

RCRCA AREA II / RCRCA

June 2, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Redwood County Government Center, Redwood Falls, MN

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, John Lanoue, Lori Gunnink, Luke Johnson, Brad Kruisselbrink, 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 9:00 AM by RCRCA Chairman Johnson and Area II Chairman Maatz.

ADOPT AGENDA. Chairman Maatz asked for any additions to the Agenda. Netzke requested an additional bill for Area II approval. **RCRCA** - Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously. **Area II** - Motion by Crowley, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the amended agenda. 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 next Area V meeting is in Redwood Falls on June 16. Netzke will be presenting a PowerPoint summarizing the dredging project goals and has arranged for tours. JF Brennan requires closed-toe shoes, hard hats and life jackets. RCRCA will provide hard hats and life jackets.

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

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

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – May 2022. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Revenue received: \$1,721.89 Contract Services Income, \$8.04 Miscellaneous Income, and \$27.77 Interest Income. Professional Fees for Houston Engineering will be billed next month as they are experiencing difficulties with a new accounting system. Bill for approval: JF Brennan Co. \$584,425.03. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Carter, to file the May 2022 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to approve payment of the bill. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue from the following sources was recorded:

Canoe/Kayak Rental	\$ 0.00	Contract Services Income	\$ 1,721.89
Interest-Cash Sweep/CD	\$ 24.28	Interest-Checking Acct	\$ 3.36
Grant Funds	\$ 255,578.54	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 8.04
Appropriations	\$ 0.00	Investment/MAGIC Interest	\$ 0.13

Paid bills are summarized below:

Operations/Occupancy	\$ 1,067.09	Travel Expenses	\$ 1,010.39
Monitoring/Evaluation	\$ 3,377.99	Personnel	\$ 11,038.39
Project Costs	\$ 584,425.03	Contract Services-Area II	\$ 6,910.28
Capital Outlay (Grant Related)	\$ 0.00	Other Services & Charges	\$ 75.00
Promotion/Education	\$ 200.00	Contract Services (Moldestad)	\$ 582.88

Bill for approval:

Project Costs: \$ 584,425.03

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

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

None presented.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

- **Server & Email Issues** – SW/WC is helping with this transition from NetPoint to GoDaddy. NetPoint has agreed to release RCRCA’s domain name.
- **MN River Congress** – This event will be held in-person on June 15 at the Kato Ballroom in Mankato (7 PM). Governor Walz will address the group virtually, followed by DNR and BWSR speaking about water storage and what it means to everyone.
- **Springfield LCCMR Proposal** – Despite much left undone at the legislature, fortunately most of the LCCMR projects were awarded. This project was fully funded (\$192,000) and is awaiting signature by the Governor.

AREA II

- **2022 Bonding Request** – Area II’s bonding request of \$1.5 million (SF 2789 and HF 3059) has had no action due to the lack of a Bonding Bill being drafted during the session. It is hoped that a Special Session will be called although there is no solid indication that one will be held.
- **Water Quality and Storage Pilot Program Update** – The BWSR Board will announce awards at their June 22, 2022 meeting. It is hopeful that the Custer 10 project will be fully funded as only 6 projects were submitted for the \$1 million in funding.
- **2022 Dam Inspections** – Area II will start conducting the annual dam inspections in early June. Dam owners will be notified of the day/time of the inspection in the event that they wish to be present.

