

AREA II

AREA II / RCRCA

January 2, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting
BWSR Conference Room, Marshall, MN

AREA II Members Present: Larry Anderson, John Maatz, Joe Drietz, Rick Anderson, Lori Gunnink, Luke Johnson, Dennis Groebner and Glen Kack.

RCRCA Members Present: Larry Anderson, Clark Lingbeek, Joe Drietz, Glen Sorensen, Rick Anderson, Mark Meulebroeck, Lori Gunnink, Paul Posthuma, Luke Johnson, Larry Fenicle, Dennis Groebner, Brian Timm, and Glen Kack.

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by RCRCA Chairman Johnson and Area II Chairman Maatz.

ADOPT AGENDA. Chairman Johnson asked for any additions to the Agenda. Netzke noted an addition for the RCRCA CD which matured December 30, 2019 for reinvestment. Motion by Rick Anderson, seconded by Posthuma, to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

MASWCD – Supervisor Lingbeek reported that the MASWCD Annual Convention was good with attendance and interesting speakers.

AMC – Commissioner Rick Anderson stated that the next meeting is on January 17, 2020. Johnson is now the Chair of AMC's Environment & Natural Resources Committee. Currently four county commissioners serve on that committee from southwest Minnesota. Johnson reported that the committee's priorities are similar from before. From the meeting held with DNR and MPCA in December, DNR anticipates selling property within the next 10 years due to the inability to effectively manage their current properties. The AMC State Convention was held in early December.

RCRCA OFFICER ELECTIONS. The consensus of the board was to postpone the election until the February 6, 2020 meeting. The county committee assignments will be assigned by February 4, 2020.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of December 2019 Board Meeting. Motion by Larry Anderson, seconded by Drietz, to approve the December 2019 Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of December 2019 Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the December 2019 Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER'S REPORT – December 2019. Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board. Motion by Posthuma, seconded by Groebner, to approve the December 2019 Treasurer's Report and to authorize payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously. *****Rick Anderson noted that MCIT had claims resulting in an increase for which they used reserves instead of billing the members.***

Netzke reported that the CD at Pershing, LLC matured December 30, 2019. Interest rates at local institutions were provided to the Board. Discussion followed. Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Drietz, to invest \$100,000 with First Independent Bank at 2.07% APY for 13 months. Motion carried unanimously.

Lingbeek inquired on the status of the Ford pickup that is being replaced. Netzke has contacted some parties with an asking price of \$500 to recover the cost of the tires purchased in June 2019. Buyer also needs to provide their own towing/trailer. As of today, no buyer has been found yet and advertising may be necessary. Lingbeek and Larry Anderson may know an interested party and will contact Netzke after the meeting.

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – December 2019, Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board. \$3,708.75 Contract Services Income, \$265.00 PERA Assistance, \$189.97 Misc. Income, \$20,923.22 Bonding Reimbursement, and \$116.31 Interest Income. Monthly expenses were routine. Bills for approval: Bolton & Menk \$4,640.00, Dale Sterzinger \$1,023.25 for Professional Fees, and MCIT \$4,395.00 Insurance. Motion by Rick Anderson, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the December 2019 Treasurer’s Report and to authorize payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue as recorded:

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 3,708.75	Projects-Bonding	\$ 20,923.22
Interest Income	\$ 116.31	County Levy	\$ 0.00
State of MN-Administrative	\$ 0.00	SWCD Tech Assistance	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 189.97	PERA Assistance	\$ 265.00

Paid bills are summarized below:

Administration	\$ 15,449.80	Office Supplies	\$ 0.00
Bonding Project Funds	\$ 0.00	Other Insurance	\$ 0.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 0.00	Postage	\$ 0.00
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,122.51	Professional Services	\$ 3,117.50
Directors’ Expense	\$ 0.00	Project Expenses Paid	\$ 0.00
Directors’ Insurance	\$ 0.00	Project Permit Fees	\$ 0.00
Employee Expense	\$ 154.28	Rent	\$ 837.00
Field Supplies	\$ 0.00	Telephone	\$ 15.78
Investigating & Testing	\$ 0.00	Utilities	\$ 0.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 116.04	Vehicle Expense	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 19.55	Continuing Education	\$ 0.00

