

RCRCA

AREA II / RCRCA

February 4, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Area II/RCRCA Marshall Office via Zoom

Board consensus for voice voting. If the vote is not unanimous, a roll call vote will be taken.

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, Mark Wellner, Larry Anderson, Clark Lingbeek, Glen Sorensen, Gary Crowley, Mark Meulebroeck, Lori Gunnink, Paul Posthuma, Luke Johnson, Larry Fenicle, Rick Wakefield, Ed Carter and Glen Kack.

Others Present: Kerry Netzke – Executive Director, Joy Bruns – RCRCA Office Manager, Tim Dritz – YMRWD.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM by RCRCA Chairman Johnson and Area II Chairman Maatz.

ADOPT AGENDA. Chairman Johnson asked for any additions to the Agenda. With no additions, a motion was made by Carter, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

MASWCD – Supervisor Lingbeek reported that two virtual meetings were held in January: one replaced the annual retreat to review and prioritize the resolutions for the legislative session, and the other was a regular MASWCD Board meeting. Area V meeting on 2/18/21 will be held virtually.

AMC – Commissioner Johnson reported that there will be a virtual legislative conference on 2/18/21. The general session will begin at 9 AM with policy committee meetings following in the afternoon.

YMRWD – Tim Dritz reported a virtual MAWD Legislative Day is being planned for 3/17/21.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of January 2021 Board Meeting. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the January 2021 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of January 2021 Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Crowley, to approve the January 2021 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – January 2021. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Revenue received: \$1,490.76 Contract Services Income, \$50,477.26 Grant Reimbursements, \$8.04 Miscellaneous Income, \$24,675.00 County Appropriations for 2021, and \$39.79 Interest Income. Bills for approval include: Houston Engineering, Inc. \$23,311.75* and Wenck Associates \$6,034.02. *Payment will not be mailed until reimbursement is received from the State of MN. Motion by Posthuma, seconded by Lingbeek, to approve the January 2021 Treasurer’s Report and to authorize payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue from the following sources was recorded:

Canoe/Kayak Rental	\$ 0.00	Contract Services Income	\$ 1,490.76
Interest-Cash Sweep/CD	\$ 36.37	Interest-Checking Acct	\$ 3.08
Grant Funds	\$ 50,477.26	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 8.04
Appropriations	\$ 24,675.00	Investment/MAGIC Interest	\$.34

Paid bills are summarized below:

Operations/Occupancy	\$ 1,217.11	Travel Expenses	\$ 41.44
Promotion/Education	\$ 0.00	Contract Services-Moldestad	\$ 327.90
Monitoring/Evaluation	\$ 0.00	Personnel	\$ 10,495.02

Project Costs	\$	0.00	Contract Services-Area II	\$	3,659.12
Capital Outlay (Grant Related)	\$	0.00	Other Services & Charges	\$	36,025.72
Capital Outlay Vehicle-Reserves	\$	0.00			

Bill for approval:

Professional Fees (Consultants) \$ 29,345.77

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – January 2021. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the January 2021 Treasurer’s Report and to authorize payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

DESIGNATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS GRANT SIGNATORY – AREA II. Per State policy, authorized signers of grant agreements are designated each year and documented in the minutes. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Crowley, to authorize Netzke to sign Area II grants for the organization. Motion carried unanimously.

DESIGNATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS GRANT SIGNATORY– RCRC. Per State policy, authorized signers of grant agreements are designated each year and documented in the minutes. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Crowley, to authorize Netzke to sign RCRC grants for the organization. Motion carried unanimously.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES – AREA II and RCRC. This annual disclosure is an organizational requirement. Forms will be mailed to those board members that have not sent their signed forms back to the office.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

AREA II

- **2021 Legislative Session** – Senator Dahms and Representative Torkelson have been requested to draft language for Area II’s Administrative Funds (\$140,000/year) and \$1 Million in bonding if a small bonding bill is proposed. Much of this will depend on the state’s economic forecast in February.
- **Springdale 19 (Redwood County)** – An informational meeting with landowners within the proposed taxing district is being planned for early February to share the cost of the project and how it would be reflected upon their taxes. If the majority of the landowners are in favor, a public hearing will be scheduled in early March to establish the Special Taxing District. If the district is not wanted, local landowners are still discussing providing the local match themselves.
- **eLINK Reporting** – Annual updates to the FY2020 and FY2021 Administration grants were entered as well as the update to the FY2019 Bonding appropriation.
- **City of Springfield** – The City intends on submitting a LCCMR proposal to study their flooding situation and develop options. A Zoom meeting is planned for the afternoon of January 28 to gather input for the proposal.

