

AREA II

AREA II / RCRCA

February 2, 2023 - Board of Directors Meeting
Redwood County Learning Center, Redwood Falls, MN

NOTE: Roll Call Voting on all motions.

AREA II Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Larry Anderson, John Maatz (Zoom), Joe Drietz (Zoom), Gary Crowley (Zoom), Lori Gunnink and Glen Kack.

RCRCA Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Bill Eckstein, Larry Anderson, Clark Lingbeek, Joe Drietz (Zoom), Gary Crowley (Zoom), Lori Gunnink, Mark Meulebroeck, Paul Posthuma, Brad Kruisselbrink, Ed Carter (Zoom) and Glen Kack.

Others Present: Kerry Netzke – Executive Director and Joy Bruns – RCRCA Office Manager, Tom Andries – Lyon County Commissioner/Area II/RCRCA Alternate, and Michael Peterson – Peterson Company Ltd.

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM by RCRCA Vice Chairman Lingbeek and Area II Chairman Maatz.

ADOPT AGENDA. Netzke requested an addition to the agenda for Area II: Island Lake 3 Additional Soil Borings. **RCRCA** - Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously. **Area II** - Motion by Crowley, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II FY2022 AUDIT REPORT – Peterson Company Ltd. Michael Peterson joined the meeting via Zoom to review the audit report with the Area II Board. The audit was very similar to the previous year with few changes. A new auditing standard required adding a Lease Liability/Right-To-Use Asset to the report. Discussion followed concerning this new standard. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Area II FY2022 audit report. Motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTIONS. Attendees, in person and via Zoom, introduced themselves as there have been new delegates and alternates appointed to both Area II and RCRCA. The new members were welcomed.

The meeting was turned over to Netzke for the election of officers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – AREA II. (2-year term; 2 consecutive term limit). Netzke called for nominations for Area II Chairman. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Gunnink, to nominate Larry Anderson for chairman. Nominations were called three times. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Crowley, to cease nominations and cast a unanimous vote for Anderson. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was turned over to Chairman Anderson who continued the election. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Kack, to nominate Jeff Veerkamp for vice-chairman. Nominations were called three times. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Kack, to cease nominations and cast a unanimous vote for Veerkamp for vice-chairman. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Anderson asked for nominations for secretary/treasurer. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Gunnink, to nominate Gary Crowley for secretary/treasurer. Nominations were called three times. Motion by Maatz, seconded by Veerkamp, to cease nominations and cast a unanimous vote for Crowley. Motion carried unanimously.

Area II Officers: Chairman Larry Anderson, Vice-Chairman Jeff Veerkamp, and Secretary/Treasurer Gary Crowley.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – RCRCA. (1-year term, no term limit. 3 county commissioners and 3 SWCD supervisors required). Netzke recapped the current officers and called for nominations. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Gunnink, to nominate the current slate officers for their current positions. Nominations were called three times. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kruisselbrink, to cease nominations and cast a unanimous vote for the current slate of officers. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA Officers: Chairman Luke Johnson, Vice-Chair Clark Lingbeek, Secretary Paul Posthuma, Treasurer Mark Meulebroeck, Member-At-Large Joe Drietz, and Public Relations & Information Gary Crowley.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

MASWCD – Lingbeek reported that local government aid stemming from general funds remains the legislative priority. MASWCD Legislative Day is March 6 at the Capitol.

AMC – Anderson noted that February 22-23 is AMC’s Legislative Days at the Capitol. The County Drainage Conference is February 8-9 at Arrowwood Resort, Alexandria.

RATIFY RCRCA MINUTES of December 2022 Board Meeting. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Gunnink, to ratify the December 2022 Minutes as presented to the full board. Motion carried unanimously.

RATIFY AREA II MINUTES of December 2022 Board Meeting. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Drietz, to ratify the December 2022 Minutes as presented to the full board. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of January 2023 Board Meeting. Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Posthuma, to approve the January 2023 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of January 2023 Board Meeting. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the January 2023 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

RATIFY RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – December 2022. Motion by Posthuma, seconded by Kruisselbrink, to ratify and file the December Treasurer’s Report subject to audit. Motion carried unanimously.

