

ROCK LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

www.rocklake.org

Minutes for September 20, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Via ZOOM

1) Call to Order – 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Mike Nesemann, Nathan Pyles, John Crump, John Thode, Jim Colegrove, Susan Trier, Bruce Ward, Jim Kerler, Candace Diaz

Guests: Marisa Ulman, Patricia Cicero, Tom Krejcie, Wendy Catalani-Davies, Keith Clark, Wendy Proeber

2) Good News Minute – Meeting participants shared recent good news.

3) Motion to accept the agenda - Made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

4) Secretary's Report – Motion to approve August 30, 2020 special board meeting minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. Mike will provide Stan with the draft of the minutes from the August 2021 annual meeting for posting on the website. They will be up for approval by the full membership at the 2022 annual meeting.

5) Treasurer's Report. Jim had previously mailed out the most recent monthly report. A motion to approve it was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. He noted that one of the 4 five thousand dollar CDs is coming up and asked the Board if we wanted to continue the current regimen of having them automatically roll over. WE currently have about \$20,000 in cash and \$20,000 in CDs. After some discussion, it was decided to continue having the CDs automatically roll over, despite the anemic rates.

6) Public Comment(s)/Correspondence –

A. Guests. No comments.

B. Mail. Jim mails was only the most recent [Lake Tides](#) and several bank receipts.

C. Email. Jim and Susan. Nothing to report.

D. Facebook. Susan. Nothing to report.

7) President's Report.

A). Introduction of new members. John C introduced Candace Diaz and Jim Kerler, the two new board members elected to 3 year terms at the August annual meeting. They both gave some personal background and outlined why they wished to serve, and what areas were of particular interest to them. John. C. expressed the entire Board's delight with the addition of these two talented, committed people.

B). Board vacancy. The Board needed to elect a replacement for Stan Smoniewski's, who resigned. Mike reported that the nominating committee had received no additional nominations and it recommended Tom Krejcie to fill Stan's place. Tom gave a brief summary of his qualifications and interests and was elected by a unanimous vote. John C again voiced the Board's appreciation of his willingness to serve.

C). Overall Strategy for 2021-2022. John C. outlined the agenda & strategy for presentations at the Board meetings. Committee staffing was discussed, see attachment for latest Committee Chairs.

1. September and ongoing: Miljala ditchl grant plans/ongoing work.
2. October: Preliminary Committee Goals: Agriculture, Miljala Channel, Habitat, Recreation/Watercraft, AIS.
3. November: Preliminary Committee Goals: Residential City Streets, Town Streets, Sampling, Membership, Public Outreach/Education.
4. January: Finalize Committee Plans for year: Intensive Retreat-like Board Meeting(s).
5. February – July: Implement Plans.

8. Other Reports.

A) County Representatives. Marisa reported on the sampling program, which is winding down. She is watching the lake for signs of the [fall turnover](#) at which time she will do phosphorous sampling. Jim C asked if the County had a system in place to receive RLIA funds for the Jefferson County Soil Builders. Patricia will get back to him on this.

B) JRLC. Susan. They lacked a quorum last month so no meeting.

9. Old Business.

A) General liability insurance policy. Mike had been working through his insurance agent, but the underwriters she uses all balked. So, with Susan's help, he contacted an agent referred to during the [Wisconsin Lakes and Rivers Webinar](#), see attached PDF presentation notes on insurance. She was confident she could find a general policy for us – most likely in the \$500 range. Additional events, e.g. garlic-mustard pull, boat tours of lake, etc would require riders. We would need to advise the underwriter in advance of the specifics and they would issue the policy, she didn't feel it would be particularly expensive, perhaps < \$50.

He told her we might be named the grantees of a DNR grant to address the Miljala Channel situation. This she felt would require a separate D&O policy. Were someone injured tripping over material accumulated during channel repair, that would fall under a general liability policy (and ideally under the contractor's policy). But even if years later, someone blamed poor planning and execution of the project for a drop in their property values, that would require a D&O policy since the action would be filed against the Board for their professional decisions in the project. Obviously it would be more complicated with contractors and engineers sharing the liability, but the bottom line is being the grantee would seem to mandate a D&O policy.

She felt a combo D&O and general liability policy would be about \$1,000 annually. Mike also explained the need for exploring "tail coverage" so that the protection continued after the project, and presumably the policy, were finished. Susan raised the very good point of holding off getting the liability policy till spring, since we don't have any projects in winter. Mike will continue working with the new agent.

B) Dashboard. Nathan asked the new committee chairs to contact him for specific instructions re the information needed to update the dashboard.

10. New Business.

A) Letter of support for the Jefferson Co. Soil Builders application for a Department of Agriculture grant.

John C., as President, signed the letter Nathan wrote – copies of which had been circulated to the Board before the meeting. After a discussion of who the signatories should be, a motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously for John C to sign it on behalf of the RLIA Board of Directors, as President of the RLIA. The deadline for the grant submission is 9/27.

B) Miljala Tributary Restoration Project (DNR Surface Water Grant). Susan Trier has been leading a subcommittee working on the Miljala Tributary Restoration Project, members include John C, John T., Keith Clark, Steve Oostdik, Larry Clark, and Wes Dawson. Please see the excellent summary and graphics (attached) John C sent out prior to the meeting, which lay out the history and proposed remedies. The subcommittee, with assistance from Patricia Cicero and input Steve Gaffield, the engineer who worked on the original 2014 plan (who subsequently moved on to another firm), submitted a proposed plan for the restoration that he estimated would cost about \$187,000 to complete. This was used by Susan T, on behalf of the RLIA, as an estimate of the amount of money requested in a preliminary application for a DNR grant which she submitted by the 1 September deadline, with the final grant proposal due on 11/1. However, per John C's attached summary, the subcommittee felt that completing all the required steps, particularly getting signed binding letters of agreement from all the concerned landowners as well as guaranteeing the 25% matching grant dollars, was not possible in the time allowed. Initially the plan was to present a motion to the Board to approve up to \$5,000 for the engineer to complete a modified plan, using a simpler and cheaper 2 stage stabilization of the Ditch. A spirited and detailed discussion ensued, during which besides funding and letters of agreement, additional concerns were raised, e.g., the bylaw requirement to get at least two bids on hiring an engineer and the apparent need for D&O insurance as well as a general liability policy. John T thus made a motion authorizing the subcommittee to continue working on the Miljala Tributary Restoration project and grant including looking at other potential grantees (e.g., the Town or County) with an eye to applying for it in 2022, regardless as to who is designated the grantee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

11) Adjourn – A motion was made to adjourn, which was seconded and unanimously passed at 8:25 p.m.

Next Meeting (either via Zoom or at City Hall): Monday, October 18, 2021, 6:30 PM.