

RCRCA

AREA II / RCRCA

July 7, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Lyon County Government Center, Marshall, MN / In-person & Zoom

Note: Roll call votes were taken for all motions.

AREA II Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Larry Anderson, John Maatz (Zoom), Joe Drietz (Zoom), Molly Malone (Zoom), Luke Johnson, Rick Wakefield and Glen Kack.

RCRCA Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Mark Wellner (Zoom), Larry Anderson, Clark Lingbeek (Zoom), Joe Drietz (Zoom), Glen Sorensen, Mark Meulebroeck, Molly Malone (Zoom), Paul Posthuma, Luke Johnson, Brad Kruisselbrink (Zoom), Rick Wakefield, Ed Carter and Glen Kack.

Others Present: Kerry Netzke – Executive Director, and Joy Bruns – RCRCA Office Manager, Michael Peterson – Peterson Company, LTD (via Zoom)

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

ADOPT AGENDA. Chairman Johnson asked for any additions to the Agenda. Netzke had no additions. **RCRCA** - Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Carter, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously. **Area II** - Motion by Johnson, seconded by Kack, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

AREA V MASWCD – Supervisor Lingbeek reported the meeting in Redwood Falls on June 16 was very well attended with Troy Daniell, NRCS State Conservationist and LeAnn Buck, MASWCD Executive Director attending. A 1W1P panel discussion was held with panelists discussing lessons learned and tips for success. Netzke presented a PowerPoint summarizing the dredging project and arranged for dredge/CDF tours for 50. **AMC** – Chairman Johnson reported that the AMC Board meets next week. AMC had sent a request for a special session to address all of the unfinished business.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of June 2022 Board Meeting. Motion by Wakefield, seconded by Carter, to approve the June 2022 Minutes as presented. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of June 2022 Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the June 2022 Minutes as amended. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – June 2022. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Revenue received: \$2,075.57 Contract Services Income, \$589,633.80 Grant Reimbursement, \$5,520.00 Appropriation, \$282.90 Miscellaneous Income, and \$30.96 Interest Income. Netzke added an expense for approval: Lockwood Motors, \$1,600.00 (estimated) for 2015 Dodge Ram air conditioner condenser replacement with a 2-year part warranty. Bills for approval: \$24,617.46 Houston Engineering, Inc., \$537,084.93 JF Brennan, \$3,250.00 Peterson Company LTD, and \$1,600.00 Lockwood Motors. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Posthuma, to file the June 2022 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to approve payment of the bills. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

Revenue from the following sources was recorded:

Canoe/Kayak Rental	\$ 50.00	Contract Services Income	\$ 2,075.57
Interest-Cash Sweep/CD	\$ 25.10	Interest-Checking Acct	\$ 5.57
Grant Funds	\$ 589,633.80	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 232.90
Appropriations	\$ 5,520.00	Investment/MAGIC Interest	\$ 0.29

Paid bills are summarized below:

Operations/Occupancy	\$ 1,655.87	Travel Expenses	\$ 1,010.39
Monitoring/Evaluation	\$ 2,715.96	Personnel	\$ 15,359.43
Project Costs	\$ 543,084.93	Contract Services-Area II	\$ 4,562.13
Capital Outlay (Grant Related)	\$ 0.00	Other Services & Charges	\$ 24,850.57
Promotion/Education	\$ 0.00	Contract Services (Schauer)	\$ 880.00
Travel Expenses	\$ 594.85		

Bills for approval:

Professional Fees (Consultants)	\$ 24,617.46
Project Costs	\$ 537,084.93
Travel Expenses	\$ 1,600.00

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – June 2022. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Kack, to file the June 2022 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to authorize payment of the bill. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

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

NEW CONTRACTS:

CWF-2021-12	PLUM CREEK	
Paul Plaetz	North Hero 10 - Redwood	580 Streambank Stab.
EST Cost: \$40,097.80		EST Cost Share: \$30,073.35 (75%)
		<u>CWF C/S: \$ 6,014.67 (15%)</u>
		319 Funds \$24,058.68 (60%)
CWF-2021-13	PLUM CREEK	
Darold Knakmuhs	Holly 9 - Murray	412 Grassed Waterway
EST Cost: \$13,982.40		EST Cost Share: \$10,486.80 (75%)
		<u>CWF C/S: \$ 2,097.36 (15%)</u>
		319 Funds \$ 8,389.44 (60%)
CWF-2022-07	PELL CREEK	
Steven Geis	North Hero 30 - Redwood	362 Water Diversion
EST Cost: \$ 9,264.00		EST Cost Share: \$ 6,948.00 (75%)
		<u>CWF C/S: \$ 6,948.00 (75%)</u>

Netzke presented three new projects: two for Plum Creek CWF Grant – North Hero 10 – Redwood streambank stabilization project and Holly 9 – Murray grassed waterway project and, one for Pell Creek Grant – North Hero 30 - Redwood water diversion project. Motion by Carter, seconded by Sorensen to approve the CWF cost-share funding as presented for all three projects. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

- **MN River Congress** – June 15 at the Kato Ballroom in Mankato. Netzke attended with John Biren and Mark Meulebroeck (Lyon SWCD). The event was focused on water storage, however nothing new was presented.
- **GoDaddy Transition** – The transition to GoDaddy for website hosting and email services (previously provided locally by NetPoint) is going well. Area staff will eventually have email extensions of “___@area.org”. Bruns has been busy designing RCRCA’s new website using a GoDaddy template. Area II’s website will follow.

