

**Lake Ripley Management District
Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2012**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Lake Ripley Management District Board of Directors met at the Oakland Town Hall on November 17, 2012. Chairman Molinaro called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Board members present: Dennis McCarthy, Georgia Gomez-Ibanez, Mike Sabella and John Molinaro. Gene Kapsner, Jane Jacobsen-Brown and Walt Christensen were absent. Also in attendance: Paul Dearlove (LRMD Lake Manager); Rick and Debra Kutz, and Leah Garrison of 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 last meeting were reviewed. *Gomez-Ibanez moved to approve the 10-20-12 meeting minutes without additions or corrections. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 4-0.*

IV. Treasurer's Report

Sabella presented the treasurer's report for the one-month period ending October 31, 2012. Total receipts for the period were \$68.77 in interest income, while disbursements amounted to \$8,112.74. A transaction listing showing individual disbursements was provided. Asset balances at the end of the month consisted of \$200.00 in petty cash and \$158,236 in the checking account. Also noted was the receipt of a \$2,250.00 grant advance from the Wisconsin DNR to fund additional fishery research. *McCarthy moved to accept the treasurer's report and enter it into the record. Motion seconded by Gomez-Ibanez. Motion carried 4-0.*

• **Discussion and possible action on transfer from unrestricted fund balance**

Authority was given to the Board at the 2011 Annual Meeting to use contingency or unrestricted general funds—if needed and as opposed to a levy increase—to help cover 2012 harvesting expenses. Sabella explained that although harvesting expenses did ultimately exceed the budget, it was his conclusion that a transfer would not be necessary due to the availability of unspent funds within other budget categories. He then provided an analysis projecting where those funds would be available. While a transfer did not currently appear warranted, Molinaro felt that Sabella still retained authority to do so if his estimated projections proved to be off the mark come December 31st.

V. Lake Manager's Report

Dearlove summarized his activities since last month's meeting. Handouts included his lake manager report, phone logs, and other related materials. Highlights included the following:

- Ripples newsletter was written and sent to the printer
- work is still wrapping up on the fishery-assessment report, with the next phase of the research to begin shortly
- the Hussey driveway-removal and rain garden project will proceed without cost-share assistance
- Meetings continue with Willerup Bible Camp to develop a scope of work and funding plan
- restoration work is proceeding at the Kolb lakeshore property, with additional planting to be completed this spring
- preparations have started for this winter's forestry mowing at the Preserve
- a Lake Ripley presentation was given at the Town and Country RC&D meeting
- Attended part of the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) conference in Madison
- work planning has begun for 2013, with several initiatives proposed for Board consideration

VI. Old Business

There was no old business.

VII. New Business

A. Discussion and possible action on incentivizing rain garden installations and/or other qualifying practices through a sweepstakes pilot

Dearlove proposed piloting a cash-prize sweepstakes competition to enhance landowner interest and participation rates. Funds for prize categories would be raised through local donations, and perhaps supplemented with monies budgeted for "special programs." The idea would be to further promote the adoption of specific practices (i.e. rain gardens or no-till cropping), but without the contractual hurdles and higher costs of going through the cost-share process. After discussion, Molinaro asked Dearlove to continue fleshing out the idea so it could be brought back for further consideration.

B. Discussion and possible action on sharing the expense and use of a multimedia projector with the Town of Oakland

Molinaro said the Town of Oakland recently purchased a multimedia projector for \$698.00, and that the District was invited to share in its cost and ownership. Sabella voiced his support for this type of inter-governmental cooperation, suggesting that money could be taken out of the capital reserve account. *Molinaro moved that the District cover 50% of the purchase price and work out a co-ownership arrangement with the Town. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 4-0.*

C. Schedule future board meetings

2013 Board meetings were confirmed for the following dates: **1/19, 3/16, 4/20, 5/18, 6/15 and 7/20**. There would not be a meeting in December (2012) or February. Additional meeting dates for 2013 will be scheduled at a later time. All meetings will start at 9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall.

VIII. Correspondence/Announcements

A letter dated 10/24/12 was sent to Mike Rumpf approving his request to place a beehive in the Preserve. The approval was granted on the condition that the District would not be held responsible for its maintenance and security, and that the immediate neighbors not object to the plan. It was later determined that a neighbor was allergic to bees which prevented further consideration.

IX. Adjournment

McCarthy moved for adjournment at 10:05 a.m. Motion seconded by Sabella. Motion carried 4-0.
Next meeting: January 19, 2013 (9:00 a.m. at the Oakland Town Hall).

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Jacobsen-Brown, Secretary

Date

Recorder: PDD