

## **AREA II**

# **AREA II & RCRC A Boards of Directors Meeting**

**March 3, 2016 – 9:00 AM – Lyon Street Service Center – Marshall, MN**

**AREA II Members Present:** Dennis Potter, Norman Holmen, Roy Marihart, Joe Drietz, Rick Anderson, Bob Moline, Luke Johnson, Lon Walling and Louis Sherlin.

**RCRCA Members Present:** Dennis Potter, Jack Vogel, Norman Holmen, Clark Lingbeek, Joe Drietz, Glen Sorensen, Mark Meulebroeck, Rick Anderson, Bob Moline, Paul Posthuma, Luke Johnson, Arvin Pater, Lon Walling, Ed Carter, Louis Sherlin and Burton Kuehn.

**Others Present:** Kerry Netzke – Executive Director Area II/RCRCA, Joy Bruns – RCRCA Office Manager, John Boulton – YMRWD, Darrel Ellefson – LQP-YB Watershed District.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Area II Chairman Johnson and RCRCA Chairman Holmen.

**ADOPT AGENDA.** RCRCA Chairman Holmen asked for any additions to the agenda. Netzke added two items: RCRCA Adopt-A-Highway and MAWD Legislative Reception/Breakfast & Day at the Capitol. Motion by Moline, seconded by Potter, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

### **AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS:**

**AMC** – Commissioner Moline reported on the District VIII meeting held in Slayton. Four legislators were in attendance. Next week is the AMC Legislative Conference and board meeting on Thursday. Representative Hamilton and others appreciated the opposition resolution for the Minnesota River Commission to assist him in forming his opinion. County Program Aid has a new formula in which 85 of 87 counties will benefit from the change.

**MASWCD** – Supervisor Lingbeek reported Area V met in Marshall on February 18. A DNR Mapping update was given by Jim Sehl. MDA reported on nitrogen in groundwater with a history of “Blue Baby Syndrome”. Additional dues are being requested from the SWCDs that are not related to the Technical Capacity funding. In statewide business, the northern SWCDs want taxing authority for sustainability. GBERBA is drafting a resolution opposing the Minnesota River Commission. The majority of SWCDs are struggling with their NRCS lease agreements and not having enough room to house new employees.

**YMRWD** – Boulton reported that the District has a new Administrator, Emily Javens, who started on February 29. She formerly worked with RESPEC and was the project manager for the 1W1P project. There are two ditch redetermination petitions in Lincoln County.

**LQP-YB** – Ellefson reported that they are struggling with establishing a wetland bank in LQP County as there currently is none. \$36,000 was invested by one individual and others have pulled out due to frustrations with the Corps of Engineers. Buffer meetings were held in Bellingham and Dawson with John Kolb from Rinke Noonan presenting. Concerns exist that private ditches may be added to the buffer regulations in years to come. Drainage permits are starting to come in with spring coming. DNR is stocking trout above Del Clark Lake in a three mile stretch of the river. Boulton reported on a 22 lb. Northern that was recently speared in Del Clark Lake (photographed by the *Canby News*).

**GOVERNOR’S WATER SUMMIT** – Supervisor Lingbeek attended the Governor’s Water Summit representing MASWCD. Cover crops and more cattle and sheep are desired on the landscape. Ellefson reported that David Craigmile from the LQP-YB WD attended the summit and found humor in Governor Dayton saying “We’re not pointing any fingers”, and then spoke of two farmers from southeast Minnesota. Lingbeek stated that the crowd was a

diverse group consisting of legislators, agency staff, SWCD Supervisors, County Commissioners, farmers and the general public.

**APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of February 4, 2016 Monthly Board Meeting.** Motion by Holmen, seconded by Anderson, to approve the February 2016 minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of February 4, 2016 Monthly Board Meeting.** Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Vogel, to approve the February 2016 minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT.** Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board for month ending February 29. The Hometown Bank checking account is now open and \$240,000.00 was moved from the Wells Fargo Bank. The HomeTown account is now the primary checking account. The Wells Fargo account will be closed after confirming that all the ACH deposits have been directed to the HomeTown Bank account. Professional Fees were higher than normal primarily due to the Bassford Remele invoice for legal services. Motion by Walling, seconded by Potter, to approve the financial report and to approve the bills for payment. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

**Revenue as recorded:**

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 3,610.20	Projects-Bonding	\$ -0-
Interest Income	\$ 8.54	Misc. Income	\$ -0-
<b>1W1P Grant Income</b>	<b>\$ 29.05**</b>	County Levy	\$ -0-
County Funds-Redwood SWCD	\$ -0-	1W1P Grant Funds	\$ -0-