AREA II

- **2022 Bonding Request** – Netzke attended the Town Hall meeting in Redwood Falls on June 16 hosted by Sen. Dahms and Rep. Torkelson. They did not anticipate a Special Session as was announced the following day.

- **Water Quality and Storage Pilot Program Update** – The BWSR Board announced awards for 3 projects which included the Custer 10 Grade Stabilization submitted by Area II. The Lyon and LeSueur SWCDs were the other two recipients. The Workplan is entered into eLINK, and we await the Agreement to start using the funds.
- **2022 Dam Inspections** – Annual dam inspections were completed on June 13 and 14. Reports and photos are being completed and submitted to the dam owners for signature, and then submitted to DNR Dam Safety.
- **LQP-YB 1W1P** – The Policy Committee made a motion at the June 27 meeting to establish a Joint Powers Collaborative (JPC), similar to a MOA, as the governance structure for implementation. Under this scenario, the Plan would operate very similar to the Yellow Medicine 1W1P with the watershed district holding the BWSR contracts and cost-share agreements, and Policy Committee serving as the advisory board with only recommendation authority. Chessa Frahm, LQP SWCD, would continue in the Coordination/Administration role. Area II is a partner to the agreement, just like the Yellow Medicine agreement.

RCRCA

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

- 1) **Brennan Time Off:** Brennan took a few days off over the 4th of July. They suspended dredging from 10 PM Friday, July 1 to 6 AM Wednesday, July 6. Extra police and sheriff patrols around the lake were requested with the holiday weekend.
- 2) **Second Month Progress:** As of June 22, Brennan reported 232,366 cubic yards removed; 35% towards the goal of 650,000. A map of completed dredge area is attached that illustrates the current elevations. They have begun to remove the first island and have had to remove much of the island vegetation as it has been interfering with the pumps. As of June 30, 251,322 CY have been removed (38%).
- 3) **Diesel Increase Consideration:** JF Brennan has requested RCRCA to consider some level of compensation for escalating fuel costs. When the project was bid in January 2021, diesel price was in the range of \$2.68/gallon in a stable economy. This topic will be discussed further as a separate Agenda topic.
- 4) **Water Quality (WQ):** With 4 weeks of pre-discharge water quality data which have easily met MPCA standards, RCRCA has ceased its sampling. JF Brennan collects effluent samples twice weekly with all results meeting standards. After two months with successful results, testing will decrease to twice monthly. RCRCA will collect one effluent sample per month for QA/QC.
- 5) **Tours:**
 - June 16, Area V MASWCD: PowerPoint presentation and 50 individuals touring the dredge and CDF.
 - July 12, Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District: Lake Okabena (south side of Worthington) was dredged about 40 years ago and the District would like to consider doing it again. The City of Cottonwood will be joining this tour as the City would like to dredge Cottonwood Lake (Yellow Medicine River watershed) and wants to better understand what is all entailed from starting at ground-zero.
 - July 27, Redwood County 4-H AIS Team: approximately ten 4th graders with chaperones would like to learn more about dredging. Some hands-on activities will be done focusing on the sedimentation of the influent to the effluent water of the CDF.
- 6) **Pioneer Public TV:** Cindy Dorn contacted Netzke about the possibility of doing a story about the lake and its dredging next spring as they typically film late January thru late May. She would like to relate the story to fishing and the revitalization of the community. She will call again after the New Year and hopes that a celebration or ribbon-cutting to reopen the lake will be held in which they can attend.

- **Cottonwood & Redwood WRAPS Grants** – Both documents are in final editing/formatting at MPCA and will be public noticed soon. The grants for each project expired 6/30/2022. All expenditures have been made, a final invoice prepared, and only the Final Reports remain that are due by 7/31/2022. Netzke is working on both reports and should have them submitted to MPCA in early July.

- **Cottonwood 1W1P Application** – The application for the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota 1W1P was submitted on June 9, 2022. The proposed budget was \$253,000 that includes a 10% contingency (\$23,000) and compensation to RCRCA of \$30,000 for grant reporting, fiscal and meeting coordination. BWSR Board will announce recipients at their August 26, 2022 Board meeting.

- **WPLMN Amendment** – The amendment has been executed (June 13). \$73,370.83 was added to the Agreement for continued sampling through December 2023.

AREA II – ENGINEER’S REPORT.

