

**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2011**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on May 21, 2011. Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present: Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, John Molinaro, Gene Kapsner, Dennis McCarthy, Walt Christensen and Mike Sabella. Jane Jacobsen-Brown was absent. Paul Dearlove (Lake Manager), Rick Kutz, Shirley Teske, Lane Albrecht, Jeanne Scherer (LRMD Intern), and Cambridge Cable TV 98 were also present.

II. Public Comment

There were no public comments concerning issues not already on the agenda.

III. Approve Minutes of Last Meeting

Draft minutes from the 04-16-11 meeting were previously distributed for Board review. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the minutes without additions or corrections. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 6-0.*

IV. Treasurer's Report

Sabella distributed and reviewed copies of the Treasurer's Report for the one-month period ending April 30, 2011. Receipts for the period amounted to \$310.82, consisting of \$70.82 in interest earned and \$240.00 in native plant sale orders. Disbursements totaled \$7,999.64, and were individually described in an attached Transaction Listing. Disbursements mostly consisted of staff payroll, harvesting equipment repairs, insurance, Lake District Preserve planning, and general office expenses. Asset balances at month's end included \$200.00 in petty cash and \$166,311.00 in the checking account. Also reported was a 5/2 bank deposit of \$1,593.14 from real estate taxes.

Gomez-Ibanez moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried 6-0.

V. Lake Manager's Report

• **Landowner cost-share projects**

Erosion matting and 61,000 square feet of woodland understory seeding were completed at the Hoard-Curtis Scout Camp. The last phase of the shoreland restoration will wrap up in June with the aquatic plantings. This will be followed by the filing of a final report and final reimbursement request to close out the DNR grant. In addition, shoreline permit approvals were received for the Mar-Pohl and Lindelof projects. Contractor bids were obtained for the Lindelof project which is set to begin in June.

• **Lake District Preserve improvements**

The mowing of firebreaks and a prescribed burn were successfully completed between County Road A and the large woodlot. Boundary signs were installed along the north property line. Additional work included the spot spraying of the 4.5-acre prairie west of County Rd. A, and the completion of a woodland inventory for purposes of developing a 'request for proposals' for woody invasive species control.

• **Weed harvesting and on-lake activities**

Conveyor belting and a winch were replaced on the weed elevator. All the equipment has been prepared for an early June launch date. Harvesting will commence as warranted based on weather and weed-growth conditions. Final preparations were made for next month's aquatic plant survey, which will take place during the month of June. Other on-lake activities included general coordination of the buoy-installation process. Dearlove said he intended to obtain GPS coordinates of the exact buoy locations sometime this summer. Kapsner noted that Gill's Marina replaced many of the rusted buoy chains and some of the heavier anchors with lighter cinder blocks.

• **Community outreach**

A lakes talk was given to the Cambridge Elementary School students as part of their water unit. Other community events included the coordination of native plant orders through Agrecol. Plant purchases by the Lake District went to supplement existing plantings in the Town Hall rain garden and along the Town shoreline (Beach Ln.).

Continued Facebook/website postings, 'Welcome Wagon' mailings, and E-bulletins were used to keep the public informed of our ongoing activities.

- **Summer internship report**

Jeanne Scherer introduced herself and was welcomed as the Lake District's newest summer intern. She was one of several applicants for the position. Dearlove noted that Scherer had already started working and was proving to be a huge help with various projects.

VI. Old Business

- **Review contractor bids and approve cost-share allocation for the Lindelof shoreline-improvement project located at W9376 Ripley Rd.**

Four contractor bids were distributed for Board review: Bedrock Hay & Landscaping (\$2,275.00); A&N Lenox Dirt Works, Inc. (\$3,374.73); Hill's Landscaping (\$3,920.00); and CHILS (\$4,850.00). Dearlove noted that the landowner wanted to hire A&N Dirt Works for this first of two project phases. The Board discussed possible reasons behind the wide variance in costs, and whether the lowest bid could be considered a responsible estimate. The consensus was that the low bid should be considered valid. It was confirmed that the landowner could still go with A&N Lenox Dirt Works, but would only receive cost sharing up to an amount based on the lowest qualified bid approved by the Board. Furthermore, cost-share reimbursement would ultimately depend on meeting all technical requirements, and would be calculated based on the true cost of the work as documented by third-party invoices.

Kapsner moved to approve a Lake District cost-share amount equal to 50% of the low bid, or \$1,137.50. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 6-0.

VII. New Business

Molinaro announced that the DNR was likely to extend the registration deadline for grandfathering large piers to April 1, 2012. Sabella questioned the number of pier registrations that had been approved to date. Dearlove replied that he helped a number of homeowner groups with their applications, and was so far not aware of any denials.

Kapsner announced that the Town of Oakland would be maintaining a police presence on the lake again this summer, regardless of what happens with the DNR funding. In addition, he mentioned that phosphorus loadings to the lake could be impacted as a result of land-use changes at the Long Sod Farms and ditch-clearing work at the Kornstedt Farm.

VIII. Correspondence

Dearlove reported receiving occasional public inquiries about water quality and swimming conditions at the Ripley Park beach. He said it was timely that Tim Anderson from the Jefferson County Health Department would be speaking to the issue of beach monitoring at next month's meeting. Molinaro added that water quality testing for bacteria was also supposed to start taking place at Shore Place Beach this summer.

Dearlove also reported sending correspondence to DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp and the legislative Joint Finance Committee in support of upholding the recently-adopted phosphorus rules. Copies of the correspondence were distributed. Dearlove said that while he felt he represented the Board's interests in this matter, he was reluctant to engage in any future lobbying prior to a formal Board position being taken.

All other pertinent correspondence was reviewed and discussed during the course of the meeting.

IX. Adjournment

Kapsner moved for adjournment at 9.55 a.m. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 6-0.

Next meeting: June 18, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary

Date

Recorder: PDD