

AREA II

AREA II / RCRCA

February 1, 2024 – Boards of Directors Meeting
Redwood County Government Center – Redwood Falls, MN and Virtual

Roll Call voting on all motions.

AREA II Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Larry Anderson, John Maatz*, Gary Crowley, Lori Gunnink*, Luke Johnson, Rick Wakefield, and Glen Kack.

RCRCA Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Bill Eckstein, Larry Anderson, Clark Lingbeek*, Gary Crowley, Mark Meulebroeck, Lori Gunnink*, Paul Posthuma, Luke Johnson, Rick Wakefield, Ed Carter, and Glen Kack.

Others Present: Kerry Netzke – Executive Director, Joy Bruns – RCRCA Office Manager, Tom Andries – Lyon County Commissioner. **Virtual Attendance*

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by RCRCA Chairman Johnson and Area II Chairman Anderson. Introductions were made.

ADOPT AGENDA. There were no additions or corrections to the agenda. **RCRCA** - Motion by Crowley, seconded by Carter, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. **Area II** - Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Wakefield, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

AMC – Commissioner Johnson reported that the AMC Drainage Conference will be held in Alexandria on February 7-8. MN Rural Counties will meet on February 20 (5:00-7:00 PM) prior to the AMC Legislative Conference on February 21-22.

MASWCD – Supervisor Lingbeek reported that the next Area V meeting will be in Marshall on February 15. The state board met to address the approved resolutions on January 29. The annual convention location has been changed to Radisson Blu at the Mall of America.

Yellow Medicine River Watershed District – Commissioner Crowley reported on the water storage modeling project being undertaken by BWSR and funded by a LCCMR grant. The modeling is LIDAR based. The pilot project is fast paced as the grant funds need to be spent by June 30, 2024.

RCRCA MINUTES of January 2024 Board Meeting. Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II MINUTES of January 2024 Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Wakefield, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – January 2024. Financials were reviewed by the Board. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Posthuma, to file the January 2024 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and approve bill for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – January 2024. Financials were reviewed by the Board. Revenue received: \$6,762.36 Contract Services Income, \$43,906.80 Levy FY24, and \$2,311.91 Interest Income. Bill for approval: \$10,112.00 Bolton & Menk Inc. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Kack, to file the January 2024 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to approve the bill for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue as recorded:

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 4,568.97	Projects-Bonding	\$ 0.00
Interest Income	\$ 2,311.91	County Levy	\$ 43,906.80
State of MN-Administrative	\$ 0.00	SWCD Tech Assistance	\$ 0.00
Water Quality & Storage Grant	\$ 0.00	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 0.00

Paid bills are summarized below:

Administration	\$ 24,184.37	Office Supplies	\$ 0.00
Bonding Project Funds	\$ 0.00	Other Insurance	\$ 5,574.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 0.00	Postage	\$ 23.55
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,835.63	Professional Services	\$ 7,994.50
Directors’ Expense	\$ 0.00	Project Expenses Paid	\$ 66,980.77
Directors’ Insurance	\$ 0.00	Project Permit Fees	\$ 0.00
Employee Expense	\$ 38.54	Rent	\$ 837.00
Field Supplies	\$ 0.00	Telephone	\$ 10.08
Investigating & Testing	\$ 0.00	Utilities-Website	\$ 0.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 135.10	Vehicle Expense	\$ 21.25
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 13.98	Continuing Education	\$ 0.00

Bills for approval:

Professional Services	\$ 10,112.00
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AREA II & RCRCA CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORMS. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Forms were provided to the boards for signature. These forms are signed and filed annually. The forms have been emailed to the board members who joined virtually.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

• New Email Addresses for Legislators

All senators’ email addresses are now: *sen.firstname.lastname@mnsenate.gov*
 All representatives’ email addresses are: *rep.firstname.lastname@house.mn.gov*