**Paid bills are summarized below:**

Administration	\$ 13,076.98	Maintenance & Repair	\$ 146.86
Rent & Utilities	\$ 897.00	Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 157.47
Office Supplies	\$ 157.72	Professional Services	\$ 5,897.00
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,060.18	Vehicle Expense	\$ 42.43
Bonding Project Funds	\$ -0-	Field Supplies	\$ -0-
Postage	\$ -0-	Employee Expense	\$ 186.91
1W1P Grant Expenses	\$ 19,477.68	Project Expense	\$ -0-
Directors’ Insurance	\$ -0-	Investigating & Testing	\$ 220.00
Continuing Education	\$ -0-	Telephone	\$ 12.44

**Approved bills for payment summarized below:**

Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ -0-	Professional Services	\$ 13,412.34
Consulting Services - 1W1P	\$ -0-	Investigation/Testing	\$ 13,200.00
Contract Services - 1W1P	\$ 29.05**	Maintenance/Repairs	\$ -0-

**\*\* To be approved by 1W1P Policy Committee**

**APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT.** Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board for the month ending February 29. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Posthuma, to approve the financial report and for payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

**RCRCA - APPROVE NEW COST SHARE APPLICATIONS/AMENDMENTS/CANCELLATIONS**

**NEW COST SHARE CONTRACTS:**

***COTTONWOOD WATERSHED:***

Two cost share contracts were presented for approval: 3 alternative intakes in Brown County – Prairieville 17; and a streambank stabilization project in Redwood County – Lamberton 27. Motion was made by Sherlin, seconded by Vogel, to approve the payment. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONTRACT AMENDMENT:** None

**CONTRACTS FOR PAYMENT:** None

## **AREA II – APPROVE COST SHARE APPLICATIONS/AMENDMENTS/CANCELLATIONS**

### **FY2016 Bonding**

Beverly Pfarr

Redwood – Charlestown 30

Grade Stabilization

EST Cost: \$146,338.50

EST Cost Share: \$109,753.87 (75%)

One cost share contract for a grade stabilization project was presented for approval in Redwood County – Charlestown 30. Upon approval, the project may go out for bids this spring. Motion by Moline, seconded by Anderson, to approve the cost share contract. Motion carried unanimously.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

- Area II & RCRCA Policy Committees met on February 29.
- The Terrain Analysis work performed by Houston Engineering on the Redwood and Cottonwood watersheds is complete! A workshop was held February 12 to review the work and bring the geodatabase back to RCRCA to install on the server. This information will be tremendously helpful as we work to complete the Cottonwood 319 grant (expires August 2016) and also prioritization work for the Clean Water Funds grant.
- Lyon County IT inspected the office area where the new Lyon SWCD employee will be located. Based on his advice, Marco has been contacted to move the copier on March 18 as it is under maintenance contract. Should anything happen to the copier if we move it ourselves, it would not be covered under contract. April 1 is the earliest start date anticipated.
- Netzke has vacation scheduled March 11 through March 15.
- The 6<sup>th</sup> MN River Congress will be held the evening of Thursday, March 10 in New Ulm. Netzke is not planning to attend as she will be leaving for vacation the next day.

### **AREA II**

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- The Final Report for the FY2012 Bonding appropriation is complete.
- Yellow Medicine *One Watershed, One Plan* Policy Committee met February 10 to review/approve the Measurable Goals and Implementation Plan. Due to the unforeseen delays that the project has encountered, this has also caused an overrun of consulting service fees. The most obvious reason is that 12 face-to-face meetings were budgeted; over 30 face-to-face meetings have been had to date. The Policy Committee approved a Change Order to be executed between RESPEC and Area II detailing the reasons for the overrun and for additional payment not to exceed \$20,900. There are funds available in the grant to cover the overrun. The Planning Work Group and Technical committee met on February 26 for their last face-to-face meeting to finish discussions on the remaining Plan items. The Planning Work Group will meet separately without RESPEC to review the draft Plan on March 17 and April 19.

### **RCRCA**

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- The 5<sup>th</sup> of the 6 Civic Engagement Training sessions was postponed due to blizzard conditions. The next meeting will be March 4.
- Received a call from the Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative with interest in partnering in the Redwood and Cottonwood watersheds.
- The final quarterly invoice and Statement of Work for the SCAP project was submitted February 25. The webinar was held on February 11 at the Southwest Research and Outreach Center at Lamberton with about 10 producers in attendance. All the researchers presented to summarize preliminary results of the study.
- The final report for the 2013-2015 WPLMN monitoring grant and final invoice was submitted February 29. Once approved, final payment in the amount of \$19,504.35 will be received.
- BWSR has announced that the Biennial Budget Reporting (BBR) will be requested in March. The BBR will be submitted via eLINK this time and should include financial grant needs of the organization for the 2017-2018 biennium. Currently, eLINK is not ready for this information.