Bill for approval:

Professional Fees	\$ 5,663.25	Insurance	\$ 4,395.00
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RCRCA – DESIGNATE BANKING INSTITUTION. Netzke recommended continuing with HomeTown Bank (Redwood Falls) due to earned interest on checking and no fees for direct deposit payroll processing. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Larry Anderson, to designate HomeTown Bank for 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II – DESIGNATE BANKING INSTITUTION. Netzke recommended continuing with HomeTown Bank (Redwood Falls) for the same reasons stated in the RCRCA motion, and the ease of banking at one institution for both organizations. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Gunnink, to designate HomeTown Bank for 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II NEW COST SHARE CONTRACT. None presented.

APPROVE AREA II COST SHARE CONTRACT PAYMENT. None presented.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

AREA II

• **Audit Update** – Peterson Company, Ltd. has finished making revisions to the FY2019 audit and has provided adjusting entries needed to close out the year-end. A teleconference with Michael Peterson has been arranged for the Area II Executive Board at 8:15 AM at the Area II office on January 2, 2020. Area II board members are welcome to join if interested.

- **Lyon County Museum Interactive Flooding Display** – Netzke has been providing information/feedback to Thomas Church from Museology, Inc. regarding a new display at the museum that should be ready by February. The interactive exhibit will display 3 flooding scenarios: large rain storm, several day rain event, and rapid snowmelt. The user will be able to place a combination of small dams, road retentions and/or wetlands to see how those flood scenarios will change with conservation practices installed.
- **Town Hall Meetings** – Town Hall Meetings with Senator Dahms and Representatives Torkelson and Swedzinski are scheduled locally (1 PM 1/6/2020 at Redwood Falls City Hall, 1/7/2020 7:30 AM at Marshall YMCA).

RCRCA

• **New/Old Pickup** – The order for the new pickup was made 12/10/2019. Delivery should be 6-8 weeks. Disposal options for the Ford are being researched.

• **Grant Year-End Reporting** – All grants require a semi-annual or annual report by February 1. None of the grants end until June 30, 2020. In January, we will start negotiating a 2-year Amendment to the WPLMN grant.

• **Lake Redwood Dredging Project Update** –

December 12, 2019: Met with Jeanne Palmer, owner of the 8-acre parcel of land (peninsula) within the lake that is planned to be dredged. Jim Doering and Keith Muetzel from the City of Redwood Falls, and Dennis McAlpine from Houston Engineering participated as well. The Redwood County Assessor has provided what parcel history can be found as this parcel wasn't on the tax rolls until 1992. Palmer bought 100 acres in 2009 of which this parcel was part. Of the 8 acres, the area to be removed is about 2.8 acres. Palmer is in favor of the project, but just asks for fair compensation for the property.

Following the Palmer meeting, Netzke and McAlpine met with attorney Frank Munshower to discuss the status of the dewatering pond land acquisition. The soils report has not been received, nor the appraisals. Both companies will be urged to submit these soon. The Palmer property was also discussed. It may be possible to dredge the peninsula via an easement rather than a purchase. Munshower is researching this.

Lastly, Netzke and McAlpine met with Al Forsberg and Jeff Bommersbach from the Redwood County Highway Dept. All concerns regarding use of the county's ROW for the disposal pipeline, proper signage and usage of the Ramsey Creek bridge on CSAH 17 were resolved. Houston will be applying for the ROW permit soon.

AREA II ENGINEER'S REPORT (December). Netzke reviewed the Engineer's Report with the Board.

