

RCRCA

AREA II / RCRCA

May 5, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting
Lyon County Government Center, Marshall, MN

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

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

Others Present: Kerry Netzke – Executive Director, and Joy Bruns – RCRCA Office Manager.

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM by RCRCA Chairman Johnson and Area II Chairman Maatz.

ADOPT AGENDA. Chairman Maatz asked for any additions to the Agenda. No additions were voiced.

RCRCA - Motion by Drietz, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. **Area II** - Motion by Drietz, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

AMC – Chairman Johnson reported that the AMC District meeting is June 9 at the Pipestone Country Club.

AREA V MASWCD – Supervisor Lingbeek reported that Local Government Aid is still being considered for SWCDs at the legislature. The next Area V meeting is planned in Redwood Falls on June 16. Netzke reported that JF Brennan has offered tours of the dredge.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of April 2022 Board Meeting. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Crowley, to approve the April 2022 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of April 2022 Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the April 2022 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – April 2022. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Revenue received: \$1,572.97 Contract Services Income, \$8.04 Miscellaneous Income, and \$27.87 Interest Income. Bills for approval: Houston Engineering Inc. \$2618.25 and JF Brennan Co. \$241,537.50. Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Posthuma, to file the April 2022 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and approve payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue from the following sources was recorded:

Canoe/Kayak Rental	\$ 0.00	Contract Services Income	\$ 1,572.97
Interest-Cash Sweep/CD	\$ 25.09	Interest-Checking Acct	\$ 2.73
Grant Funds	\$ 7,631.40	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 8.04
Appropriations	\$ 0.00	Investment/MAGIC Interest	\$ 0.05

Paid bills are summarized below:

Operations/Occupancy	\$ 1,183.93	Travel Expenses	\$ 528.13
Monitoring/Evaluation	\$ 1,224.04	Personnel	\$ 11,038.37
Project Costs	\$ 241,537.50	Contract Services-Area II	\$ 6,138.75
Capital Outlay (Grant Related)	\$ 0.00	Other Services & Charges	\$ 3,010.92

Bills for approval:

Professional Fees (Consultants) \$ 2,618.25
Project Costs: \$ 241,537.50

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – April 2022. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Veerkamp, to file the April 2022 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to authorize payment of the bill. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA – COST SHARE APPLICATIONS/AMENDMENTS/CANCELLATIONS/PAYMENTS.

NEW CONTRACTS:

CWF-2021-11	PLUM CREEK	
John Schmidt	Springdale 35 - Redwood	638 WSCBs
EST Cost: \$35,827.80		EST Cost Share: \$26,870.85 (75%)
		<u>CWF C/S: \$ 5,374.17 (15%)</u>
		319 Funds \$21,496.68 (60%)

CWF-2022-05	*PELL CREEK*	
Dan Warner*	Lamberton 31 - Redwood	410 Grade Stabilization, 638 WSCBs
EST Cost: \$229,280.60		EST Cost Share: \$171,960.45 (75%)
		<u>CWF C/S: \$171,960.45 (75%)</u>

***Project Spokesperson**

Contract Cooperators:

Paul Collins
David Bolluyt
Eugene Kronbach
MN DNR (outlet)

CWF-2022-06	*PELL CREEK*	
Collins Family Ltd. Partnership	Lamberton 32 - Redwood	412 Grassed Waterway
EST Cost: \$53,200.50		EST Cost Share: \$39,900.38 (75%)
		<u>CWF C/S: \$39,900.38 (75%)</u>

Netzke presented three new cost share contracts: one for the Plum Creek CWF Grant: Springdale 35 – Redwood and two for the Pell Creek CWF Grant: Lamberton 31 – Redwood and Lamberton 32 – Redwood. Netzke noted that Lamberton 31 involves five landowners within the section; the combined projects will reduce sediment by 230.3 tons/year. The reduction goal for the entire grant is 300 tons/year. Motion by Carter, seconded by Anderson, to approve all the cost share contracts as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

• **Server & Email Issues** – In lieu of replacing the server (\$11,000 estimated cost), both organizations will migrate to the Microsoft 365 system. This is a subscription service that you pay per-user, instead of per-computer, at about \$250/year/user (\$750/year for RCRCA, \$750/year for Area II). A quote is being sought. Both organizations will leave NetPoint for website hosting and transfer to GoDaddy. Area II’s domain is already through GoDaddy; RCRCA’s domain will be requested from NetPoint. Both websites will be rebuilt/redesigned using GoDaddy’s software. Area II staff will have new email addresses; RCRCA email addresses will remain the same. SW/WC is helping with this transition.