**REQUEST TO SUPPORT CREP3 PROPOSAL.** Pheasants Forever has prepared a letter of support for the CREP3 proposal submitted by Governor Dayton in December. Rather than asking for individual letters of support, government entities and organizations are being listed as part of the PF letter. With Area II and RCRCA, nearly 40 groups will be listed. A summary of the proposal was provided to the Boards. *Area II* – Motion by Sherlin, seconded by Moline, to support the CREP3 proposal and authorize Area II to be listed as discussed. Motion carried with Anderson opposed. *RCRCA* – Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Vogel, to support the CREP3 proposal and authorize RCRCA to be listed as discussed. Motion carried with Anderson opposed.

**RCRCA - REDWOOD-COTTONWOOD SEPTIC LOAN AMENDMENT.** Netzke presented a resolution to extend the loans for Redwood and Murray County for one year (June 30, 2017), and to extend the loan for Cottonwood County for one year (June 30, 2017) with an additional \$100,000 of loan funds. Cottonwood County has nearly expended their funds (\$150,000) and has been offered additional funds along with an extension. RCRCA cannot extend the administration grant which will expire August 31, 2016. Motion by Moline, seconded by Posthuma, to approve the Resolution which authorizes Netzke to sign the county amendments on behalf of RCRCA. Motion carried unanimously.

**RCRCA AUTHORIZATION TO HOST CANOE TRIPS.** The Board was asked if RCRCA should continue to host the canoe trips on the Cottonwood and Redwood Rivers. There are no grant funds available to offset the cost for these events, so it would be paid from general funds. The cost of the Redwood River trip can be considered as in-kind to the current Redwood grant. The events cost about \$3,500 depending on the food provided and the number of canoers. A flyer was provided to the Board with the Cottonwood River trip on June 21 and the Redwood River trip on June 23. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Kuehn, to approve hosting the canoe trips and to provide a flyer to RCRCA partners. Motion carried unanimously. Staff will be planning and advertising accordingly.

**RCRCA and AREA II POLICY REVISIONS UPDATE.** The Policy Committee met on February 29 to review both policies side-by-side. Netzke reviewed the list of differences found in the policies and the recommendations from the Policy Committee. Netzke will revise the policies as discussed, for review by the Policy Committee in April, and for review/approval by the Boards in May. Bruns noted that per diems for the Executive Board/Policy Committee are different: *Area II* is \$60 and *RCRCA* is \$75. Motion by Moline, seconded by Sherlin, to suspend the Rules to address this issue and also discuss the June meeting date. Motion Carried. *Area II* – Motion by Holmen, seconded by Marihart, to set the per diem at \$75 per meeting and mileage, regardless of meeting length. Motion carried unanimously.

**JUNE 2016 BOARD MEETING.** Moline reported that the June meeting falls on June 2<sup>nd</sup> which conflicts with AMC District VIII meeting. District VII is on June 1; District VI is on June 3. Motion by Moline, seconded by Marihart, to move the June meeting to June 9 in Redwood Falls. After some discussion, a voice vote was taken. Motion carried with Sherlin opposed.

**ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN UPDATE, RESPEC Change Order for Approval.** Netzke presented the board with the list of Measurable Goals that the 1WIP Policy Committee has adopted. Netzke shared this information as she feels the 1WIPs for the neighboring watersheds will have similar goals. RESPEC has requested a Change Order not to exceed \$20,900 for extra services consisting of 18 additional meetings that were not foreseen at the start of this project. The 1WIP Policy Committee has approved the Change Order specifying the amount and additional work. Motion by Walling, seconded by Sherlin, to approve the Change Order. Motion carried unanimously.

