

AREA II

AREA II / RCRC A

November 3, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting
Painted Prairie Vineyard, Currie, MN / In-person

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

RCRCA Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Mark Wellner, Larry Anderson, Clark Lingbeek, Corey Sik, Glen Sorensen, Gary Crowley, Mark Meulebroeck, Luke Johnson, Brad Kruisselbrink, Rick Wakefield, Ed Carter, and Glen Kack.

Others Present: Kerry Netzke – Executive Director, Joy Bruns – RCRC A Office Manager, Dave Thiner and Dennis Welgraven – Murray County Commissioners, and Ian Cunningham – Pipestone SWCD Supervisor.

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 PM by RCRC A Chairman Johnson and Area II Chairman Maatz.

ADOPT AGENDA. Chairman Johnson asked for any additions to the Agenda. No additions were stated. **RCRCA** - Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Crowley, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. **Area II** - Motion by Crowley, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

MASWCD – Lingbeek announced the Area V meeting will be November 17 at St. Stephens Church in Marshall. MASWCD continues to work on local government aid and addressing staffing needs. The MASWCD Annual Convention is December 12-14 in Bloomington.

AMC – Chairman Johnson reported that the AMC Annual Conference in Bloomington is December 5-7. Any policy positions are due November 4, 2022.

APPROVE RCRC A MINUTES of October 2022 Board Meeting. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Carter, to approve the October 2022 Minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of October 2022 Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Crowley, to approve the October 2022 Minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRC A TREASURER’S REPORT – October 2022. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Meulebroeck, to file the October 2022 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – October 2022. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Revenue received: \$6,178.44 Contract Services Income, \$14,609.75 Technical Assistance, and \$142.29 Interest. Bills for approval: \$3,792.00 Bolton & Menk and \$19,654.00 Soil Technologies. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Veerkamp, to file the October 2022 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to authorize payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue as recorded:

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 6,178.44	Projects-Bonding	\$ 0.00
Interest Income	\$ 142.29	County Levy	\$ 0.00
State of MN-Administrative	\$ 0.00	SWCD Tech Assistance	\$ 14,609.75
Water Quality Storage Grant	\$ 0.00	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 0.00

Paid bills are summarized below:

Administration	\$ 16,452.19	Office Supplies	\$ 413.46
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Bonding Project Funds	\$ 0.00	Other Insurance	\$ 0.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 0.00	Postage	\$ 0.00
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,513.80	Professional Services	\$ 4,029.00
Directors' Expense	\$ 0.00	Project Expenses Paid	\$ 0.00
Directors' Insurance	\$ 0.00	Project Permit Fees	\$ 0.00
Employee Expense	\$ 36.36	Rent	\$ 837.00
Field Supplies	\$ 0.00	Telephone	\$ 58.13
Investigating & Testing	\$ 9,632.00	Utilities	\$ 0.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 732.15	Vehicle Expense	\$ 222.59
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 16.38	Continuing Education	\$ 0.00
Insurance	\$ 0.00		

Bills for approval:

Professional Services	\$ 3,792.00	Investigation/Testing	\$ 19,654.00
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RCRCA – COST SHARE APPLICATIONS/AMENDMENTS/CANCELLATIONS/PAYMENTS.

CONTRACT AMENDMENT:

CFW-2021-11	PLUM CREEK
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John Schmidt

Springdale 35 - Redwood

638 WSCBs

Amendment: Due to the unexpected death of the contractor, another contractor who was working in the vicinity agreed to complete the project for the amended price.

CONTRACTS FOR PAYMENT:

Netzke presented one cost share contract amendment for Plum Creek: Springdale 35 – Redwood; and four contracts for payment; one for the Plum Creek CWF Grant: Springdale 35 – Redwood 638 WSCBs; and three for the Pell Creek CWF Grant: North Hero 27 – Redwood 410 Grade Stabilization, Lamberton 31 – Redwood 410 Grade Stabilizations and 638 WSCBs, and North Hero 30 – Redwood 362 Diversion (owner signature pending). Motion by Kruisselbrink, seconded by Carter, to approve the amended contract, and payment of the Springdale 35, North Hero 27 and Lamberton 31 contracts, and payment of North Hero 30 upon receipt of the executed voucher. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

- **Office Cleaning** – DeSchepper arrived at the office at 8:00 on October 20 to find the office door wide open, lights on, and a broom/dustpan against the hallway wall. NRCS staff said they found it that way at 7:30 AM. Fortunately, nothing was found missing. There have been some previous grievances with the cleaners and this one is inexcusable. Staff have agreed to do cleaning themselves and no longer use the cleaning service.