- **Summer Intern** – Katelyn Schauer, a SMSU student that will be sampling Cottonwood Lake as part of that project, is in need of internship credits (180 hours). Area II and RCRCA will utilize her help for the months of June and July and will share the cost (\$10/hr).

- **City of Springfield/Cottonwood River Watershed LCCMR Proposal** – Since the LCCMR Committee could not agree on project awards, it has been turned over to the Legislature. Fortunately, this project is included and fully funded in the House and Senate versions.

AREA II

- **2022 Bonding Request** – Area II’s bonding request of \$1.5 million has been introduced as SF 2789 and HF 3059. Senator Dahms and Representative Torkelson feel our chances are good for securing funding.

- **Water Quality and Storage Pilot Program Update** – Only six projects were submitted to BWSR for consideration of the \$1,000,000 of grant funding (75/25 match). The BWSR Board is to announce awards at their June 22, 2022 meeting.

RCRCA

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

- 1) The floating silt curtain, 90’ upstream of the dam, was broken by the 60 mph winds on April 23. DNR asked that the curtain be reinstalled and granted JF Brennan permission to take down the curtain in the event of high winds or high flows until conditions are fit to string the curtain across once again.
- 2) 2 turbidity probes were installed on April 20, however the programming had not been installed due to a MNIT glitch. The downstream probe had been attached to the silt curtain but did not incur any damage from the curtain breakage. DNR has decided to reinstall the probe this afternoon using an anchor/buoy system in front of and away from the silt curtain. The programming will be completed as well.
- 3) **CDF Inspection:** DNR Dam Safety approved the CDF on April 22, pending the reinstallation of the concrete matting on the emergency spillway. Mathiowetz Construction met with us April 29 and has a good plan for restoration which they will start as soon as ground conditions permit.
- 4) **Time Lapse Camera:** The camera at the picnic shelter was installed April 21 and will be downloaded every 2 weeks. Footage will be posted on RCRCA’s website.
- 5) **Kick-off Celebration:** The celebration held on Earth Day, April 22 with 40 people in attendance. Netzke provided a press release to area newspapers and radio stations. Dredging began April 21 at 3:00 PM.
- 6) **CDF Sampling:** Starting April 29, twice weekly composite samples are being collected by RCRCA from within the CDF for pre-discharge evaluation. JF Brennan did not anticipate needing to discharge from the CDF for 3-4 weeks, however they would like to begin discharging ASAP. DNR Permit conditions stipulate no discharge for at least two weeks. Once discharge is allowed, then twice weekly sampling of the CDF effluent is required for a minimum of two months. If effluent limits are met, then no further sampling is needed other than occasional QA/QC samples.

- **Cottonwood 1WIP** – Resolutions from the counties and SWCDs of Brown, Cottonwood, Lyon, Redwood, and Murray SWCD have been received. Murray County will approve their resolution on May 3. Netzke is reviewing the RCRCA joint powers agreement to see if additional language is needed for 1WIP management. BWSR applications are due June 10.

- **WPLMN Amendment** – The amendment process is beginning. A mock invoice (April 1 – May 15) has been compiled to determine remaining funds in the existing contract that will expire June 30, and to budget for funds to get us through June 30, 2024.

AREA II – ENGINEER’S REPORT.

