

RCRCA

AREA II / RCRCA

May 4, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting – BWSR Conference Room, Marshall, MN

AREA II Members Present: Dennis Potter, Norman Holmen, John Maatz, Joe Drietz, Rick Anderson, Lori Gunnink, Luke Johnson, and Glen Kack.

RCRCA Members Present: Dennis Potter, Greg Roiger, Norman Holmen, Clark Lingbeek, Joe Drietz, John Boulton, Rick Anderson, Mark Meulebroeck, Lori Gunnink, Paul Posthuma, Luke Johnson, Arvin Pater and Glen Kack.

Others Present: Kerry Netzke – Executive Director, Joy Bruns – RCRCA Office Manager, Trudy Hastad – LQP/YB WD, and John Boulton – YMRWD.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00AM by RCRCA Chairman Holmen.

ADOPT AGENDA. Area II Chairman Johnson asked for any additions to the agenda. Hearing none, motion was made by Meulebroeck, seconded by Potter, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

AMC – Commissioner Anderson reported that the subgroup for the Drainage Work Group met to discuss the DNR proposing to require permits for ditch cleanouts. AMC is working to introduce language in opposition to this proposal.

Area V MASWCD – Supervisors Lingbeek and Roiger reported that the Outdoor News had negative views on the CWF/Legacy funds which passed on a 130 to 0 vote. To administer the Buffer Law, SWCDs are to receive \$22 million from CWF; MASWCD wants the financial support to be General Funds. The rebuild of Hwy 60 requires 150,000 CY of gravel to be excavated next to the Red Rock Rural Water wells. Representative Rod Hamilton has been asked to get involved as over \$4 million has been invested in groundwater protection for these same wells.

MN RIVER CONGRESS – Supervisor Lingbeek reported that the MN River Congress will meet May 18th in Redwood Falls at the Redwood Area Community Center. Lingbeek will be speaking on behalf of GBERBA. Netzke has been asked to provide opening remarks to the Congress, and in exchange, will receive free booth rental for the networking fair.

YMRWD – Boulton reported many tiling permit applications were requested. Updates were given on the following projects: Nordland 6 Road Retention; existing Marble 13 re-evaluation/inlet modification; and interest in 1’-2’ of bounce on Steep Bank Lake. Netzke added that she will attend the YMRWD meeting on May 8 to update the Board on the Nordland 6 changes.

LQP-YB – Hastad reported that the WRAPS monitoring is completed. The Professional Judgement Group (PJG) will assess the results and determine priorities for the WRAPS. They were 10 samples short for a determination that would delist an impaired water. The District is funding the collection and testing of these samples in an attempt to delist the impairment before the WRAPS is completed. Mitch Enderson has been busy with education at the schools, rain barrel projects, and watershed-wide education. The MAWD Summer Tour will be in June. MAWD Executive Director, Ray Bohn, is retiring and will continue to lobby for MAWD until June 2018. Reorganization of the MAWD Association, due to the retirement, will be acted upon at the June Directors meeting. Several ditch improvements/repairs are ongoing; ditch redeterminations are slowing them down. There were 47 tile permits approved at the last meeting.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of April 6, 2017 Monthly Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the April 2017 Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of April 6, 2017 Monthly Board Meeting. Motion by Potter, seconded by Anderson, to approve the April 2017 Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – April 2017. Netzke reviewed the April 2017 financials with the Board. Revenue received: \$975.00 County Appropriation, \$29.48 Interest Income, \$1,464.32 Contract Services Income, \$103.82 Mileage & Expense Reimbursement from Area II, and \$750.00 Soil Health Workshop donations. Expenses were routine with the exception of Capital Outlay for sampling probes (\$3,744.46) which will be reimbursed by the SWAG grant. Motion by Posthuma, seconded by Drietz, to approve the April 2017 Treasurer’s Report and the bills as paid. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue from the following sources was recorded:

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|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Canoe Rental | \$ -0- | Contract Services Income | \$ 1,464.32 |
| Interest-Cash Sweep Acct/CD | \$ -0- | Interest-Checking Acct | \$ 7.46 |
| Grant Funds | \$ -0- | Miscellaneous Income | \$ 875.84 |
| Appropriations | \$ 975.00 | | |

Paid bills are summarized below:

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|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Operations/Occupancy | \$ 1,321.08 | Travel Expenses | \$ 259.93 |
| Promotion/Education | \$ 1,794.26 | Contract Services-Moldestad | \$ 692.17 |
| Monitoring/Evaluation | \$ 331.95 | Personnel | \$ 8,700.83 |
| Project Costs | \$ -0- | Contract Services-Area II | \$ 4,395.93 |
| Capital Outlay (Grant Related) | \$ 3,744.46 | Other Services & Charges | \$ 2.11 |

Approved bills for payment are summarized below:

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|-----------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|--------|
| Contract Services – Area II | \$ -0- | Operations/Occupancy | \$ -0- |
| Monitoring/Evaluation | \$ -0- | Capital Outlay (Grant Related) | \$ -0- |
| Project Costs | \$ -0- | Office Supplies | \$ -0- |
| Personnel | \$ -0- | Other Services & Charges | \$ -0- |
| Contract Services – BM | \$ -0- | Promotional Items-New Grant | \$ -0- |

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – April 2017. Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board. Motion by Potter, seconded by Anderson, to approve the April 2017 Treasurer’s Report and for payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA - APPROVE NEW COST SHARE APPLICATIONS:

REDWOOD WATERSHED:

RW CWP 06-2015

Don Girard
EST Cost: \$11,500.00

Lyon – Lynd 10

Streambank Stabilization
EST Cost Share: \$8,050.00 (70%)

Lyon SWCD funding \$575.00 – 5% of project

RW CWP 05-2015

Stan Rohlik
EST Cost: \$48,494.00

Redwood – Vesta 24

Water and Sediment Control Basins (4)
EST Cost Share: \$33,945.80 (70%)

Redwood SWCD funding \$2,424.70 – 5% of project

Netzke presented two cost share contract applications: 1) Lyon – Lynd 10 Streambank Stabilization, and 2) Redwood – Vesta 24 Water and Sediment Control Basins. The Lyon SWCD and Redwood SWCD will provide 5% additional funding to reach 75% cost share available to the landowners. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Gunnink, to approve both cost share contracts. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA CONTRACTS FOR AMENDMENT: None

RCRCA CONTRACTS FOR PAYMENT: None

AREA II – APPROVE NEW COST SHARE APPLICATIONS:

Netzke presented two new cost share contract applications: 1) Redwood – Gales 26 Grade Stabilizations, and 2) Redwood – Charlestown 34 Grade Stabilization Structure. Netzke added that Charlestown 34 will require a Corps of Engineers permit, and if other projects can be completed before that permit is received, those projects will be given preference for the funding. Motion by Gunnick, seconded by Maatz, to approve both cost share contracts. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II CONTRACT AMENDMENT: None

AREA II CONTRACTS FOR PAYMENT: None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

- Attended the Watershed Professionals Network meeting in Redwood Falls on April 20.
- Adopt-A-Highway cleanup by the St. Matthew Lutheran Youth Group is planned for May 3 (May 10 – rain date).

AREA II

• **Yellow Medicine One Watershed One Plan (1W1P):**

- The Plan Work Group met on April 17 to begin drafting a new MOA for Implementation.
- The Grant Amendment was signed on April 11 and funds received by Area II on April 17.
- RESPEC was informed to begin work.
- Performance Based Funding (*aka “Fund The Plan”*) is in HF70 (\$10.45M) and SF566 (\$9.75M). A non-state match must be identified and other Legacy funds may supplement projects funded by this legislation.

- Invoices were emailed to the 9 member counties on May 1 for the FY17 levies. Board members received a copy of their county’s invoice.
- Assuming the \$140,000/year State appropriation will be approved by the Legislature, the FY18 budget was developed.
- Annual Dam Inspections have been scheduled for Monday, May 22 (Sonstegaard-Telste, Hauschild-Thange, Porter Dam, Fales-VanHyfte, and Minett-Kranz) and Tuesday, May 23 (Wellner-Hageman, Schoper-Bush, and Walnut Grove/Lake Laura). May 25 is the rain date. Potter added that Laine Sletta from the Brown County Environmental Department would like Area II staff to instruct him how to take piezometer level readings on the downstream wells at Wellner-Hageman.