RATIFY AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – December 2022. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Drietz, to ratify and file the December 2022 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – January 2023. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Kruisselbrink, to file the January 2023 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – January 2023. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Revenue received: \$6,398.51 Contract Services Income, \$75,716.00 Levy FY2023, and \$446.49 Interest. Bill for approval: \$6,417.00 Bolton & Menk. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Drietz, to file the January Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to approve payment of the bill. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue as recorded:

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 6,398.61	Projects-Bonding	\$ 0.00
Interest Income	\$ 446.49	County Levy	\$ 75,716.00
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	\$ 23,386.78	Office Supplies	\$ 16.40
Bonding Project Funds	\$ 0.00	Other Insurance	\$ 0.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 0.00	Postage	\$ 0.00
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,544.38	Professional Services	\$ 4,992.00
Directors’ Expense	\$ 0.00	Project Expenses Paid	\$ 5,936.00
Directors’ Insurance	\$ 0.00	Project Permit Fees	\$ 0.00
Employee Expense	\$ 0.00	Rent	\$ 837.00
Field Supplies	\$ 0.00	Telephone	\$ 57.74
Investigating & Testing	\$ 0.00	Utilities	\$ 0.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 300.21	Vehicle Expense	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 0.00	Continuing Education	\$ 0.00
Insurance	\$ 0.00		

Bills for approval:

Professional Services	\$ 6,417.00
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RCRCA – DESIGNATE BANKING INSTITUTION. Netzke recommended staying with HomeTown Bank in Redwood Falls. We can conduct online banking and payroll direct deposit without fees. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Veerkamp, to designate HomeTown Bank as the banking institution. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II – DESIGNATE BANKING INSTITUTION. Netzke recommended HomeTown Bank for the same reasons stated in RCRCA’s discussion. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Crowley, to designate HomeTown Bank as the banking institution. Motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZE RCRCA OFFICE MANAGER TO EXECUTIVE ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS FOR RCRCA. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Posthuma, to authorize the RCRCA Office Manager to execute electronic funds transfers for RCRCA. Motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZE RCRCA OFFICE MANAGER TO EXECUTIVE ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS FOR AREA II. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Maatz. to authorize the RCRCA Office Manager to execute electronic funds transfers for Area II. Motion carried unanimously.

DESIGNATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS RCRCA GRANT SIGNATORY. Motion by Gunnink, seconded By Veerkamp to designate Area II Executive Director as the RCRCA Grant Signatory. Motion carried unanimously.

DESIGNATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS AREA II GRANT SIGNATORY. **Designate Executive Director as Area II Grant Signatory.** Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Gunnink to designate Area II Executive Director as the Area II Grant Signatory. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA – APPOINT DELEGATE & ALTERNATE TO COTTONWOOD-MIDDLE MN 1W1P POLICY COMMITTEE. A listing of currently appointed Policy Committee members was distributed. Discussion involved two partners re-appointing alternates in order for those alternates to serve as delegates. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Bill Eckstein as delegate and Paul Posthuma as alternate to the Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P Policy Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II – APPOINT DELEGATE & ALTERNATE TO COTTONWOOD-MIDDLE MN 1W1P POLICY COMMITTEE. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Anderson, to appoint Larry Anderson as delegate and Glen Kack as alternate to the Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P Policy Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES. Conflict of Interest Disclosures for both Area II and RCRCA board members were available to sign. Members who have not done so are asked to sign and email the disclosures to the office as their earliest convenience.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

Staff appreciate the ability to work from home on days of inclement weather and wish to thank the Boards for that flexibility. We have requested SW/WC Service Cooperative to disconnect the physical server and make changes to the workstations as we are confident that all files have been moved to the online server.

AREA II

• **Annual Reporting** eLINK reporting was completed for the FY2022 and FY2023 Administrative Grants and the Water Quality & Storage Grant (Custer 10) for BWSR. The due date was February 1.

