

Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2006

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

The Board of Directors of the Lake Ripley Management District (LRMD) met at the Oakland Town Hall at N4450 County Highway A in Cambridge on July 15, 2006. Chairman Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Secretary Hoffman took roll. Board members present included Dennis McCarthy, Mike Sabella, John Molinaro, Gene Kapsner and Derek Hoffman. Mike Burow and Jane Jacobsen-Brown were absent. Others present included Paul Dearlove (LRMD Project Manager) and Gary Zibell (Cambridge Cable TV 12).

II. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

III. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Board reviewed the minutes of the 6/17/06 meeting and had no additions or corrections. *Sabella moved to approve the minutes as written. Motion seconded by McCarthy with no subsequent discussion. Motion carried 5-0.*

IV. Treasurer's Report

Sabella distributed and reviewed the financial reports for the LRMD and Lake Ripley Priority Lake Project (LRPLP) for the second quarter ended June 30, 2006. The reports consisted of balance sheets, statements of operations, actual-to-budget/budget remaining reports, and itemized disbursements by account number. A summary is provided below.

LRMD: Total assets were \$193,115.27, consisting of \$66,719.61 in general checking, \$95,000.00 in investments, and a \$31,395.66 receivable from the LRPLP. With reference to the investment account, Sabella noted that a six-month certificate of deposit paying 5.0% interest was purchased from Citizens State Bank in Cambridge. The CD is due to mature on 12/22/06. Total revenues for the period were \$2,887.36, consisting mainly of property taxes (\$719.16) and interest income (\$2,159.20). Total operating expenses were \$2,641.57, consisting mainly of workman's compensation insurance (\$921.00), dues and conferences (\$645.00), and board member stipends (\$950.00). Other expenses included \$215.00 for slow-no-wake signage. There was an excess of revenues over disbursements of \$30.79. Actual expenses were then compared with the total budget for each spending category for the six months ended June 30th.

LRPLP: Total assets were \$34,256.75, consisting of \$200.00 in petty cash, \$19,567.05 in general checking, and \$14,489.70 in the nonpoint source (landowner cost-sharing) account. Liabilities consisted of \$31,395.66 payable to the LRPLP. Total revenues for the period were \$6,820.11, mostly representing cost-share reimbursements from DNR. \$13,238.30 in cost-sharing expenses were incurred. Total operating expenses were \$14,137.61, consisting of salaries and office expenses.

Kapsner moved to accept the treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Hoffman without discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

V. Project Manager's Report

Dearlove distributed copies of his report and office phone logs. He then summarized his activities since the last meeting. He began by reviewing the status of cost-share projects. Phase II shoreline repair work was completed at the Gaulke and Reay project sites. In addition, permit applications were filed for the Barbeau shoreline riprap and Brown treefall projects. An amended cost-share agreement was signed and deed recorded for the Golf Side Association shoreline repair, and the project was put out for bid. He said he was now filing for DNR reimbursement for several completed cost-share projects.

At the Lake District Preserve, Dearlove said that large colonies of sweet clover were starting to gain a foothold along the west property edge. He indicated he was working with Midwest Prairies to have those areas mowed to control their spread. He also informed the Board that building permits were obtained for the observation deck. Construction is anticipated to be completed within the next couple weeks, and well before the August 12th tour date. He then requested and received input from the Board regarding how it wanted to pursue sponsorships to help defray building costs.

On the weed-harvesting front, it was noted that Bill Ratzberg was hired and trained as an assistant operator. Dearlove reported that all the harvesting equipment had been moved back to the lake. He said a recent milfoil survey had revealed a lack of sufficient weed growth in the approved target areas to warrant immediate cutting.

Outreach activities since the last meeting included the production and distribution of the Ripples newsletter. E-mail addresses are now being compiled for the purpose of sending out electronic news briefs. An article was also published in the Lake Ripley Edition of the Cambridge News titled "What is Lake Ripley Worth to You?" Other actions included working with Captain Bruce Gondert on a form letter that could be sent to boating violators. It was agreed that the letter would be issued at Gondert's discretion, and only when Lake Watch documentation is sufficient to warrant contact.

Dearlove asked if McCarthy had anything to report on his water quality and zebra mussel monitoring activities. McCarthy reported that no zebra mussels had been found. He said that he and Donna Sefton from DNR were going to conduct more intensive monitoring again next Friday. In terms of water clarity, he reported that his last Secchi reading was 4.0 feet, and that the lake was currently experiencing an algae bloom. McCarthy also indicated that Jack and Marlene Hussy were receptive to the idea of having a staff gage installed on their seawall for the purpose of monitoring lake levels.

VI. Old Business

Hoffman asked Dearlove about the status of the osprey nesting platform. Dearlove replied that the structure was still in position, but had not yet attracted a nesting pair of osprey. He added that it was not uncommon for a few years to pass before that happens, if it happens at all. Kapsner pointed out that Steve Bentz recently sold the property on which the platform is located. He recommended that Dearlove get in contact with the new property owners to bring them up to speed. Dearlove agreed to make contact, and said the platform could always be moved into the conservation easement if it became necessary. Sabella offered to get Dearlove the contact information for the new owners.

VII. New Business

A. 2007 Proposed Budget

Molinaro distributed copies of the proposed budget for 2007. He explained that he, Sabella and Dearlove met on July 3rd to go over the numbers and estimate budgeting needs. He asked the Board to review the budget prior to the budget hearing.

B. Lake Ripley and Lake District Preserve Tour Dates

Molinaro announced that a tour of the Preserve will be held 10:30-11:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 12th, immediately following the budget hearing. An informational boat tour of Lake Ripley was then set for Monday, August 28th, starting at 6:30 p.m. The tour will be noticed as a meeting. Boats will be furnished by Molinaro, McCarthy and Jacobsen-Brown.

VIII. Correspondence

- A copy of the DNR permit application to dredge the inlet channel was received from Ripley Waters Association on 6/22/06. Dearlove sent an e-mail to Mike Halsted at DNR that same day to confirm receipt of the materials. The e-mail included a list of questions that came up during his review of the application.
- A letter dated 6/19/06 was sent to Jared Hoffmann of Capstone Building & Construction, accepting his bid to build the Lake District Preserve observation deck. Hoffmann signed off on the letter which outlined the agreed upon terms and conditions of the contract.

IX. Closed Session (as per Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(c) to consider employee performance and compensation)

Sabella moved to enter into closed session. Motion was seconded by McCarthy without discussion. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll-call vote.

X. Return to Open Session

Sabella moved to return to open session. Motion was seconded by Hoffman without discussion. Motion carried 5-0. Sabella moved that annual compensation for the project manager for 2007 be increased 5.0% as a cost-of-living and merit adjustment, and that the increase be reflected in the proposed 2007 budget. Motion was seconded by McCarthy without discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

XI. Adjournment

Hoffman moved for adjournment at approximately 10:45 a.m. Motion was seconded by Sabella without further discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Derek Hoffman, Secretary
Recorder: PDD

Date