

**Lake Ripley Management District  
Meeting Minutes  
June 16, 2012**

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on June 16, 2012. Chairman Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present: Gene Kapsner, Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Walt Christensen, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Mike Sabella, John Molinaro and Dennis McCarthy. Also in attendance: Paul Dearlove (Lake Manager), Kent Brown, Debbie and Rick Kutz, and Cambridge Cable TV 98.

**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 prior meeting were reviewed. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the 05-19-12 minutes without additions or corrections. Motion seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried 7-0.*

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Sabella distributed and reviewed copies of the financial report for the one-month period ending May 31, 2012. Receipts for the period amounted to \$2,182.57. They consisted of \$77.54 in interest income, and a \$2,105.03 DNR grant advance to complete a fishery assessment. Disbursements totaled \$7,964.61, and generally consisted of payroll, workers compensation insurance, and operational expenses. A transaction listing was provided showing individual disbursements. Asset balances included \$200.00 in petty cash and \$177,472.00 in the demand checking account. *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**

Dearlove summarized Lake District activities since the last meeting. The weed-harvesting equipment was brought down to the lake on 5/30, with operations commencing shortly thereafter. Several loads of weeds were removed and training of the new operators continues. The harvesting oversight committee is scheduled to meet after the board meeting to discuss equipment and operational matters. Other on-lake activities included seining and electrofishing at 10 survey sites as part of a nongame fishery assessment. Additional sites will be sampled in the next few weeks.

A \$4,765 DNR grant application was proposed to help fund a UW-Whitewater/LRMD research partnership at the Preserve. Although the funding request did not get approved, the intention is to move forward with a scaled-down version of the baseline plant-inventory proposal. Also at the Preserve, the new prairie areas were mowed and follow-up spot spraying will occur shortly.

Work has started on the next Ripples newsletter. The newsletter will not be finalized for distribution until after a proposed budget is developed. Also discussed were communications with DNR regarding recent manipulation of the outlet dam. The matter is still under investigation. Another enforcement-related issue concerned a prior cost-share project that had been partially torn out by the new landowner. Since the contract is still in effect, legal assistance will be sought to try to recover the District's financial investments in this project.

Upcoming initiatives include the annual boat/pier census, and an inventory of current shoreline conditions. In addition, Dearlove noted that a shoreland restoration would be taking place at the Executive Residence this summer for which the District was invited to assist and advise.

**VI. Old Business**

• **Review bids and approve cost sharing for phase 2 of Mar-Pohl shoreline restoration at W9172 Ripley Rd.**  
Dearlove read an email to the Board that was received from the landowner. In the email, Mr. Mar-Pohl explained that he was still tracking down bids, and had requested additional time to get those in order. It was noted that the six-month project extension previously approved by the board expired on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Although the riprap phase was completed last winter, cost-share reimbursement had not yet been

requested. It was clarified that the original cost-share approval was based on both project phases being completed. ***Kapsner moved to postpone a cost-share decision for the second phase of the project until the next board meeting. Motion seconded by Jacobsen-Brown. In discussion, Sabella advocated for giving the landowner a specified number of days to submit a proposal and complete the work. Following discussion, the original motion was carried 7-0.*** Dearlove was directed to contact Mr. Mar-Pohl and ask that he attend the next meeting.

**VII. New Business**

**A. Proposal to set \$1,000 credit limit for Lake District credit card purchases**

Due to the increased frequency of online purchases and bill paying, Molinaro requested that the credit limit be increased from \$500 to \$1,000. ***Kapsner moved to increase the credit limit to \$1,000. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 7-0.***

**B. Schedule budget and audit committee meetings**

It was reported that the citizen audit committee was scheduled to meet on Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall. The meeting will be noticed and open to the public. Committee members include Chuck Seeley, Debbie Kutz and George Kledzik, with Sabella serving as advisor. In preparation for 2013, Kapsner recommended that a search begin for a new committee member given that Seeley was moving. In addition, Molinaro said he wanted to get a quote for the cost of a professional audit for possible budgeting purposes.

It was further reported that the budget committee was scheduled to meet on Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall. This meeting will also be noticed and open to the public. Committee members include Molinaro and Sabella, with Dearlove serving in an advisory capacity.

In other new business, Molinaro raised the issue of aquatic plant growth and general lake conditions. He pointed to the very warm weather, clear water, and low lake levels as the main factors that were driving increased aquatic plant production. He said it was important for the public to understand that not all lake plants are the same, and that some varieties are important for maintaining a healthy lake.

**VIII. Correspondence/Announcements**

- A Lake Ripley E-Bulletin was distributed on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The bulletin provided brief updates on plant and algae growth, weed harvesting, a recent fish kill, and recommendations for individual action.
- A proposed site-grading plan was received via email from Jill Kessenich, acting on behalf of Patricia Wahl, on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The preliminary plan is part of a pending cost-share proposal involving two rain gardens.
- An email notice was received from Wisconsin DNR on June 8<sup>th</sup> regarding the denial of a \$4,765 grant request. The grant proposal was intended to help fund baseline flora and fauna inventories at the Preserve in partnership with UW-Whitewater.
- An email was received from Susan Josheff of Wisconsin DNR on June 9<sup>th</sup> related to issues associated with the manipulation of the outlet dam.

**IX. Adjournment**

***Jacobsen-Brown moved for adjournment at 9:40 a.m. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried 7-0.***

Next meeting: July 21, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

-----  
Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary

Date

Recorder: PDD