RCRC

- **CWF Plum Creek** – Netzke is drafting the Work Plan for the \$400,805 Clean Water Funds. A Zoom meeting was held with Dr. Joe Magner (U of M), Dr. Jeff Strock (SWROC), Redwood SWCD and DNR staff to discuss long-term monitoring of the watershed projects which can be paid for by the federal 319 funds. DNR is interested in the in-channel sediment contributions to Plum Creek.
- **Lake Redwood** – Bidding via Quest started on 1/22/2021 with bids to be opened in-person in Redwood Falls on February 11 at 2:00 PM at City Hall. Houston Engineering has received good questions from interested contractors. Netzke is working with some landowners where booster pumps may be located to inquire on their willingness for an easement; a meeting with the last landowner is being planned as it also involves the Hwy 19 directional boring. Negotiations are starting again with the owner of the laydown area and owner of the peninsulas within the lake.
- **Reporting** – Semi-Annual reports were prepared for the Cottonwood and Redwood WRAPS grants. A final report for the 2016-2020 WPLMN grant was also submitted after the final payment was made.

AREA II – ENGINEER’S REPORT.

Springdale 19 Dam, Redwood County. Redwood County is interested in pursuing a Special Taxing District to collect \$105,000 of local match for this project. An informational meeting with the watershed tax payers is being

scheduled for mid-February. If the taxing district is approved, we anticipate bidding the project in late spring. ***Del Clark Lake Sediment Ponds, Yellow Medicine County.*** Bids were opened on January 27 for this project. The low bidder was A & C Excavating at \$206,777.10, with Ground Works being the second low bidder at \$215,648.09. The engineer's estimate was \$221,953.88 with 10% contingency. We have recommended that the LQP-YB Watershed District award the contract to A & C Excavating. ***Holly 2 Small Dam, Murray County.*** Ryan West Excavating will be constructing this project next spring. 75% funding will be switched from Bonding to the new Plum Creek CWF grant and federal 319 grant. ***Springdale 21 Road Retention, Redwood County.*** Ryan West Excavating plans to complete this project this spring. FEMA funding expires June 6. ***Lac qui Parle River Flow Restoration, Yellow Medicine County.*** Now that we have a new flood model for the LQP River, we are starting to model the flows for the bypass channel. Modeling and data work will continue during this month. ***North Hero 32 Dam Repair, Redwood County.*** We have started design work on this project. The project is, like most SCS dams, in need of pipe replacement and minor grading work. ***Delhi 30 Dam Repair, Redwood County.*** Design work will continue on this project this winter. ***Lake Benton Outlet/Dam Repair, Lincoln County.*** The DNR has provided guidance for the final design of this dam. Plans were completed this week, allowing a Protected Waters Permit to be filed with the DNR. The County has allocated funds for the repair. It is hoped that construction can take place while the low water levels continue. ***Marble 23 Small Dam, Lincoln County.*** Design work is mostly completed for this small dam. The landowner's intent is to create a shallow wildlife pond and there appears to be enough storage so that there will be flow reduction benefits as well. We will be meeting with the landowner soon. ***Lynd 31 Road Retention, Lyon County.*** Design work is underway for this project near Lynd. The site is very promising from the standpoint of flood reduction, but because of the height and length of the needed pipe, it will be an expensive project. We will meet with the township to see if they want to proceed. ***Nordland 18 Grade Stabilization, Lyon County.*** Design work is progressing on this grade stabilization structure in an agriculture field. The intent of this project is to reduce flows and thus reduce erosion. This structure is in the same area where several other structures were completed last year. ***Lamberton 22 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.*** This proposed project is also in an agricultural field where erosion is occurring. We met with the landowner the last week of January and learned that he would like to try and incorporate other grade stabilization structures and tile into the EQIP project to make farming the parcel easier. We will be revising the design this month.

2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION. Netzke noted that Area II's Administration Funding needs to be renewed this year and included in the State's budget (\$140,000/year). She has also requested \$1 Million in bonding funds in the event that a small bonding bill is proposed.

LAKE REDWOOD RECLAMATION PROJECT UPDATE.

Engineering: Netzke reviewed Houston Engineering, Inc.'s (HEI) report/invoice for the December 13, 2020 to January 9, 2021 period with the Board.

Bid opening: Bids will be opened February 11, 2021 at Redwood Falls. Award of the project is tentatively scheduled for RCRCA's March 4, 2021 meeting, however due to the complexity of comparing bids and contractor work plans, award may be later in March and handled by the Executive Board.

Discussion followed with many good questions being asked regarding proposed dredging depths, complications of low/high water levels, and impact to the hydroelectric plant if water levels are too low.

ADJOURNMENT. RCRCA Chairman Johnson adjourned the meeting at 9:58 A.M.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

March Board Meeting	Thursday, March 4, 2021	via Zoom
April Board Meeting	Thursday, April 1, 2021	via Zoom
May Board Meeting	Thursday, May 6, 2021	via Zoom

Luke Johnson, RCRCA Chairman

Date