

**Lake Ripley Management District  
Meeting Minutes  
May 17, 2003**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting of the Lake Ripley Management District (LRMD) was called to order by Chairman John Molinaro at 9:00 a.m. Secretary Derek Hoffman took roll call. Board members present were Pam Rogers, Joanne Knilans, Derek Hoffman, Dennis McCarthy and John Molinaro. Mike Sabella and Paul Jorstad were absent. Others present included Paul Dearlove (Priority Lake Project Manager), Gary Zibell (Cambridge Cable TV 12), and one member of the public.

**II. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**III. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The board reviewed the minutes of the last meeting and had no additions or corrections. Pam Rogers moved to accept the minutes as written. Derek Hoffman seconded. Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Mike Sabella had prepared financial statements to be distributed in his absence. Financial statements for the one-month period ending April 30, 2003 were available for both the LRMD and Lake Ripley Priority Lake Project (LRPLP) accounts. Highlights are provided below.

LRMD: Receipts for the period were \$992.76, consisting of \$62.72 in interest income, a \$25.00 litter cleanup donation, and a \$905.04 property tax lottery credit. Disbursements for the period were \$2,412.70, consisting mainly of Board stipends, insurance and WAL conference expenses. There was an \$88,233.23 cash balance as of April 30, 2003.

LRPLP: Receipts for the period were \$15,057.29, consisting of \$15,050.00 in cost sharing revenue, and \$7.29 in interest income. Disbursements for the period were \$4,897.41, consisting mainly of payroll, rent and other office expenses. As of April 30, 2003, there was \$200.00 in petty cash, \$4,366.53 in general checking, and \$19,759.35 in the NPS account.

**V. Lake Manager's Report**

Paul Dearlove presented the Lake Manager's Report, detailing activities of the Priority Lake Project since the last meeting. Highlights from the report are presented below.

- Conducted a community-wide Earth Day litter cleanup with 23 sponsors and over 40 volunteers participating. A summary article was published in the Cambridge News, and thank you letters were sent to our sponsors. Next cleanup tentatively set for July 19, 2003.
- Applied for a \$50,000 EPA grant to: 1) install and monitor eight rain gardens, 2) produce a video documentary and website, and 3) conduct rain garden tours and training workshops. Grant awards will be announced early this summer.
- Initiated collection of boat census data for our Lake Ripley carrying capacity study. More volunteers are needed to help perform regular watercraft counts throughout the summer.
- Reviewed and provided comment on latest submission of final plat and restrictive covenants for Majestic Pines.
- Started making preparations for summer weed-harvesting operations.

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Construction of the Lake District Preserve's trail improvements is scheduled to begin next week.
- A lake/watershed tour for LRMD and Town Board members is being planned for this summer.
- Paul Garrison, DNR research scientist, was invited to give a presentation at our 7/19/03 meeting. Mr. Garrison will be talking about the importance of coarse woody debris in lakes as prime fishery habitat.
- The Oakland Town Board will be considering final plat approval of the Majestic Pines Subdivision next week.
- Derek Hoffman will be indoctrinated as our new 'DNR Self-Help Water Quality Monitor' this month.
- The Legislative Joint Finance Committee is currently proposing significant cuts to land and water conservation programs as part of their state budget fix. Threatened programs include the Stewardship Fund and DNR lakes grants.

**VI. Old Business**

*A. Carrying Capacity*

Molinaro indicated that he and other volunteers had started collecting boat census data as part of a Lake Ripley carrying capacity study. A final report is expected to be completed by this fall. Gary Zibell offered the use of his cable TV video camera if we needed it to record boat traffic during the study.

*B. Majestic Pines*

Dearlove and Molinaro plan to attend next Tuesday’s Oakland Town Board meeting in an advisory capacity for the final plat discussion. Molinaro said that a lot of time was already spent reviewing and commenting on the plat and proposed deed restrictions. He said that all comments and recommendations continue to be made strictly in the interest of protecting Lake Ripley. He explained that it was now up to the Town Board to decide which of our recommendations it is willing to accept.

*C. Jefferson County Lakes Enhancement Project*

As a member of the Jefferson County Lake Enhancement Steering Committee, Molinaro announced that two public hearings will be taking place later this month. The Committee is hosting the hearings to present its recommendations, and to gather public feedback regarding the future management needs of the county’s lakes. Informational brochures were then distributed. Times and locations of the hearings are as follows:

Thursday, May 29, 2003 (7:00 p.m.)  
School Administration Center  
201 Park Street, Fort Atkinson

Saturday, May 31, 2003 (9:00 a.m.)  
UW-Extension Building  
864 Collins Road, Jefferson

A final report will be issued later this summer, at which time the Committee plans to make presentations to various Jefferson County boards and committees. Hoffman asked if the county was prepared to implement the recommendations, especially those that involved changing shoreland zoning rules and permit-enforcement processes. Molinaro responded that the Committee would do everything it could to advance its proposals. He said that every recommendation will include information on possible implementers, associated costs and available funding mechanisms. Rogers expressed the importance of getting this information in front of the various county committees, especially with respect to each proposal estimated fiscal impact. The public was urged to attend to learn more about the specific proposals and provide feedback.

**VII. New Business**

*A. Annual Meeting*

Molinaro announced that the Annual Meeting will take place on Saturday, August 16, 2003, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall. It was noted that Derek Hoffman will be up for re-election at that time. Hoffman submitted a written statement indicating that he would be running for another term. Molinaro then reviewed the public noticing requirements.

In other New Business, Molinaro indicated that Pat Long submitted a project proposal to finish his ditch-repair work this year. He explained that some cost-share funds may need to be borrowed from next year to cover the cost of the project.

**VIII. Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received since the last meeting:

- A 2003 project proposal and cost estimate was received from Pat Long dated 5/9/03.
- The final plat and restrictive covenants for Majestic Pines were received from Attorney Mike Rumpf on 5/9/03.
- An email was received from the Metheralls indicating they were no longer interested in pursuing a conservation easement on their property due to financial considerations.

**IX. Adjournment**

Pam Rogers moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m. Derek Hoffman seconded. Motion passed by a 5-0 vote. Meeting adjourned. Next meeting: June 21, 2003 (9:00 a.m. @ Oakland Town Hall).

Respectfully Submitted,

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Derek Hoffman, Secretary

Date

Recorder: PDD