AREA II

- **Yellow Medicine Watershed Pilot Water Storage Project** BWSR received a LCCMR grant to model pilot watersheds to identify and prioritize potential water storage sites. The first of six meetings was held January 22 to establish goals and prioritize subwatersheds or entire watershed. The group opted to analyze the entire watershed and to focus on the 10-yr storm with 48-hour retention time (YM 1W1P goal). The modeling work is LIDAR-based. The grant expires June 30, so the project will have a very quick timeline.
- **General Fund Construction Grants** Netzke met virtually with several BWSR staff to discuss this new funding and the procedure needed for MMB to release the \$1.5M of funding. This procedure and requirements will be addressed as a separate item on the Agenda.
- **eLINK Reporting** Annual grant reports are due in eLINK by February 1, and posted to websites by March 15. Area II reports consisted of: FY23 Admin grant, FY24 Admin grant, and the 3 Water Quality & Storage grants (Custer 10, Redwood Falls 8/9, and Alta Vista 27). Reports are due even if no expenditure is made.

RCRCA

- **Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P** The Steering Team and Policy Committee met in-person and virtually on January 17. The Steering Team was taxed with reviewing the PTMApp outputs for the Action/Implementation Tables and determining realistic budgets and number of practices that can be implemented in the 10-year time frame. Only the Steering Team will meet in February; the Policy Committee will meet on March 20 at the Springfield Area Community Center.
- **Redwood 1W1P** The MOA was reviewed by one county and two city attorneys; the revised document was provided to the MOA members on January 18. Members have been asked to approve/sign the MOA, and to appoint delegates and alternates. Once the MOA is executed, the planning grant agreement from BWSR can be executed. The first Policy Committee will be scheduled for late March/early April.
- **eLINK and Annual Reporting** Annual progress reports are due in eLINK and to MPCA by February 1, and posted to websites by March 15. RCRCA reports consisted of: WPLMN, Pell Creek CWF grant, Plum Creek CWF grant, Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P and Redwood River 1W1P.
- **Lake Redwood** The City approved the sign proofs designed by Country Enterprises (Lucan, MN) which Netzke showed to the board members. Signs will be posted at the lake and at the CDF as required. Netzke instructed attorney Frank Munshower to begin the deed transfer paperwork to transfer ownership of the CDF property to the City of Redwood Falls.

AREA II – ENGINEERS REPORT. *Springdale 24 Dam, Redwood County.* The Corps of Engineers has determined that they still have jurisdiction over this project. Responses to the Corps questions were submitted January 25th. *Holly 10 Small Dam, Murray County.* Like Springdale 24, the Corps has jurisdiction on this project. Responses to their questions were submitted January 24th. *CSAH 20 Road Retentions, Redwood County.* Field surveys have been started on two of the sites identified in this study for road retention projects. *Holly 20 Small Dam, Murray County.* American Engineering Testing has bored the site as a subcontractor to Soil Technologies, who is currently working on the permeability tests. *Rock Lake 2 Dam Repair, Lyon County.* We have completed the preliminary design for this project. Two alternatives have been considered, with prices between \$115,000 and \$150,000. We plan to meet with the landowner to discuss these options. *Custer 11 Dam Repair, Lyon County.* This is an existing