**AREA II ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

***Sherman 22 Streambank Stabilization, Redwood County.*** The Corps of Engineers has issued their permit for this project. We are awaiting the DNR permit. ***Nordland 20 SE Grade Stabilization, Lyon County.*** We are in the design process for this proposed dam located downstream from another dam structure. Funding for the project will be available through FY2016 Bonding funds. Soil borings have been obtained and the geotechnical report should be available soon. ***Lake Stay 3 Small Dam, Lincoln County.*** Design work is progressing on this project which is scheduled for 2016 construction. No wetlands or other permitting issues have been identified for this project. The geotechnical report for this site has been received. ***Charlestown 30 Small Dam, Redwood County.*** Updating of the design for this project is continuing. We will be sending information to the DNR for a dam safety permit and to the Corps of Engineers for their permit shortly. Soil borings have been obtained and the geotechnical report has been received. ***Monroe 31 Grade Stabilization, Lyon County.*** This project includes a series of small dikes in an agricultural waterway as a means to reduce erosion and control flow. A tile outlet system would convey flows to an established outlet. We are in the design phase with the intent that the project would be constructed in the spring. ***Sandnes 19 Off-Channel Storage, Yellow Medicine County.*** The landowner of property along the Yellow Medicine River recently met with us to discuss a potential storage project. The tentative design concept is that the site would be excavated and bermed to create temporary storage alongside the river, both as a means of reducing downstream flow and improving water quality. We will be performing preliminary design work to see if the site would be suitable. ***Redwood Falls 18 Small Dam, Redwood County.*** Design work has been started on this project which is near another dam constructed in 2014. The site is adjacent to the Redwood River. Some wetland mitigation is anticipated to be needed. The geotechnical report has been received. ***Lamberton 27 Streambank***

**Stabilization, Redwood County.** We have also been working on design work for this bank stabilization project along Dutch Charlie Creek near Lamberton. The creek has eroded the outside bend located just upstream from a county road bridge. Permit applications are being prepared for the Corps of Engineers and the DNR. **Upper Delhi 30 Small Dam Repair, Redwood County.** Design work is nearly complete for the repair of this dam northeast of Belview. The dam requires a new outlet pipe as well as a revised spillway and resloping. **Gales 15 Small Dam, Redwood County.** A permit for this project has been received from the Corps of Engineers. No DNR permit is required for the work. Bids are being solicited in order to solidify the price for the project. If the bids are acceptable, approval from the SW Experiment Station will be secured and wetland credits will be purchased so that the project can be built this spring/early summer with a specified completion date of June 30<sup>th</sup>. **Lamberton 1 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.** Plans for this project, which includes a berm in an agricultural field and a tile outlet, are complete. The project should be constructed this spring.

**AREA II - FY2012 BONDING EXPENDITURES SUMMARY.** Netzke reviewed the FY2012 Bonding Expenditures Summary that has been submitted to BWSR. A 3:1 minimum match is required – Area II had a 1.89:1 state/local match with these bonding funds illustrating efficient usage of all cost-share sources. A total of 650.66 acre-feet of new floodwater storage was created, plus 145.65 acre-feet of floodwater storage restored.

**DISSOLUTION OF AREA II'S CORPORATE STATUS.** Netzke summarized the procedures to dissolve the corporation and maintain operating solely as a joint powers entity. Bassford Remele has prepared documents for review and approval: 1) Area II resolution, 2) member county resolution, and 3) amended Joint Powers Agreement. Minor corrections to the JPA were noted. Motion by Sherlin, seconded by Marihart, to draft a cover letter to accompany these documents sent to the member counties, and to approve the amended Joint Powers Agreement as corrected. Motion carried unanimously. The Area II resolution cannot be acted upon until the resolutions from the member counties have been received. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of adding SWCDs to Area II's JPA.

**OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

**RCRCA – Adopt-A-Highway** – RCRCA has received MNDOT's 2-year contract renewal for the sponsored section of State Hwy 19 near Vesta. A note was attached highlighting that ditches are to be cleaned at least twice per year. If not, MNDOT has the right to cancel the contract. In 2015, RCRCA gave a \$250 donation to a school group to perform this work on behalf of RCRCA. Chairman Johnson suggested that Area II be added to the contract and share the expense offering \$200 in the spring and \$200 in the fall to the same group. **Area II** – Motion by Walling, seconded by Potter, to add Area II to the contract and donate \$200 to an organization to clean the ditch. Motion carried unanimously. **RCRCA** – Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Anderson, to share the contract with Area II and donate \$200 to an organization to clean the ditch. Motion carried unanimously.

**MAWD Legislative Reception/Breakfast & Day at the Capitol** – The event will be March 30 and March 31, 2016 at the Embassy Suites in St. Paul. Appointments with legislators are to be made on your own as the Minnesota State Capitol is closed for renovation.

**April Board Meeting --** Please note that the April meeting location will be in Marshall. There was a conflict with the meeting room in Redwood Falls.

**ADJOURNMENT.** Chairman Holmen and Chairman Johnson adjourned the meeting at 11:50 AM.

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**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

April Board Meeting	Thursday, April 7, 2016	BWSR Conference Room – Marshall, MN – 9:00 AM.
May Board Meeting	Thursday, May 5, 2016	BWSR Conference Room – Marshall, MN – 9:00 AM.
June Board Meeting	Thursday, June 9, 2016	Redwood Government Center, Redwood Falls, MN – 9:00 AM