RCRCA

• **Lake Redwood Dredging Update**

- 1) **Brennan Time Off:** JF Brennan took a few days off over Memorial Day weekend as much of their crew has not been home since the project started. They will suspend dredging from 6 AM Thursday, May 26 to 10 AM Tuesday, May 31.
- 2) **First Month Progress:** As of May 23, one month of dredging, Brennan reported 120,000 cubic yards of sediment removed, which is 18% towards the goal of 650,000. Maps of the completed dredge area was provided to the Board illustrating the current elevations and a 3D view.
- 3) **Silt Curtain/Turbidity Probes:** The floating silt curtain withstood most of the wind storms and high flows until May 31 when it broke again. Due to safety concerns of the silt curtain going over the dam and the danger to the Brennan crew removing it, DNR has agreed that the silt curtain can be removed permanently. The downstream turbidity probe was pulled out by woody debris and is currently in Brennan’s construction trailer. The upstream probe and buoy is not visible and assumed to be underwater. The data logger programming has been installed and is working. RCRCA is waiting for direction from DNR/MPCA to arrange re-installation of the probe. In the meantime, Brennan is taking handheld turbidity readings, twice a day, to document turbidity. Dredging is having little impact on the turbidity from those readings.
- 4) **MASCWD Area V Meeting:** On June 16, the Area V meeting is being held in Redwood Falls. Netzke will do a PowerPoint to explain the project/goals and tours will follow.
- 5) **CDF:** Mathiowetz Construction has reinstalled the concrete matting for the emergency spillway overflow. The crew did excellent work and a memo will be drafted to DNR Dam Safety to comply with the permit. On April 29, RCRCA began sampling the “predischarge” water quality inside the CDF, twice weekly. A correlation between Total Phosphorus and Turbidity is being developed by Houston Engineering, so Brennan can manage the effluent based on turbidity readings alone. Brennan has started sampling the CDF effluent (thru the pipe) on May 16. All results to date have met standards except for one very windy (40 mph) day which made white caps on the CDF. A monthly average is needed.

- **Cottonwood & Redwood WRAPS Grants** – Both documents are in final editing/formatting at MPCA and will be public noticed in June. The grants for each project expire 6/30/2022. All expenditures have been made, a final invoice prepared, and only the final reports remain. Both reports are about 50% complete and should be submitted to MPCA mid-June. \$20,000 retainer for each grant will be released upon acceptance of the final reports.
- **WPLMN Amendment** – A conference call regarding the amendment proposal is planned for May 27. With the most recent rainstorms, two change orders were executed to move existing funds from Personnel to Laboratory. RCRCAs Dissolved Oxygen probe has recently malfunctioned (O-ring failure). Technical service from the manufacturer recommends replacing the probe estimated to cost \$1364. This cost will be added to the amendment that will cover 18 months of sampling and an end date of 6/30/2024.
- **Brown County River Accesses** – Netzke spoke recently to Brown County regarding the river access locations that had been closed due to flooding and/or ice jam damage. Brown County reported that all the sites have been reopened except for the County Road 11 site south of Essig. That site will be restored with help from DNR and Sentence-to-Serve by mid-June. RCRCAs has received many calls regarding the recreational suitability of the rivers with the recent rainfall.
- **Canoe – Storm Damage** – The Memorial Day storm moved the canoe trailer in the parking lot, and the two top canoes came off due to a broken ratchet strap. One canoe fell beside the trailer while the other tumbled across the parking lot and was found on the edge of the pond next to the First Independent Bank. There is a dent on the back end of the canoe, but it appears water-worthy with no cracks or holes. New tie downs have been purchased for all the canoes, and the trailer was moved next to the building to reduce wind impact. Cost to replace the canoe is estimated at \$1,100 and Netzke will look into the MCIT insurance. The Board suggested contacting an auto body shop for a repair estimate.

AREA II – ENGINEER’S REPORT.

