

AREA II

AREA II / RCRCA

July 3, 2025 – Board of Directors Meeting
Lyon County Government Center – Marshall, MN/Hybrid
*Roll call votes on all motions - *attended via Zoom*

AREA II Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Larry Anderson, Greg Thole, Joe Drietz, Gary Crowley, Loy Woelber*, Luke Johnson, Rick Wakefield and Glen Kack.

RCRCA Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Mark Wellner*, Larry Anderson, Joe Drietz, Gary Crowley, Allen Deutz*, Loy Woelber*, Paul Posthuma, Luke Johnson, Rick Wakefield, Ed Carter and Glen Kack.

Others Present: Kerry Netzke – Executive Director, and Joy Bruns – RCRCA Office Manager, Michael Peterson* – Peterson Company Ltd.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by RCRCA Chairman Johnson and Area II Chairman Anderson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS. None.

RCRCA – FY2024 AUDIT REPORT. Michael Peterson from Peterson Company Ltd. reviewed the audit report with the board. He noted that a clean audit was found. The reserve funds are very low and a profit for FY25 is needed. If reserves go negative, the State may require a plan to change this. Discussion followed. Motion by Wakefield, seconded by Carter, to accept the audit report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of June 2025 Board Meeting. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Drietz, to approve the June 2025 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of June 2025 Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Thole, to approve the June 2025 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Joint Meeting Area II/RCRCA Board of Directors

RCRCA TREASURER'S REPORT – June 2025. Financials were reviewed. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Posthuma, to approve the June 2025 Treasurer's Report subject to audit and to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II TREASURER'S REPORT – June 2025. Financials were reviewed with the board. Revenue received: \$ 7,385.97 Contract Services Income, \$5,026.60 FY25 Levy, \$4,055.79 Interest Income and \$1,298.00 MCIT Work Comp Audit Refund. Bills for approval: \$62,585.00 Bolton & Menk (\$7,445.00 monthly invoice;\$37,038.50 Florida Creek Restoration; and \$18,101.50 Alta Vista 27 Wetland Delineation and Stream Assessment). Motion by Drietz, seconded by Crowley, to approve the June 2025 Treasurer's Report subject to audit and approve payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue as recorded:

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 7,385.97	Projects-MMB General Fund	\$ 0.00
Interest Income	\$ 4,055.79	County Levy	\$ 5,026.60
State of MN-Admin Services	\$ 0.00	SWCD Tech Assistance	\$ 0.00
Water Quality & Storage Grants	\$ 0.00	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 1,298.00

Paid bills are summarized below:

Administration	\$ 19,195.49	Office Supplies	\$ 0.00
Bonding Project Funds	\$ 0.00	Other Insurance	\$ 0.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 0.00	Postage	\$ 0.00
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,636.93	Professional Services	\$ 43,931.00
Directors' Expense	\$ 0.00	Project Expenses Paid	\$ 46.00
Directors' Insurance	\$ 0.00	Project Permit Fees	\$ 0.00
Employee Expense	\$ 25.90	Rent	\$ 837.00
Field Supplies	\$ 0.00	Telephone	\$ 10.08
Investigating & Testing	\$ 0.00	Utilities-Web Hosting	\$ 0.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 160.76	Vehicle Expense	\$ 64.00
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 14.00	Continuing Education	\$ 0.00
Insurance	\$ 0.00	Investigation& Testing	\$ 1,852.50

Bill for approval:

Professional Services	\$ 62,585.00	Maintenance & Repair	\$ 0.00
Project Costs	\$ 0.00	Insurance	\$ 0.00

RCRCA – Approve/Amend/Pay Completed Cost Share Contracts. None

Area II – Approve/Amend/Pay Completed Cost Share Contracts. None

Joint Meeting Area II/RCRCA Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 17th Minnesota River Congress June 12, 2025 - With the severe storms forecasted for that evening, Netzke did not attend. BWSR had announced that day that the \$21 million RCPP grant for Water Quality and Storage had been rescinded by the federal government. That news was likely not received well by this group.

AREA II

- Legislative Update – Special Session.

Area II was appropriated \$140,000 per year for 2026 and 2027. There was no funding in the Bonding Bill.