AREA II

- **Routine Month** – Staff have been busy surveying in the nice weather conditions and continuing project designs. Soils Reports have been coming in, plans are being finalized, and then permit applications can be submitted.

RCRCA

- **Lake Redwood Dredging Update** – Work this month included:

- 1) **Dredging Complete:** With colder temperatures forecasted for the week of October 17, Brennan's crew continued 24-hour operation and completed dredging on Saturday, October 15. A total of 682,879 CY was removed. RCRCA was not charged for the additional 550 CY removed, only the approved 25,000 CY.
- 2) **Current Status:** The dredge was removed from the lake October 24. It was cleaned, dismantled, and left Redwood Falls on October 25. The first boat was on the lake within 3 hours after the dredge left. Brennan continues large-scale demobilization of all the equipment and cutting apart the pipeline into 50' lengths. Restoration of driveways/field approaches/roads takes place the week of Halloween. With warmer weather forecasted, bituminous will also be replaced.
- 3) **First Walleye:** The first walleye was caught by a youth on October 26. Photos were provided and posted to RCRCA's website and Facebook page.

4) **Retainage Release:** Houston Engineering recommended that the retainage for JF Brennan be dropped from 5% to 2.5% of the project total. The Executive Director approved this recommendation.

5) **Construction Stormwater Permit:**

MPCA emailed RCRCRA on October 19 stating that a complaint on the CDF was received which they promptly investigated. MPCA ordered corrective actions including silt fence on the SW corner of the CDF, driveway BMPs at the CDF, and vegetation restoration/mulching at the river's shoreline where the pipeline was removed. Additionally, MPCA feels that a Construction Storm Water Permit was necessary for Phase 2 (dredging and pipeline), therefore, Phase 2 is considered to be working without a permit which escalates this to an enforcement action with a possible monetary fine. Permits are required for work disturbing more than one acre of land; Phase 2 was under this amount, however, MPCA feels it falls into a "common plan of development" with Phase 1 activities. MPCA's "Maintaining Dredge Materials" document states that a permit is not required for our area of the state. Both dredging phases at Fountain Lake were not required to obtain a permit; JF Brennan has never been part of a Construction Storm Water Permit in their 20+ years of dredging in Minnesota.

Houston Engineering and Netzke have communicated at length with MPCA. Netzke agreed to the corrective actions as the Laydown Area easement agreement required vegetation restoration. These were completed October 26. However, applying for a new permit was placed on hold until more research could be done. Local project partners agreed that MPCA is overstepping their regulatory authority, especially in regard to managing the dredged materials inside the CDF. Senator Dahms and Representative Torkelson met with Netzke and Doering on October 28. The MPCA Commissioner was called at that meeting. She was somewhat familiar with the project and the complaint and would look into it further with MPCA staff. More information will hopefully be available by the board meeting on November 3.

6) **Post-Dredging Plans:** DNR Fisheries staff met Doering and Netzke at the lake on October 17. The City of Redwood Falls is entering into a cooperative agreement with DNR who will provide a 40' removable, wooden handicap-accessible fishing pier with 10' wooden gangway. The lake will be stocked with 28,000 walleye fry in Spring 2023 and the river should support the other species (pike, channel catfish, perch, crappie, and bullhead). Authorities will not place any no wake zones or speed limits as existing statutes should control recreational activity. Should trouble arise, then reconsideration of wake zones and speed limits will take place. The City would like to post a topographic map of the lake to make users aware of the shallower areas.