Springdale 24 Small Dam, Redwood County. Funding has been earmarked for this project through the Plum Creek CWF grant. Soil borings and a wetland delineation are pending. ***Island Lake 3 Road Retention, Lyon County.*** The landowners and the township wish to proceed with this project once cost-share funding (bonding) 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 to the 75% covered by bonding. ***Lynd 31 Road Retention, Lyon County.*** This 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 cost of the project is the next task for the township. The township has approached Lyon County who expressed interest in helping with the local match. ***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 as soon as planting is complete. ***Holly 9 Small Dam Repair, Murray County.*** Ryan West Excavating will construct this project as soon as conditions allow. ***Monroe Water & Sediment Control Basins, Lyon County.*** The Monroe 17 and 22 projects are set for construction by Ryan West Excavating. ***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 Plum Creek CWF grant. Soil borings are pending. ***Amiret 36 Streambank Stabilization, Lyon County.*** The DNR permit for this project has been secured. Bids were received May 25 and the only bid was from Ryan West Excavating in the amount of \$21,784.00. The engineer’s estimate was \$19,181.25 with contingency. ***Island Lake 27 Dam Repair, Lyon County.*** Plans have been prepared for this repair project which will be quite extensive and includes replacement of the pipe and grading of a new emergency spillway. ***Holly 11 Small Dam, Murray County.*** Design is well underway for this new dam. The site has good storage characteristics and would make for a good project. We have met with the landowner who wants to proceed as soon as he gets approval from his children. ***Request for Soil Borings.*** We have located two potential firms to provide geotechnical services for our projects. A proposal from one firm in Mobridge, SD area has been received and we are awaiting another proposal from a firm headquartered in Pierre, SD. The proposal which we have received places the cost of services for projects in the area of \$10,600. We anticipate having the second proposal by the time of the Board meeting for consideration.

AREA II SOIL BORING RFP UPDATE. Area II received the second proposal for soil borings this morning. Engineer Duane Hansel recommends accepting the proposal from Soil Technologies of Mobridge, SD. \$10,600 will be budgeted for one project with the other two projects which require soil borings, to be funded through CWF grants. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Anderson, to accept the proposal from Soil Technologies. Motion carried unanimously. CWF projects must illustrate more water quality benefits than floodwater storage benefits.

AREA II – Draft Budget FY2023. A revised budget based on actual May and estimated June expenditures was presented. \$10,600 has been budgeted for Investigation & Testing. FY'23 Options include 1% COLA, 2% COLA, and 2% COLA with 1% merit. Discussion followed. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Johnson, to approve the FY2023 Budget which includes a 2% COLA and 1% merit increase. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II – Draft Biennial Plan Update. Netzke reviewed the updates made from last month. Netzke will update the budget page with the approved FY2023 Budget. The Biennial Plan will be submitted to BWSR for approval which will release the \$140,000 administrative grant.

Approve Cottonwood 1W1P Planning Grant Application. Resolutions from all the counties and SWCDs have been received. Lingbeek asked for verification that the Little Cottonwood Watershed is included in the Cottonwood River 1W1P boundary (watershed #23), which it is. The application was reviewed with the Board and is due to BWSR by June 10. **RCRCA** – Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the Cottonwood 1W1P Planning Grant application. Motion carried unanimously. **Area II** – Motion by Anderson, seconded by Wakefield, to approve the Cottonwood 1W1P Planning Grant application. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA – Joint Powers Amendment Update. No signatures will be obtained today as not all of the RCRCA members have approved the language. Lyon County has requested Netzke to attend their June 7 meeting to clarify questions. The amendment language allows for the RCRCA JPA to be used for 1W1P planning grants in lieu of a separate MOA. All other terms of the JPA are unchanged including the agreement period.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chair Maatz suggested going to hybrid meetings with no bonding funds secured for Area II at this time. With the price of fuel, it could save the counties a lot of money. Discussion followed on hybrid versus in-person meetings. In-person meetings are preferred, however fuel savings and time need to be kept in mind as well. Financials must be approved on a monthly basis which could be handled by the Executive Boards. Netzke was asked to check with MCIT on the legality/requirements of virtual meetings and/or executive board approval of financials via email. The financials would be ratified by full board at the next regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT. With no other business, Area II Chairman Maatz and RCRCA Chairman Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:25 AM. The next meeting will tentatively be July 7, 2022 in Marshall unless an Executive Board meeting is held due to a light agenda.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

July Board Meeting	Thursday, July 7, 2022	Lyon County Courthouse - Marshall
August Board Meeting	Thursday, August 4, 2022	Redwood County Learning Center
September Board Meeting	Thursday, September 1, 2022	Lyon County Courthouse - Marshall

Luke Johnson, RCRCA Chairman

Date