RCRCA

• **Surface Water Assessment Grant (SWAG):** The approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) from MPCA was received on May 1 which is the last item necessary before sampling can begin after May 1. Wahnoutka and Devin Ryan visited all the lake monitoring sites on April 26 to verify access locations.

• **Phase 1 WRAPS:**

- The “Local Work Group Kick-Off” meetings for the Cottonwood and Redwood watersheds were held April 19. These groups will meet jointly for future meetings. The next meeting is being scheduled for late May/early June.
- No public meetings are planned for the Redwood River; however the Cottonwood River is thinking about three meetings at parks along the river (Lamberton, Springfield, and New Ulm). *Concerns were expressed by the Board on park entrance fees to attend these meeting and feel fees should not be charged to encourage attendance.*
- The \$7,000 amendment to the \$70,000 grant is being routed through MPCA for approval to reimburse RCRCA for mileage, staff time, and testing expenses for the “Gap” monitoring.

• **Discovery Farms** – Wahnoutka has been visiting the site and working out the “bugs” with MN Dept. of Ag to get both sampling sites up and running smoothly.

• **Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network (WPLMN):** January – March quarterly invoice was prepared and payment received. The recent rains have spurred sampling activity.

• **MN River Congress – May 18 – Redwood Falls:** In exchange for my willingness to provide opening remarks and update the audience on RCRCA and Area II activities, we were offered a free booth at the Networking Fair (4:30 – 6:00 PM). Wahnoutka will plan to attend unless sampling calls him away.

2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE.

Area II –

FY’18/FY19 Administrative Services – hf398/sf348 – As of today, both the House and Senate omnibus bills have \$140,000/year for Area II’s administration (hf 888/sf723). Conferees have been named and include Representative Chris Swedzinski.

Area II Bonding – hf447/sf588 – \$1M bond proceeds to BWSR for a grant to Area II for flood hazard mitigation projects. No hearings have been scheduled. The Senate has approved the 2016 Bonding bill language. The House just released it bill, which does not include bonding for Area II.

LOP-YB WD Bonding – hf1230/sf761 – \$500,000 in bonding for the engineering of two floodwater control projects. No hearings have been scheduled. Funding is not included in either the Senate or House versions of the bill.

RCRCA –

Lake Redwood Reclamation and Enhancement Project – hf413/sf294 – \$7.825M in bonding. The project was included in the 2016 Bonding Bill which was not signed by Governor Dayton. That same bonding bill was approved by the Senate Capitol Investment Committee and awaits vote by the full Senate. The House version of the bonding bill does not include the funding, nor does the Governor’s recommendation. No conferees have yet been named (hf892 1E, sf210 1E).

AREA II ENGINEER’S REPORT.

Netzke reviewed the Engineer’s Report submitted by Duane Hansel.

FY’ 18 AREA II BUDGET (Draft). Netzke reviewed the draft budget with the board of directors. Several items need revision, including: 1) Professional Services actual cost, 2) formula issues in the Salaries COLA/merit column; 3) Investigation/Testing cost averaged over 3 years, 4) trade-in value of pickup, and 5) Capital Outlay amount. Netzke will adjust and review the budget and present the budget in June for approval.

RCRCA SUMMER CANOE TRIP UPDATE. Netzke reported that the canoe trips have been set: Redwood River on June 20, Cottonwood River on June 22. Postcards have been mailed to past participants that have requested to be reminded of the trips, postings on Facebook and the RCRCA website, and flyers were provided to the counties and SWCDs to be posted in their offices. Subway box lunches are planned for the meals. Bruns sent invites to the local newspapers.

RCRCA – JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT RENEWAL (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019). Netzke provided the Board with a draft RCRCA Joint Powers Agreement last month so the members could obtain authorization to sign the agreement. The partners that were already authorized signed the Agreement. The remainder will sign in June.

ADJOURNMENT. With no other business to address, Area II Chairman Johnson and RCRCA Chairman Holmen declared the meeting adjourned at 10:37 AM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

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| June 2017 Board Meeting | June 1, 2017 | Redwood Falls, MN – MN West Conf. Room – 9:00 AM |
| July 2017 Board Meeting | July 6, 2017 | Marshall, MN – BWSR Conference Room – 9:00 AM |
| August 2017 Board Meeting | August 3, 2017 | Redwood Falls, MN – MN West Conf. Room – 9:00 AM |