacobsen-Brown 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. The following is a summary of his report:

- New signage was installed at the marina and public boat landing thanks to Town of Oakland. Boat-launch revenues were used to pay for the signs.
- A request was made to the Town to consider using boat-launch revenues to replace the old pier at the landing, and to hire seasonal laborers who could help install and remove the buoys. Board members concurred that that would be a good use of the boat-launch funds.
- Several cost-share projects were in various stages of planning and implementation. A more detailed status report would be provided at the next meeting.
- Preparations are now underway to begin summer weed-harvesting operations, including continued work on the shore conveyor engine. The planned launch date is the middle to end of June.
- On May 9<sup>th</sup>, U.W.-Madison graduate students presented their recommendations on how community-based social marketing (CBSM) could be used to promote rain gardens and zero-phosphorus lawn fertilizers. Copies of the student reports were distributed along with guidance on how to implement a CBSM program on Lake Ripley. One of the students will serve as a summer intern to assist with implementation. Molinaro said he wanted to try to host a picnic and boat ride for the students sometime this summer to thank them for all their work.
- The Lake District Preserve prairie burn was postponed to the fall due to unfavorable site conditions. Proposals are currently in the works for path improvements to address seasonally wet areas, and to selectively remove trees in the small woodlot next to the Oakland Conservation Club as a woodland-management tool. These proposals will be brought to the Board when completed.

- DNR is preparing to issue a permit approval for limited dredging within the inlet channel. Verbal assurances were received that permit conditions are in place to prevent adverse impacts to the lake and wetland areas. The permit conditions will be the subject of LRMD review and comment before they are formalized.
- Dennis McCarthy was thanked for his continued leadership conducting water quality monitoring.
- Dearlove concluded his report by briefly summarizing the steps he intended to take to update existing management plans, including data gathering and analysis. Among his goals was to get the Board involved with strategic planning and long-term visioning exercises. The Board was also invited to observe the extraction of a sediment core from Lake Ripley (date to be determined).

## **VI. Old Business**

### **A. Wisconsin Lakes Convention report**

Molinaro summarized the three-day conference. He said he felt it was a big success, with over 600 people from around the state in attendance. LRMD representatives besides himself included Dearlove, Jacobsen-Brown, Burow and Hoffman. He reported that most of his and Dearlove's fees were waived as a result of volunteering at the conference. Jacobsen-Brown said she was particularly impressed with the Cambridge H.S. students' presentation on their atrazine study.

### **B. Acceptance of Kaashagen payment for easement-enforcement costs**

Molinaro informed the Board that the Kaashagen check for \$2,300 had cleared and was deposited. Since the money was largely intended to cover Dearlove's time with enforcing the easement, Molinaro felt the money should go toward offsetting Dearlove's salary in the budget. He said that much of the \$20,000 in grant money should also go towards Dearlove's salary since it too was intended to cover his time. He said this was all new money outside of the tax levy. Sabella confirmed that the Kaashagen money was being recorded as "other income" and would go into the LRMD's general fund. Sabella added that it would effectively increase the amount of carryover for the next budget cycle.

Kapsner asked what was going to happen with the remainder of the restoration now that the property has changed hands. He felt the LRMD might want to finish the work if it was going to be in the best interest of the lake. Dearlove agreed to sit down with the new owner to gauge his interest in not only finishing the required work, but also extending the restoration to other parts of the property—which he seemed willing to consider.

In other Old Business, Dearlove provided information pertaining to land that was for sale west of Burr Ln. The Board had previously requested information about the parcel and the seller's asking price.

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Approve closing of Priority Lake Project accounts**

Sabella requested approval from the Board to close the Priority Lake Project and Nonpoint Source accounts, which were now dormant grant accounts. Current balances were \$74.00 for the Priority Lake Project account, and \$27,537.00 for the Nonpoint Source account. He said the purpose of closing the accounts was to transfer the balances under the umbrella of the LRMD.

*Sabella moved to close the Priority Lake Project and Nonpoint Source accounts at Cambridge State Bank, and to transfer the balances to the LRMD's general operating account. Motion was seconded by Kapsner. Motion carried 5-0.*

### **B. Subcommittee-approved cost-share projects**

Molinaro indicated that he and Hoffman met with Dearlove on May 9<sup>th</sup> to review and score four proposed cost-share projects. Scoring sheets were completed for each proposed project and copies were distributed to the Board. Two of the projects received the minimum 8 points to be recommended for 50% cost sharing. Dearlove said that project costs would vary depending on a number of factors yet to be determined. He estimated that the two projects combined would cost several thousand dollars, or half that amount in terms of LRMD cost sharing. The proposed projects and their scores were as follows:

Jerald & Janet Gunnelson shoreline buffer at N4116 Milwaukee Ln. (score = 13)

Timothy Lorang rain gardens at W9594 Grace Ln. (score = 10)

Thomas Lorden shoreline beach-erosion protection (score = 0; sand beach protection not a program priority)

Eleanor Wood shoreline flood-damage repair (score = 0; landowner maintenance responsibility)

*Kapsner moved to approve 50% cost-sharing assistance for the Gunnelson shoreline buffer and the Lorang rain garden projects. Motion was seconded by Jacobsen-Brown. Motion carried 5-0.*

**C. Schedule Lake Ripley informational tour for DNR and Town Board officials**

Molinaro proposed scheduling another informational boat tour of Lake Ripley for the benefit of DNR and Town Board officials. Kapsner suggested conducting the tour on a weekend to give the Town Board members an idea of how busy the lake can get. He also volunteered to make an announcement about the tour at the next Town Board meeting. The Board decided to tentatively schedule the tour for 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 16. Dearlove agreed to get invitations out to the Town Board members and our DNR representatives.

**III. Correspondence**

Dearlove noted that the lawn phosphorus resolution (#2007-2) adopted at the last meeting was mailed on 5/10/07. Copies of the resolution and cover letters were sent to Rep. Jorgensen, Sen. Fitzgerald and Gov. Doyle. Molinaro added that there was a bi-partisan legislative bill in the works that would ban the sale and use of phosphorus lawn fertilizers statewide. He said that a number of communities outside of Jefferson County were also submitting resolutions favoring this type of legislative action.

**IX. Closed Session [as per Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering employee compensation for weed-harvesting staff]**

*Jacobsen-Brown moved to go into closed session at 10:15 a.m. for the purpose of considering employee compensation. Motion was seconded by Kapsner. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.*

**X. Return to Open Session**

*Kapsner moved to return to Open Session at 10:35 a.m. Motion was seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried 5-0.*

*Jacobsen-Brown moved to increase the wage cap for weed-harvesting operators from the current \$14/hour to \$15/hour; to keep the starting rate at \$10/hour with \$1/hour increases for returning employees; and to pay a \$15/hour rate for major mechanical work on the equipment that is beyond routine maintenance. Motion was seconded by Molinaro. Motion carried 4-1.*

**IX. Adjournment**

*Jacobsen-Brown moved for adjournment at 10:40 a.m., and was seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned. Next meeting: June 16, 2007.*

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary

Date

Recorder: PDD