- BWSR Water Quality & Storage Grants. No formal notification has been received for the \$150,000 grant awarded for the LQP Floodways (YM County). This is FY26 funding so it is assumed that agreements cannot be sent out until after July 1. Once the grant agreement is executed, project partners will meet to develop the RFP for consultant services.

- Monroe 17 (Lyon County). Netzke participated in the virtual conciliation court (small claims) proceeding concerning this project. The Plaintiff was seeking compensation to not perform the retrofit due to concerns of soil compaction and potentially damaging the in-place tile; however, the retrofit is necessary to make the project eligible for NRCS funding. The Judge sided with Bolton & Menk and ordered that the retrofit be completed this fall as soon as the corn crop is off the field. Area II and Bolton & Menk have agreed to pay for the \$3,700 retrofit at a two-third/one-third split of the cost. Area II will ensure that the contractor (Ryan West Excavating) completes the project and will provide onsite inspection during the entire retrofit construction.

RCRCA

- Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P Update. The Technical Committee met June 18 at the Springfield Community Center to finalize the Scoring and Ranking worksheet, hear updates on the CRP Incentive Grant (administered by Redwood SWCD), and review the first four contracts submitted for cost-share assistance from Lyon County. The Policy Committee met at 1:00 to hear presentations from Houston Engineering, Inc. on the MS4Front tracking software, BEAST reduction calculator, and results of the hydrology model. Rather than pinpointing locations on the landscape for retention projects, the model broke the watershed into about 10 subwatersheds that could be analyzed individually for their contribution to the flow and the timing of that flow at the confluence with the Cottonwood River. From the stacked hydrographs of existing flows, the subwatersheds of Plum Creek, Pell Creek, Dutch Charley Creek and Highwater Creek were identified as areas where retention would be beneficial. Since the Plan owns the PCSWMM model, it can be used to insert proposed retention projects and see the results of whether the project will improve or potentially worsen the hydrograph. RCRCA requested a 2-month grant extension to

Joint Meeting Area II/RCRCA Board of Directors

August 29, 2025 so that the final expenses to Houston Engineering can be paid out, and plans printed with the remaining planning dollars. The last Policy Committee meeting will be scheduled for August 20 at 1:00 PM in Springfield.

- **Redwood CWMP Update.** A joint Steering Team/Advisory Committee meeting was held June 9, in-person and virtually, to review the draft Plan. Comments are due from the internal review by June 27. The Steering Team and Policy Committee will meet July 14 to review/address the comments received and authorize the Plan for Formal Review (August – September). The Steering Team and Policy Committee will meet again on October 13 to address formal comments and schedule the public hearing for November 10. The BWSR Southern Region Committee will meet in December with the BWSR Board approval following in January 2026.

- **Lake Redwood: Use Agreement.** This Agreement was drafted by Netzke and edited by the city attorney. RCRCA will approve the draft Agreement on July 3, and the City will act upon the Agreement on July 17. The remaining City funds will be returned to the City upon their signature on the Agreement. MMB has reviewed the Agreement and offered a few edits. A few submittals are necessary before the MMB Commissioner can formally approve the Agreement when RCRCA and City signatures can be obtained. This may be after the City's July 17 meeting, but we will expedite the process as much as possible.

Shoreline Protection. Details are being finalized for the concrete pad by the handicap-accessible fishing pier so the DNR permit can be issued. The concrete will be for wheelchair accessibility only as the floating fishing pier is installed and removed using the boat launch. City crews will do the work late summer/early fall and utilize the City's remaining funds for Lake Redwood.

- **Canoe Trips.** There were 21 on the Redwood River trip held June 17 with ages ranging from 8 to 80. The Cottonwood River trip (Iberia to County Road 11) was cancelled as only 2 signed up. We hope to advertise earlier next year and gather more interest in the new route.

AREA II ENGINEER'S REPORT.