dam in Garvin Park. The site survey has been completed and processed. Preliminary design is in process. A meeting was held with the parks department to refine the design and discuss potential permitting needs. A cultural resources site review will be conducted by a hired contractor as the park has another area in need of investigation this spring. Further design will wait until those findings are disclosed. ***Lynd 31 Road Retention, Lyon County.*** This is a road retention project with much of the preliminary design completed. American Engineering Testing has bored the site as a subcontractor to Soil Technologies, who is currently working on the permeability tests. ***Marble 23 Dam (Traen), Lincoln County.*** This is a dam creation project that has a working preliminary design. American Engineering Testing has collected borings for Soil Technologies, Inc. Permeability tests are being conducted. ***Alta Vista 27 Road Retention, Lincoln County.*** This road retention project has the majority of preliminary design completed. American Engineering Testing has bored the site as a subcontractor to Soil Technologies. We await the geotechnical report before finalizing design. ***Storden 10 Dam Repair (Anderson), Cottonwood County.*** Field survey has been completed and a preliminary design started for this dam restoration project. This project would restore the earthen berm that has been compromised. ***Limestone 25 Dikes (Bruns), Lincoln County.*** This project consists of three proposed water and sediment control basins (WSCBs) and proposed tile network as an outlet for the basins. A preliminary design was completed to the point that an estimated cost can be determined and submitted to NRCS for EQIP funding consideration. ***Bid Lettings.*** Netzke added that three projects were sent out for bids to be received February 7: Fortier 8 Dam Repair and Florida 15 Dam Repair (Yellow Medicine County) and Island Lake 27 Dam Repair (Lyon County). The Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District has adopted a policy to pay 50% of the landowner's share for projects in their watershed. Both projects in Yellow Medicine County are in the LQP-YB jurisdiction.

RCRCA – EARNED SICK AND SAFE TIME (ESST) POLICY LANGUAGE. Netzke presented changes to the draft policy for the board to review and approve. Discussion followed. The board requested that a county attorney review the new language; Lyon County's attorney was offered. Supervisor Carter asked for clarification to the policy to ensure that ESST is not additional sick leave over and above the existing 96 hours provided. Netzke responded that the policy states that the first 48 hours of earned sick leave must be ESST; the earned hours over 48 will be regular sick leave. Two separate sick leave accounts will be managed. Motion by Carter, seconded by Eckstein, to table the Earned Sick and Safe Time Policy Language, and to be revised by the March meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II – EARNED SICK AND SAFE TIME (ESST) POLICY LANGUAGE. In similar fashion to the RCRCA discussion, motion by Crowley, seconded by Johnson, to table the Earned Sick and Safe Time Policy Language, and to be revised by the March meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II – BOLTON & MENK GIS PROPOSAL. Netzke provided the board with the estimated proposal of \$6,500 for the ArcGIS Web App Builder Deployment. ESRI licensing will also be required, approximately \$200 (Non-Profit Pricing annually for ArcGIS Professional Basic and ArcGIS Online Creator). Staff will provide most of the information needed for the database. Discussion followed. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Wakefield, to approve the Bolton & Menk GIS Proposal. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II – GENERAL FUND CONSTRUCTION GRANT PROCEDURES. Netzke updated the board regarding the procedures required to use the \$1.5 million for General Fund construction grants. Many of the issues have been resolved except for the grant agreement template to be used between BWSR and the LGU (not the landowner). The template provided was 44 pages in length. Netzke provide a 5-page contract that BWSR has utilized in the past. This procedure will create more work for Netzke as each project must have a grant agreement with an LGU (county, SWCD, watershed district or township) that will likely require attending the LGU meeting. If additional funds are needed for the project, an amendment to the agreement will need to be executed with that LGU. Netzke will continue to work with BWSR on a shorter version of the grant agreement that would be acceptable to MMB.

AREA II & RCRCA - REDWOOD RIVER 1W1P MOA. Netzke presented the boards with the MOA for the Redwood River 1W1P. The language has been reviewed by the Redwood County Attorney and the city attorneys of Marshall and Redwood Falls. **Area II** – Motion by Kack, seconded by Crowley, to approve the Redwood River 1W1P MOA and to authorize the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously. **RCRCA** – Motion by Carter, seconded by Meulebroeck, to approve the Redwood River 1W1P MOA and authorize the Chairman to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT.

With no other business, Chairman Johnson and Chairman Anderson adjourned the meeting at 10:11 AM. The next meeting will be on March 7, 2024 at Lyon County Government Center.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

March Board Meeting	Thursday, March 7, 2024	Lyon County Government Center, Marshall
April Board Meeting	Thursday, April 4, 2024	Redwood Co Govt. Center, Redwood Falls
May Board Meeting	Thursday, May 2, 2024	Lyon County Government Center, Marshall

Larry Anderson, Area II Chairman _____
Date