Springdale 24 Small Dam, Redwood County. The City of Walnut Grove is searching for infrastructure grant funding for the local portion of the project. Soil borings are pending. **Island Lake 3 Road Retention, Lyon County.** We recently met with the landowners and the township regarding this project. All partners are willing to proceed once cost-share funding is secured. **Alta Vista 27 Road Retention, Lincoln County.** We have developed a preliminary plan and cost estimate for this project. The project is at an intersection of two township roads and is a safety concern. We met recently with the township and they would like to proceed. The cost of the project is around \$600,000, so the next task is for the township to find \$150,000 local match. **Lynd 31 Road Retention, Lyon County.** We also met recently with Lynd Township officials about this project. The construction would raise the road about 9 to 16 feet. The estimated cost for this project depends on the option chosen, but ranges from \$330,000 to \$460,000. Again, raising the local match of the project is the next task for the township. Lyon County has expressed an interest in helping with funding. **Holly 9 Sediment Pond, Murray County.** We have redesigned

this project as requested by the landowner. The structure is located just upstream of a larger dam and the intent is to create a small ponding area to remove sediment before it flows into the dam pond. We will meet with the landowner soon. **Holly 9 Small Dam Repair, Murray County.** Ryan West Excavating will construct this project this spring. **Stanley 19 Small Dam, Lyon County.** We have started design work for this dam northeast of Marshall. A wetland delineation has been completed indicating about an acre of wetlands potentially impacted. Design work is substantially completed and a meeting with the landowner is the next step. **Monroe 17 & 24 Water & Sediment Control Basins, Lyon County.** The Monroe 24 project is scheduled for construction by Ryan West Excavating this spring. The Monroe 17 project is waiting for the landowner's decision before proceeding, since the required local match is quite high for these farmable basins. **Holly 10 Small Dam, Murray County.** Design work is nearly complete on this dam located just off of Plum Creek. The site appears to have good storage capacity. We met with the landowner and he is willing to proceed. Funding is available through the CWF grant. Soil borings are pending. **Amiret 36 Streambank Stabilization, Lyon County.** Design work is completed for this small streambank repair project. The eroded streambank is in a pasture area and is threatening a crop field. The landowner will provide funding for the project. The DNR permit application was submitted, and DNR will be issuing the permit soon. **Vesta 33 Road Retention, Redwood County.** We met today with a landowner in Vesta Township at a potential retention site. The site is at the upper end of the open ditch of County Ditch No. 33. Overland flow from the watershed upstream has caused failure of the culvert under the township road. The landowner may pursue options which he can personally construct. It was recommended that TSA's services be utilized rather than Area II's. **Request for Soil Borings.** We have requested Braun Intertec to consider if they can provide less services than they originally proposed in order to reduce the cost of their proposal. They are in contact with the DNR Dam Safety Unit and we are waiting to hear more from them. We have also talked to the recently retired AET soils engineer to see if he would do some work for us, but this does not appear possible. He did give us the name of another person to talk to about providing services, and we are following up. **Fortier 24 Dam Repair - Yellow Medicine County.** Netzke reported that yesterday bids were opened for this project. The Engineer's Estimate was \$50,149.25. The low bidder was Groundworks for \$46,076.16, and the next lowest bid was Ryan West Excavating at \$48,069.28.

AREA II SOIL BORING RFP UPDATE. Netzke reported that this topic is unresolved, but we are getting closer. Bruce Card, PE, the former soils engineer at AET put us in contact with Kim Stoecker from Mobridge, SD. Bruce and Kim worked together for several years until Kim started his own company, Soil Technologies. Duane Hansel and Kim are having discussions regarding the scope of our projects and analyses expectations. So far, discussion is going very well. Kim is being asked to submit a proposal as he would likely utilize AET's drill rig to obtain the soil samples. If the proposal is acceptable, the Area II Executive Board may be asked to meet via Zoom to approve the proposal.

AREA II – Draft Budget FY2023. Netzke presented a revised budget based on April 30 expenditures and estimates. The biggest variable at this point is the Investigation & Testing (soil samples). 1% and 2% COLAs were used for FY'23 options. The Board asked if 2% was enough considering the union negotiations that some counties are engaged in. Netzke explained that higher COLAs just aren't in the current budget without more income to offset the expense. The FY2023 Budget will be approved at the June meeting so that it will be included in the Biennial Plan Update.