• **Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P** – Work this month included:

- 1) 10/3/22 – Orientation meeting (in-person) with the Steering Team consisting of Brown County & SWCD, Cottonwood County & SWCD, Lyon County & SWCD, Murray County & SWCD, Redwood County & SWCD, Area II and RCRCRA. State agencies also attended. Julie Westerlund of BWSR presented at this meeting to educate Redwood County/SWCD while refreshing the rest of changes to the program. Blue Earth County has opted out of the planning effort with less than 5% of the county in the watershed. It was decided that another orientation focused on elected officials will be held due to November elections and new county commissioners and SWCD supervisors coming in. This orientation will be **Wednesday, November 30 from 1-3 PM at Southwest Research and Outreach Center at Lamberton**. Invitations will be emailed to all parties after the elections.
- 2) The MOA will be revised to add the City of Springfield as a partner. Most cities wish to be kept updated with progress reports. A few cities and the Lower Sioux Tribal Nation will be participating on the advisory committee to help identify resource concerns and prioritize management areas.

AREA II – ENGINEER'S REPORT.

Springdale 24 Small Dam, Redwood County. Funding has been secured for this project through the Plum Creek CWF grant and 319 funds. We have received the geotechnical report. The wetland delineation has been completed, and wetland limits have been plotted on the plans. A potential conflict with a Northern Natural Gas line crossing has been identified, and we are waiting for a reply from the company before proceeding any further. ***Monroe 17 and 22 Water & Sediment Control Basins, Lyon County.*** The Monroe 17 and 22 projects are set for construction by Ryan West Excavating in the next weeks. ***Holly 10 Small Dam, Murray County.*** Design work is nearly complete on this dam located just off Plum Creek. The project has good storage capacity with funding available through the Plum Creek CWF Grant. Soil borings have been completed, and the geotechnical report received. The wetland delineation has been completed, and we have plotted the limits. Permit applications will

follow the finalized plans. **Holly 11 Small Dam, Murray County.** Bids were opened yesterday. Three bids were received; one was under Engineer’s Estimate with contingency, while the other two were over. The landowner is reviewing the prices and will let us know if he wishes to proceed. Construction will likely not occur until 2023. **Holly 21 Dam Repair, Murray County.** Design is well underway for this dam project which incorporates two water and sediment control basins which were designed by the TSA. We will meet with the landowner soon to determine if he wants to proceed. Funding would be through the Plum Creek CWF Grant. **Lake Marshall 28 Small Dam Repair, Lyon County.** This project, which was designed a few years ago, has been reactivated. The dam restoration will help alleviate flooding in a downstream ditch system. Funding will be through SWCD, Lyon County and the landowner. The project has been bid, but construction will be delayed until the spring of 2023. **Lynd 31 Streambank Stabilization, Lyon County.** We met with the landowner along the Redwood River interested in protecting a private pond adjacent to the river. Streambank erosion is threatening to drain the pond, and he would like to riprap the streambank. Design work has been completed, and the plans have been submitted for a DNR permit. **Nordland 8 Small Dam Repair, Lyon County.** Plans are nearly complete for this project. The existing small dike has reportedly been leaking and causing drawdown of the pond. The project would excavate a core trench under the dike and install clay to try and stop the seepage, as well as install a new outlet pipe. **Holly 4 Small Dam, Murray County.** We have started design work on this dam southwest of Walnut Grove. The dam site would be adjacent to an unnamed protected waters stream and in a potential wetland area. We are hoping to design the dam as a conservation project to avoid wetland impacts.

RCRCA – LAKE REDWOOD DREDGING UPDATE. A virtual meeting with MPCA Compliance staff is scheduled for tomorrow at 2:00 PM. It is hoped that negotiations can be reached to avoid a monetary penalty. Netzke provided a depth map of Lake Redwood prepared by JF Brennan. This map has been posted to RCRCA’s website and Facebook page to make lake user’s aware of shallower depths. A larger version of this map will be posted at the lake, near the area of the future fishing pier.

RCRCA – 2023 DRAFT BUDGET. Netzke reviewed the draft budget with the board and asked for input. The budget will be brought back to the board for approval in December with adjustments based on the November month end figures.

ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE GATHERING – November 3, 2022. Registration will begin at 3:30 PM. Dennis McAlpine, PE from Houston Engineering will have a summary presentation of the Lake Redwood Reclamation project completed mid-October. A meal will be provided at 5:30 PM. Adult beverages will be purchased by the individuals.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Johnson and Chairman Maatz adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM. The next meeting will be on December 1 at the Redwood County Learning Center in Redwood Falls, MN.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

December Board Meeting	Thursday, December 1, 2022	Redwood County Learning Center
January Board Meeting	Thursday, January 5, 2023	Lyon County Government Center

John Maatz, Area II Chairman

Date