

**Lake Ripley Management District  
Meeting Minutes  
August 21, 2010**

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

The Lake Ripley Management District Board met at the Oakland Town Hall on August 21, 2010. Chairman Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Board members present: Gene Kapsner, Walt Christensen, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, John Molinaro, Jane Jacobsen-Brown and Mike Sabella. Dennis McCarthy was absent. Also present: Kent Brown, Debra Kutz, Rick Kutz, Dave DeGidio, Jimmy DeGidio, Joel Winn, Bob Hill, Shirley Teske, James Daly, 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 07-17-10 meeting were previously distributed for Board review. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the minutes without additions or corrections. Motion seconded by Jacobsen-Brown. Motion carried 6-0.*

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Sabella distributed and reviewed his report for the one-month period ending July 31, 2010. Receipts for the period totaled \$58.28, representing interest earned on the checking account. Total disbursements were \$14,842.98, and a transaction listing was reviewed. Sabella noted that an "Account Description" column was added to the listing. Asset balances at month's end consisted of \$200.00 in petty cash and \$126,767.89 in the checking account. Other items of note included a \$1,012.50 DNR grant reimbursement received in August for the dissolved oxygen probe, and a \$37.00 rebate for Wisconsin personal property exempt computer aid. *Jacobsen-Brown moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 6-0.*

**V. Lake Manager's Report**

Molinaro explained that Dearlove was not present due to an excused absence. Copies of his lake manager report, phone logs, and other supporting materials were distributed for review. The report included the following: status of ongoing cost-share projects; summary of internship and weed-harvesting activities; recommended actions for marking Preserve boundaries prior to restoration seeding; and recent public outreach efforts (i.e., Ripples newsletter mailing, newspaper articles, and E-bulletins). Special thanks were extended to Bill Ratzburg and Ted Teske (harvester operators), James Daly (summer intern), Dennis McCarthy (water quality monitoring), and the audit committee consisting of Debra Kutz, Chuck Seeley and George Kledzik, and advised by Mike Sabella. Also thanked were those individuals who submitted comments to DNR regarding the inlet-dredging proposal.

Jacobsen-Brown asked that Dearlove be recognized in the public record for his leadership in securing a \$62,682 state grant for the Hoard-Curtis Scout Camp shore restoration.

Sabella provided a brief budget analysis relating to weed harvesting given the extraordinary amount of cutting needed this summer. A total of \$4,200 was budgeted for the year, and over \$5,300 had been expended through August 13. This analysis was further broken down into operator wages and equipment repairs.

In reaction to a phone log entry, Sabella raised concerns about a contractor who was reported doing work near the shore without a permit. Bob Hill, the contractor, was present at the meeting. Mr. Hill provided an explanation as to the nature and location of the project, and apologized for his admitted confusion over relevant permitting requirements. In regards to another phone log entry, Sabella questioned when the DNR was going to formally set a hearing date for the proposed inlet-dredging work. After board members expressed their frustrations regarding the confusion this was causing, Molinaro pledged to continue trying to get a firm answer from DNR.

**VI. Old Business**

**A. Discussion and possible action on possible cost-sharing assistance for the Hoard-Curtis Scout Camp lakeshore restoration**

Project summary sheets were distributed as part of Dearlove's board packets. The summary information included the approved scope of work, activities completed through county cost sharing, project bidding results, and available revenues on hand to pay for the remaining work. Molinaro recognized Joel Winn as the Camp's representative. Mr. Winn thanked the Lake District for all its help in securing grant money and directing project activities to date. He said the Camp's board had passed a resolution to accept the grant and its obligations, and had obtained the requisite contractor bids for each project component. He reported that Rodney Zuerner of CHILS had submitted the lowest bid for the riprap (\$69,000), and that Zuerner was selected to do the work after a references check. The riprap installation could begin right away and would take about four weeks to complete. Winn said the Camp board also obtained a bank loan to be able to cover all project costs while waiting for grant reimbursements. He was now looking for approval to move forward and possible cost-sharing from the Lake District. He said he was not prepared to provide a specific figure that would be needed at this time. ***Kapsner moved to accept the CHILS bid and allow the riprap work to commence. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. As a point of discussion, Jacobsen-Brown expressed her appreciation for all the work the Camp has done to date to improve the health of the property. Motion carried 6-0.*** Action on approving any cost sharing was temporarily postponed.

**B. Presentation and discussion of proposed 2011 budget**

Copies of the proposed 2011 budget were previously distributed to the Board. Sabella noted that the budget committee met on July 16. Minutes from this meeting were distributed for review. He then explained each budget item with respect to planned project initiatives and activities for next year. If approved at the Annual Meeting, it would result in about a \$6,000 increase in anticipated expenditures over the preceding year. The required tax levy would then increase by \$3,686, or 3.3%, with a \$6,650 carry over from the prior year. Molinaro noted that the proposed budget would be presented at the September 4 budget hearing and voted on at the Annual Meeting.

**VII. New Business**

**A. Approve appointment of Debra Kutz to citizen audit committee**

Molinaro requested Board approval for his appointment of Debra Kutz to the audit committee. ***Kapsner moved to accept the appointment. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 6-0.***

**VIII. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence of note that had not already been discussed during the course of the meeting.

**IX. Closed Session [as per Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(g) to confer with legal counsel about possible litigation pertaining to enforcement of contract with L. Aschbrenner to maintain a District-funded grass waterway; and as per Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(c) to consider staff employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data]**

***Gomez-Ibanez moved to enter into closed session for the above-referenced purposes. Motion seconded by Christensen. Motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.***

**X. Return to Open Session**

***Molinaro moved to return to open session. Motion seconded by Jacobsen-Brown. Motion carried 6-0.*** Upon returning to open session, Molinaro reported on the following approved actions: 1) Attorney Chris Rogers will be asked to write a non-confrontational letter to Larry Aschbrenner indicating that the agreement is a legally-binding and enforceable contract, and that he will be expected to honor it; 2) a \$500 check to James Daly was approved as a gesture of appreciation for his summer-internship assistance; and 3) a 3.0% salary increase was approved for the Lake Manager position for 2011.

**XI. Adjournment**

***Jacobsen-Brown moved for adjournment at 10:30 a.m. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 6-0.*** Next meeting: September 4 budget hearing (8:00 a.m.) and Annual Meeting (9:00 a.m.) at the Oakland Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary

Date

Recorder: PDD