RCRCA

• **Lake Redwood Dredging Update**

- 1) The lake continues to be very busy with ice fisherman and parking has become the new problem for the City. The annual Fire & Ice Festival is Saturday, February 4 from 5-8 PM on the lake.
- 2) Wind Erosion at CDF: Up until Christmas, there were still reports of blowing sand from the property. The City chose not to knock down the sand hill and create windrows due to questionable safety of heavy

equipment upon the sediments. It was hoped that Mother Nature would take care of this issue with the rain/sleet/snow and more snow received. No more complaints have been received.

- 3) Fact Sheet – Netzke is compiling a brief fact sheet about the project as there has been misinformation reported in newspapers. This will be provided to the Board members and county commissioners as well as placed on the RCRCRA website and Facebook page.
- 4) Aerial seeding of the CDF: Jim Doering has begun looking for aerial applicators to seed the CDF in early Spring. We may need to negotiate with the applicators as they do not usually fly this early in the year and the aircraft are not insured for flight.
- 5) Houston Engineering is finishing the Final Project Report for the DNR after RCRCRA's edits. This report is to be completed within 90 days of project completion. We were allowed to submit by January 31.

• **Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P**

- 1) The MOA partners have signed the document. The MOA, Work Plan, Budget, and Timeline were forwarded to BWSR on January 5, and a \$253,000 grant agreement for the planning funds was received/signed on January 13. Netzke completed the Work Plan in eLINK yesterday. We await the signed agreement and 50% upfront payment (\$126,500).
- 2) Partners have been appointing a delegate and alternate to the Policy Committee (PC). The PC's first meeting will be scheduled for late February/early March as a Doodle Poll will be sent to each delegate to help select suitable dates.

• **Annual Reporting** eLINK reporting was completed for the Pell Creek and Plum Creek Clean Water Fund grants for BWSR. Pell Creek also requires a financial update by June 30 as the grant exceeds \$500,000. Additionally, MPCA requires an annual report for the WPLMN grant.

• **Middle MN-Mankato WRAPS Cycle 2.** MPCA has proposed the site locations to sample for Cycle 2, of which 3 were sampled by RCRCRA in Cycle 1. RCRCRA will request that 2 additional sites be reassessed due to insufficient findings in Cycle 1: Wabasha Creek and Crow Creek. MPCA will make final determinations in April/May and Surface Water Assessment Grants (SWAG) will be issued to the sampling partners in June/July.

AREA II ENGINEER'S REPORT.

Springdale 24 Small Dam, Redwood County. We are still waiting for a determination from Northern Natural Gas Company as to impacts on their facilities by the proposed dam. Our latest communication is that they are still reviewing the project. *Netzke added that a response was received allowing the project, however they request that the project be recorded on the property deed so future owners are aware of the project and its approval by Northern Natural Gas.* ***Monroe Water and Sediment Basins, Lyon County.*** The Monroe 17 and 22 projects were not completed and will be carried over to 2023. ***Holly 10 Small Dam, Murray County.*** Plans and permit applications for this project are completed and the project has been submitted for DNR, Corps and WCA permits. The Corps has requested additional information which we are responding to. This permit will be a Standard Individual Permit (SIP) as Letters of Permission have been discontinued. SIPs require a 401 Water Quality Certification or Waiver from MPCA which is additional permit that will be initiated. ***Holly 11 Small Dam, Murray County.*** At the request of the Redwood SWCD this project will be re-bid on February 15. ***Holly 21 Dam Repair, Murray County.*** At the request of the landowner, the project has been redesigned to incorporate two smaller sediment berms and a main dam. We will meet today with the landowner to see if he is ready to proceed with the project. ***Lake Marshall 28 Small Dam Repair, Lyon County.*** The project has been bid, but construction will be delayed until the spring of 2023. ***Lynd 13 Streambank Stabilization, Lyon County.*** The DNR has proposed riprap further into the bank to hopefully reduce downstream erosion. The plans have been revised and transmitted to the DNR for their further review. ***Nordland 8 Small Dam Repair, Lyon County.*** Plans are nearly complete for this project. The existing small dike has reportedly been leaking, causing a draw-down 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.*** Preliminary design for this project is completed. The dam site would be adjacent to an unnamed protected waters stream and in a potential wetland area. We are hoping to design the dams as a conservation project to minimize wetland impacts and to provide a field crossing for the landowner. We will meet with the landowner soon. ***Lynd 2 Small Dam, Lyon County.*** We have completed preliminary design work on this relatively small dam. We have met with the landowner, and he would