AREA II – Draft Biennial Plan Update. Netzke reviewed the updates with the board. When the budget is approved at the June meeting, it will be inserted as well as outcomes from the 2022 Legislative Session.

Approve Resolutions to Support a Cottonwood 1W1P Planning Grant. Netzke noted that she has received resolutions from all the counties and SWCDs involved. She noted that the Little Cottonwood Watershed is included in the Cottonwood River 1W1P boundary (watershed #23). **RCRCA – Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve Resolution #2022-1 to support the Cottonwood 1W1P Planning Grant. Motion carried unanimously.** **Area II – Motion by Anderson, seconded by Gunnink, to approve Resolution #2022-1 to support the Cottonwood 1W1P Planning Grant. Motion carried unanimously.**

RCRCA – Review Joint Powers for 1W1P Adequacy. Netzke reviewed the requirements for the RCRCA Joint Powers Agreement to be suitable for 1W1P purposes. The Agreement only requires some additional language to Subd. 10 Plan. section as follows:

“As soon as practicable after the ratification of this agreement by the parties hereto, the Board shall develop and adopt a watershed-based plan for meeting the purposes outlined in SECTION 1, conforming to Minnesota Statutes Chapters 103B and 103D, including public hearings and shall update this plan as conditions warrant.

a) The RCRCA will recommend a plan to the parties of this Agreement, and upon approval by each party, the RCRCA will submit the watershed-based plan to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for review and approval.

b) The parties agree to adopt and begin implementation of the watershed-based plan within 120 days of receiving notice of state approval, and provide notice of plan adoption pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapters 103B.”

It is requested that the board members have their respective boards approve the change and authorize their representative to sign the agreement at the June meeting. Netzke will email the document to both the counties and SWCDs later today, so that it may be put on their agenda for their next meeting.

APPROVE COMPUTER/SOFTWARE NEEDS.

RCRCA – Purchase Two Laptops. Netzke reported that Wohnoutka had experienced severe problems during a routine Microsoft update with extremely slow performance and threat of a potential crash. SW/WC identified that the computer was 9 years old and struggling to keep up with newer software needs. Bruns’ computer is of the same age. Netzke requested authorization to purchase two laptops (Bruns & Wohnoutka) to replace three desktops as Shawn has one computer in Marshall and one in Morgan. With the laptop, he would be utilizing it in both offices and have it available if needed in the field. A quote was obtained from SW/WC Service Cooperative in the amount of \$2,935.14. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Anderson, to approve the purchase of two laptops. Motion carried unanimously.

Area II/RCRCA – Purchase Microsoft 365 Subscriptions (\$250/year x 3 for each organization). The server is no longer under warranty and has already encountered problems (replaced hard drive and power supply). The replacement cost is prohibitive at \$11,000. With SW/WC’s recommendation, Netzke requested authorization to purchase Microsoft 365 Subscriptions to move to a cloud-based data storage option. Maatz noted that we may be able to utilize Microsoft Teams to hold virtual meetings instead of the Zoom subscription. **RCRCA –** Motion by Crowley, seconded by Posthuma, to authorize the purchase of three Microsoft 365 Subscriptions at approximately \$750/year. Motion carried unanimously. **Area II -** Motion by Johnson, seconded by Veerkamp, to authorize the purchase of three Microsoft 365 Subscriptions at approximately \$750/year. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUCEMENTS: On behalf of the RCRCA Board, Crowley extended a thank you to Netzke and Bruns for the Lake Redwood Dredging Kick-Off Celebration held April 22 in Redwood Falls. The Board felt the gathering was very well planned, other than the weather.

ADJOURNMENT. With no other business, Area II Chairman Maatz and RCRCA Chairman Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:12 AM. The next meeting will be June 2, 2022 in Redwood Falls.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

June Board Meeting	Thursday, June 2, 2022	Redwood County Learning Center
July Board Meeting	Thursday, July 7, 2022	Lyon County Courthouse - Marshall
August Board Meeting	Thursday, August 4, 2022	Redwood County Learning Center

Luke Johnson, RCRCA Chairman

Date