North Hero 34 Road Retention, Redwood County. This project, funded by a BWSR Water Quality & Storage Grant, has a final design completed and final plans are nearly complete. A meeting was held July 2 with the township and landowners to discuss any changes to the plans as well as borrow areas and flowage easements. The township would like to request some financial assistance from Redwood County as the township's savings will not quite cover the 10% match needed. Late 2025 construction is desired pending permits. 2026 construction is more likely. **Alta Vista 27 Road Retention, Lincoln County.** Final plans and cost estimate have been prepared, and the project is progressing towards a meeting with all involved parties to discuss any changes, tree removals, flowage easements, borrow sites, mitigation and permitting needs. The DNR-approved new stream alignment has been proposed to USACE who have briefly commented on it. An updated wetland delineation and stream assessment have been conducted by Bolton & Menk. Results of those assessments are anticipated shortly. This information will be added to the Plan before scheduling the

Joint Meeting Area II/RCRCA Board of Directors

meeting. Fall 2025 construction is desired, however it may be delayed to 2026 pending permits and discussions concerning stream realignment. **Florida Creek Restoration, LQP County.** Work continues on this project to restore 1,000 feet of natural channel on DNR property. Sharing of technical information and additional survey work has been completed. A virtual progress meeting was held on June 11 to discuss progress and the 60% completed plans. **Norman 34 Small Dam Repair, Yellow Medicine County.** This is a grade control structure repair project that seeks to replace a failing pipe through the structure as well as clean out sediment accumulation in the pond. A set of repair plans from 1999 have been obtained and utilized in the design process. Original design documents have been obtained and cross-referenced for an updated design. The Atlas 14 storm updates have had a sizable impact on the design considerations for this structure as a much larger diameter culvert is required as well as raising the top of the dam elevation 2 feet. Preliminary plans and a cost estimate are being developed to modernize the structure, and then a meeting with the owner will be arranged. **Springdale 30 Road Retention (CSAH 20), Redwood County.** With the written responses to the DNR Dam Safety questions, Widseth is moving forward to revise Plans and submit the necessary documents for federal funding consideration. **Custer 11 Dam Repair, Lyon County.** This is an existing small dam in Garvin Park in need of pipe replacement and removal of sediment in the pond. Bids were received on April 16. Ryan West Excavating was the lowest bidder at \$31,692.40. Engineer's Estimate was \$32,698.00. As construction was about to begin on this project, the Contractor discovered that the pond excavation quantity was included in the Plans, however, the excavation amount had accidentally been omitted from the quantities and base bid. An amendment to the grant agreement was allowed for a change order of \$36,540.00 for the additional excavation of 8,120 cubic yards from the existing pool. **Monroe 8 Road Retention, Lyon County.** This is a proposed Road Retention project that involves a significant dip in a township haul road that is seeing increased truck traffic. Preliminary design calculations are promising that a road retention project is feasible and effective. **Holly 10 Small Dam, Murray County.** This is a proposed grade control structure on a landowner's property who was previously interested in a grade control structure that would have required a significant stream mitigation. This newly proposed location would not require such mitigation as we work to determine the feasibility and effectiveness of this new location.

AREA II – FY25 Audit Quote. Netzke received a quote of \$5,000 from Peterson Company Ltd. to perform the FY25 Audit ending June 30, 2025. Discussion followed. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Thole, to accept the proposal from Peterson Company Ltd. to perform the FY25 audit for \$5,000.00. Motioned carried unanimously.

RCRCA – Lake Redwood Use Agreement with City of Redwood Falls. Netzke has been working with MMB and the City of Redwood Falls regarding a Use Agreement for the CDF property. The Use Agreement will put the responsibility of operation and maintenance on the City, who in turn will lease the property for grazing and haying. RCRCA would retain ownership and receive no compensation from the City. MMB will not allow RCRCA to

Joint Meeting Area II/RCRCA Board of Directors

transfer ownership of the CDF property to the City of Redwood Falls; the City would be required to pay Fair Market Value (original purchase price) for ownership. Discussion followed. If RCRCA no longer existed, MMB would then allow the transfer to the City of Redwood Falls. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Wakefield, to approve the draft Use Agreement with the City of Redwood Falls and authorized Netzke to sign the Agreement contingent upon final MMB approval. Motion carried unanimously. Upon those signatures, the transfer of the remaining local funds will be returned to the City of Redwood Falls.

ADJOURNMENT. Chairman Anderson and Chairman Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:11 AM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

August Board Meeting	Thursday, August 7, 2025	Redwood Co. Learning Center
September Board Meeting	Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025	Lyon County Government Center

Larry Anderson, Area II Chairman Date