like to proceed. He would need to purchase some more land to make the project feasible and is checking with the landowner. **Lake Shaokatan Dam, Lincoln County.** We have submitted preliminary plans for this structure to the DNR, with a location of the dam closer to the lake. We are waiting for comments from the DNR. **Island Lake 3 Road Retention, Lyon County.** The soils report reveals sand under the roadway, but the full depth of the sand layer was not determined in the field. We have requested a price for additional borings to determine the depth of the sand layer to see if the project is still economically feasible. **Florida 15 Dam Repair, Yellow Medicine County.** Design work is nearly completed for this dam repair. This typical repair of an old SCS dam with a corroded outlet pipe, serious erosion on the dam and trees which need to be removed. We are scheduled to meet with the landowner on February 2. **Nordland 6 Dam Repair, Lyon County.** We have started on the design for this dam repair. It also is a dam with corroded outlet pipe and serious erosion of the dam. **Sodus 9 Dam Repair, Lyon County.** Design work is nearly complete for this dam repair. The project involves extensive raising of the dam and emergency spillway work, and this will be more expensive than typical repairs. **Lamberton 30 Road Retention, Redwood County.** We are in the preliminary design process with this project. It appears that the size of the watershed and the limited amount of storage at this road crossing will not substantially reduce downstream flows. We are trying to tweak the design to see if any alternative would make the project feasible.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION – AREA II.

Netzke submitted two requests to Senator Dahms and Representative Torkelson. Firstly, the biennial administrative funding of \$140,000 per year. Netzke asked the legislators if the economic climate is suitable to increase to \$190,000 per year, and if so, to request the higher amount. That language has been introduced as sf 542 and hf 793; both bills have been referred to their respective environmental committees. The second request was for \$1.5 million of bonding funds. That language has been introduced as sf 541 and hf 794; both bills were referred to Capital Investment. If no bonding bill develops, perhaps a general fund appropriation of the same amount is possible. Netzke is preparing handouts and testimony.

RCRCA FY2022 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER. Netzke requested a quote from Peterson Company Ltd. for RCRCA’s 2022 audit. Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Gunnink, to authorize Lingbeek and Netzke to sign the engagement letter with Peterson Company Ltd. to complete RCRCA’s FY2022 audit for \$3,500. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUCEMENTS:

- a) **Ag-Urban Partnership Forum.** Netzke provided the board with an informational flyer on this meeting scheduled for March 1, 2023 in St. Joseph, MN. Netzke will send out an email to board members toward the end of February seeking others who would like to carpool.
- b) **Area II – Island Lake 3 Road Retention, Lyon County.** Duane Hansel, PE requested 2 additional soil borings in order to determine the depth of the sand layer that was encountered under the roadway. American Engineering Testing (AET) from Marshall submitted a proposal of \$2,290.00 for the 2 additional borings of 45’ depth at the centerline. If the depth is too thick, the project may be infeasible to construct or cost prohibitive. This project is one being planned to submit for the next round of BWSR’s Water Quality and Storage Grants, so this information is necessary. Discussion followed. AET can begin work within the next 2 weeks. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the additional soil borings. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT.

Vice-Chairman Lingbeek and Chairman Anderson adjourned the meeting at 10:42 AM. The next meeting will be on March 2 at the Lyon County Government Center, Marshall, MN – 9:00 AM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

March Board Meeting	Thursday, March 2, 2023	Lyon County Government Center
April Board Meeting	Thursday, April 6, 2023	Redwood County Learning Center

_____ Larry Anderson, Area II Chairman	_____ Date
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