Springdale 24 Small Dam, Redwood County. Funding has been secured for this project through the Plum Creek CWF grant. Soil borings are expected in the next month. The wetland delineation has been completed, and we are plotting the results. ***Island Lake 3 Road Retention, Lyon County.*** The landowners and the township are willing to proceed with this project 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. The cost of the project is around \$600,000, so the next task is for the township to find the \$150,000 local match. ***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 Small Dam Repair, Murray County.*** Ryan West Excavating will construct this project this summer. ***Monroe 17 and 22 Water & Sediment Control Basins, Lyon County.*** The Monroe 17 and 22 projects are set for construction by Ryan West Excavating this summer. ***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 with funding available through the Plum Creek CWF grant. Soil borings are expected in the next month. The wetland delineation has been completed, and we are plotting the results. ***Amiret 36 Streambank Stabilization, Lyon County.*** The landowner has elected to wait with completing this project as bids came in higher than estimated due to fuel costs. ***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. Funding is pending. ***Holly 11 Small Dam, Murray County.*** Design is well underway for this dam project. The site has good storage characteristics and would make for a good project. The landowner would like to proceed with funding through the Plum Creek CWF Grant. Soil borings will be scheduled at the same time as Springdale 24 and Holly 10 to be paid through the grant. ***Springdale 19 Small Dam, Redwood County.*** R&G Construction has returned to the site to finish the fine grading and seeding. The work should be completed in the next few days. ***Holly 21 Dam Repair, Murray County.*** Design is also well underway for this dam project. The design will incorporate two water sediment control basins which were designed by the SWCD. We will meet with the landowner soon to determine if he wants to proceed. Funding may be possible with Plum Creek CWF grant. ***North Hero 26 Small Dam Repair, Redwood County.*** Preliminary design is completed for this project. The old berm at the site location is washed out, and the redesign would create both a storage and a sediment pond. We are scheduled to meet with the landowner to discuss the project. Funding may be possible through the Plum Creek CWF Grant. ***Request for Soil Borings.*** Now that Soil Technologies, Inc. has been selected to perform the soil borings and geotechnical analysis for this year’s projects, we have asked them to schedule. Indications are that the boring crew should be on-site the week of July 18th.

AREA II AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN BWSR GRANTS. Netzke requested that she be granted authorization to sign BWSR Water Quality & Storage Grant – Custer 10 (\$94,723.84) and FY’23 Administrative Services Grant (\$140,000.00). Both of these grants will be here soon for signature. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Anderson, to authorize Netzke to sign both grants. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

AREA II – Lincoln County Request for Lake Shaokatan Outlet Engineering. Lincoln County has requested Area II’s engineering services for the Lake Shaokatan Outlet redesign. This project is similar to the Lake Benton outlet that was recently completed. Lincoln County will be responsible for all costs, soil borings and construction. Area II will provide the engineering, construction staking and inspection. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the request as discussed. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

AREA II – FY’22 AUDIT QUOTE. Netzke received a quote from Peterson Company, Ltd, to perform the FY22 audit at a cost of \$3,250.00. Motion by Kack, second by Drietz, to accept the quote from Peterson Company, Ltd. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

Area II Adjournment – Chairman Maatz adjourned the Area II portion of the meeting at 9:55 AM.

RCRCA – FY’21 Audit Report (Peterson Company, Ltd). Netzke welcomed Michael Peterson with Peterson Company via Zoom to review the audit report findings with the Board. Motion by Veerkamp, seconded by Carter, to accept the audit report as presented. Roll call vote taken, motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA – Joint Powers Amendment. Netzke reported that all the counties and SWCDs have approved the Joint Powers Amendment. Netzke obtained signatures from all the board members that attended in-person. The document will be available at the Marshall office and brought to the next meeting for missing signatures.

RCRCA – JF Brennan Request to Consider Fuel Escalation Payment. JF Brennan submitted a letter dated June 28, 2022 requesting a price adjustment due to unforeseeable fuel price increases. When Brennan bid the project in January 2021, diesel prices were \$2.68 per gallon in a stable economy. At the time of this letter, diesel is \$5.63 per gallon, a 210% increase. In the months leading up to the project start, quotes from multiple vendors were requested, however vendors advised to wait for the markets to improve for a bulk contract. Due to these extraordinary circumstances, Brennan would like to schedule a meeting to discuss fuel escalations. Discussion followed and centered around the legal constraints of providing payment utilizing public funds. Netzke was asked to contact our attorney to obtain a legal opinion on the options available to RCRCA. JF Brennan will be informed that RCRCA is exploring options related to their request.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: With the likelihood of meetings continuing to be hybrid, Netzke was asked to follow up with MCIT on the current requirements of virtual/hybrid meetings and executive board approval of financials via email with ratification by full board at the next regular meeting.

ADJOURNMENT. With no other business, RCRCA Chairman Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:38 AM. The next meeting will be August 4, 2022 in Redwood Falls. An Area II Executive Board meeting will be held prior to the meeting for performance review of the executive director.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

August Board Meeting	Thursday, August 4, 2022	Redwood County Learning Center
September Board Meeting	Thursday, September 1, 2022	Lyon County Courthouse – Marshall
October Board Meeting	Thursday, October 6, 2022	Redwood County Learning Center

Luke Johnson, RCRCA Chairman

Date