Projects Being Designed: *Springdale 19 Dams, Redwood County*. Plans for this project are completed and permit applications have been submitted to the DNR and Corps of Engineers. Additional information has been submitted to the DNR as requested. We are planning a December 30 meeting with the Tracy Golf Course to verify the location of the dam on the golf course property before providing further information to the USACE. Netzke added that the meeting has been rescheduled for January 9 due to inclement weather. *Custer 10 Small Dam, Lyon County*. The DNR has issued the Dam Safety Permit for this project. A Notice of Decision from WCA has been received which identifies additional wetlands to be mitigated for a potential impact area of 0.73 acres. A Phase I archeological survey has been completed which did not find any artifacts. The Corps permit is the last task to complete. *Kurtz Wetland Restoration, Lyon County*. The project plans are complete and we are responding to comments received from BWSR from a preliminary submittal. We have made this reply a priority and plan to submit to BWSR in January. *Del Clark Lake Sediment Ponds, Yellow Medicine County*. The plans for these three structures are nearly complete. A WCA No-Loss Exemption 8420.0514 Subpart D for the purpose of fish and wildlife habitat restoration has been approved by the TEP. Final plan changes are being made. The LQP-YB Watershed District is submitting the Joint Notification to the permitting agencies. *Holly 2 Small Dam, Murray County*. A wetland delineation has recently been completed for this project. The delineation identified some small areas of wetlands, primarily in the eroded creek channel, which need to be evaluated for impacts of the project. We are making minor changes to the plans due to the wetland. We should receive the delineation report in early January and will then work on permit applications for the project. *Nordland 18 Water and Sediment Control Basins, Lyon County*. The tile work has been completed on this project. *North Hero 27 Grade Stabilization Repair, Redwood County*. Plans for this small dike and outlet pipe have been completed and are being submitted to the NRCS for potential EQIP funding. This project will likely be constructed in 2020. **RFP for Soil Borings**. A request for proposals from American Engineering Testing has been requested and received for soil borings for these pending 2020 projects: 1) Del Clark Lake Sediment Dams, 2) Rock Lake 15 Detention Structure and 3) Springdale 26 Small Dam. *County Ditch 15A Detention, Yellow Medicine County*. We met in December with the landowners who own a parcel of property which was at one time a lakebed. Because of their inability to farm the

land successfully, they are considering some type of wetland restoration or storage project. Although they were initially interested in a wetland bank option, the up-front costs and time frame do not meet their objectives. We are now considering, a detention project, using Area II funding and other sources as an option. ***Gales 36 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.*** Plans have been prepared for this grade stabilization project just above Lone Tree Creek. Since the project may be partially paid with EQIP funds, the plans have been submitted to the NRCS for their review.

AREA II FY2019 – AUDIT/REPRESENTATION LETTER. John Maatz, Rick Anderson, Luke Johnson, Joy Bruns and Kerry Netzke had a conference call with the auditor this morning at 8:15 am. The auditors explained their findings and answered our questions. A motion to accept the audit and to authorize signatures on the Representation Letter is necessary. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Rick Anderson, to accept the audit and to authorize Chairman Maatz and Netzke to sign the Representation Letter on behalf of the Board. Motion carried unanimously. Bound copies of the audit will be arriving soon and provided to the member counties, BWSR and State Auditor.

2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION. Netzke stated that the legislative session will start in early February. Area II has requested \$1,000,000 in bonding funds for projects with Senator Dahms’ office drafting the language.

AREA II SOIL BORING RFP – Approval. Netzke presented the board with a quote from American Engineering Testing, Inc. for three projects: 1) Del Clark Lake Sediment Ponds - \$8,000 lump sum for all 3 structures; 2) Rock Lake 15 Retention Structure - \$4,000 lump sum; and 3) Springdale 6 Small Dam - \$4,500 lump sum. Discussion followed. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Larry Anderson, to authorize the soil borings for the projects quoted at a total cost of \$16,500. Motion carried unanimously. This amount had been budgeted for Investigation and Testing.

ADJOURNMENT. Chairmen Johnson and Maatz declared the meeting adjourned at 10:13 AM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

February Board Meeting	Thursday, February 6, 2020	Redwood Falls – Redwood County Learning Center – 9 AM
March Board Meeting	Thursday, March 5, 2020	Marshall – BWSR Conference Room – 9 AM
April Board Meeting	Thursday, April 2, 2020	Redwood Falls – Redwood County Learning Center – 9 AM