

**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2014**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on April 26, 2014. Chairman Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present at roll call: Walt Christensen, Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Dennis McCarthy, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Gene Kapsner, Mike Sabella and John Molinaro. Also in attendance: Lisa Griffin (LRMD Interim Lake Manager); Ed Grunden, Kent Brown, Thomas and Sharon Erickson, and Leah Garrison of Cambridge Cable TV 98.

II. Public Comment

Ed Grunden issued a statement concerning the weed harvesting grant and was in favor of new equipment including the harvester, trailer, and on-shore conveyor and resale of current equipment. Ed spoke of concerns for the older dump truck.

III. Approve Minutes of Last Meeting

Draft minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the January 18, 2014 meeting minutes without additions or corrections. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 7-0.*

IV. Treasurer's Report

Sabella reviewed year-end (Jan.-Dec., 2013) financial reports that were distributed at the January 18, 2014 meeting. The report consisted of the fourth-quarter and yearend adjusted financial statements ending December 31, 2013. Documentation included Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Equity (balance sheet); Actual-to-Budget and Budget-Remaining reports; General Ledger; and Transaction Listing. The yearend adjusted balance sheet showed \$121,586.70 in total current assets, consisting of \$200.00 in petty cash and the remainder in the bank checking account. There were no current liabilities. Equity consisted of \$90,962.52 in restricted funds, a non-restricted fund balance of \$38,091.49, and \$7,467.31 in revenue under expenses. *Jacobsen-Brown moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into the record. Motioned seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 7-0.*

Sabella distributed and reviewed financial statements for the first quarter, or three month period ending March 31, 2014. The reports consisted of the following: Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Equity (Income Tax Basis); Statement of Revenues and Expenses; Actual-to-Budget/Budget Remaining report; General Ledger; and Transaction Listing. Total current assets of \$183,081.85 consisted of \$200.00 in petty cash and the remainder as cash in the bank checking account. Total current liabilities of \$3,118.64 consisted of accrued pension and accrued state and federal payroll taxes. Adjusted total equity of \$179,963.21 included \$90,962.52 in restricted funds, a general fund balance of \$30,624.18, and revenue over expenses of \$58,376.51. Sabella reviewed the revenue and expense details presented on the operating statements, and showed how these figures compared to the total annual budget. Sabella noted first check of the year written. Sabella also mentioned new line item for Ripley Rewards. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 7-0.*

V. Lake Manager's Report

Griffin summarized Lake District activities since the last meeting. Handouts included the lake manager report, phone logs, and other supporting materials. Highlights included the following:

- Paul Dearlove took a position with the Clean Lakes Alliance. Lisa Griffin is filling in as interim Program Manager
- Requests of applications have been submitted to WDNR, UWEX-Stevens Point, UW-Madison Nelson Institute, UW-Whitewater, Jefferson County, Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Departments, Rock River Coalition, AIS Coordinators listserv, River Networks, and Wisconsin Lakes.
- Inquiries from Don Barrette and Mike Milio.
- Current Applications submitted 11

- A donation made by Friends of Cedar Shores in the memory of John Wachter was received and letters of thanks submitted to friends group and family of John. Donation of \$185.00.
- Check received from Vanguard Charitable-The Jacobsen-Brown Fund was received and letters of thanks submitted to Kent Brown and Jane Jacobsen-Brown. Donation of \$4000.00
- Willerup designs and permit applications completed and approved from DNR contractor RFP's
- 02/17 Landowner Incentive Committee meeting held
- Ripley Rewards Booklet developed and mailed to landowners 03/07/2014
- Current *Ripley Rewards* business partner interest: Fiskars (rain barrels, marketing), LJ Reas Environmental Consulting Corporation (lakeshore gardens, plants, on-site consulting), Awesome Landscaping (treefalls), SetterTech LLC (advisory committee), Good Oak Ecological Services (undecided), Owens Graphics, LLC. (branding), Jeffrey Marketing (marketing), Unilock of Wisconsin (permeable pavers), Creative Landscapes (installation of permeable pavers)
 - 16 cards back, 15 households participating, 34 actions planned
- 2 E-bulletins sent on rain barrels and native trees
- DNR grant application to support/expand inlet stream evaluation (\$3,000) was approved
- DNR grant application to repeat Clean Boats-Clean Waters educational effort (\$2,025) was approved
- Wisconsin Waterways Commission Grant to replace all week harvesting equipment
 - Updated plant management plant with 2011 macrophyte inventory added
- Preserve: kiosk sign; wood duck boxes completed; trail seeding; woody invasive control; spring burn pending. Students from UW-Whitewater sampled seeds for viability and to possibly conduct a seed bank analysis.
- Burn conducted by Midwest Prairies on 04/17/2014.
- Greg Farnum (Commissioner, Lake Sinissippi Improvement District) brochure on water quality in Dodge County and mentioned former talk of forming a lakes group in Jefferson County

Molinaro asked that the issue of RFP's be added to next meeting agenda for discussion on Lake Manager/landowner responsibilities and best practices.

VI. Old Business

A. Discussion and possible action on Resolution #2014-1 seeking a \$3,000 Wisconsin DNR grant to support an inlet stream evaluation.

Grant was awarded by the DNR with prepayment option of \$1,840.30. Signatures needed for acceptance of grant and updated W-9 form. Total Phosphorus testing equipment gathered from SLOH. *Christensen moved to accept the grant and request prepayment award. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 7-0.*

B. Discussion and possible action on Resolution #2014-2 seeking a \$2,025 Wisconsin DNR grant for aquatic invasive species.

Update given stating prepayment check was received, awaiting training dates, and looking for volunteers.

C. Discussion and possible action on Ripley Rewards Program.

Update of total pledges, promotional avenues, and continuance of planning for July 5th event.

VII. New Business

A. Discussion and possible action on Resolution #2014-3 seeking a 50% cost share Wisconsin Waterway Commission grant for replacement of weed harvester and conveyor

Griffin distributed a summary sheet of cost associated with potential equipment needed. Discussion included what pieces of equipment were going to be included, prices, and any additional options that may be purchased. It was decided to request new harvester, trailer, and shore conveyor. A letter of credit may be requested to satisfy requirements of grant and purchase agreement with Aquarius. Molinaro asked that the annual meeting agenda has a motion to borrow money if needed for the purchase of equipment. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to accept the resolution requesting 50% cost share grant for weed harvesting equipment. Motion was seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried 7-0.*

B. Discussion and possible action Lake Manager Application

Handling of Lake Manager Applications was addressed. An initial group of 5 will review applications received by deadline and grade them. The top 5/6 graded applications will then move on to be interviewed. The group includes John Molinaro, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Kent Brown, and possible input from Paul Dearlove, Patricia Cicero, and Jay Settersen. The latter three will be asked if available and to provide scientific expertise in evaluating candidates. A question of a stipend for the committee was asked by Sabella, but no stipend will be issued to the review committee. It was mentioned a closed session will be needed for next meeting.

