

# AREA II

## AREA II / RCRCA

### June 3, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom, Marshall, MN

*Board consensus to have voice voting. If the vote is not unanimous, a roll call vote will be done.*

**AREA II Members Present:** Larry Anderson, John Maatz, Gary Crowley, Lori Gunnink, Luke Johnson, and Glen Kack.

**RCRCA Members Present:** Larry Anderson, Jeff Nielsen, Glen Sorensen, Gary Crowley, Mark Meulebroeck, Lori Gunnink, Luke Johnson, Larry Fenicle, Ed Carter and Glen Kack.

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM by RCRCA Chairman Johnson and Area II Chairman Maatz. Meeting start was delayed due to a few connection/audio issues with the Zoom meeting.

**ADOPT AGENDA.** Chairman Johnson asked for any additions to the Agenda. Netzke requested an addition to the Agenda: Item #16 – RCRCA 2015 Dodge pickup tires. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Meulebroeck, to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.**

**MASWCD AREA 5** – No report.

**AMC** – No report.

**YMRWD** – Tim Dritz reported that they are starting the second cycle of the WRAPS.

**MPCA** – No report.

**APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of May 2020 Board Meeting.** Motion by Nielson, seconded by Carter, to approve the May 2020 Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of May 2020 Board Meeting.** Motion by Johnson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the May 2020 Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – May 2020.** Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Meulebroeck, to approve the May 2020 Treasurer’s Report and to authorize payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – May 2020.** Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board. Revenue Received: \$3,418.50 Contract Services Income, \$16,875.40 FY20 Levy, \$2,030.00 Miscellaneous Income (Kurtz Wetland Restoration) and \$118.67 Interest Income. Bills for approval: Bolton & Menk \$2,465.00. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the May 2020 Treasurer’s Report and to authorize payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Revenue as recorded:**

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 3,418.50	Projects-Bonding	\$ 0.00
Interest Income	\$ 118.67	County Levy	\$ 16,875.40
State of MN-Administrative	\$ 0.00	SWCD Tech Assistance	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2,030.00	PERA Assistance	\$ 0.00

**Paid bills are summarized below:**

Administration	\$ 15,449.78	Office Supplies	\$ 0.00
Bonding Project Funds	\$ 0.00	Other Insurance	\$ 60.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 0.00	Postage	\$ 0.00
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,430.60	Professional Services	\$ 8,482.50
Directors' Expense	\$ 0.00	Project Expenses Paid	\$ 0.00
Directors' Insurance	\$ 0.00	Project Permit Fees	\$ 0.00
Employee Expense	\$ 0.00	Rent	\$ 837.00
Field Supplies	\$ 0.00	Telephone	\$ 19.32
Investigating & Testing	\$ 0.00	Utilities	\$ 0.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 118.89	Vehicle Expense	\$ 158.27
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 0.00	Continuing Education	\$ 0.00
Insurance	\$ 0.00		

**Bill for approval:**

Professional Fees	\$ 2,465.00
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**APPROVE AREA II NEW COST SHARE CONTRACT.** None presented.

**APPROVE AREA II COST SHARE CONTRACT PAYMENT.** None presented.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT.**

**AREA II**

- **Bonding Request** – The version of the Bonding Bill when the legislature adjourned on May 18 did not include funding for Area II as requested in sf2926 and hf3125. Little testimony occurred for the bill due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Netzke contacted Senator Dahms and Representative Torkelson who are continuing their efforts to get Area II included in the bill when the legislature meets in Special Session later this month.
- **Willis Beecher** – Long-time friend and former Board member, Willis Beecher passed away on May 20, 2020 at the age of 92. His obituary is included in the Agenda packet for those members who remember him. A sympathy card was sent on the Board's behalf.
- **Dam Inspections** – Netzke and DeSchepper conducted the annual dam inspections in early May. Due to the majority of county and SWCD staff working remotely, no local partners were asked to accompany Area II staff. The findings will be covered as an Agenda item.
- **Springdale 21 Road Retention** – The project received FEMA Mitigation Funds to repair the damages from the 2018 July flood, to raise the roadway 2' and to relocate the emergency overflow section of the road. The township is soliciting quotes, however an amendment to the DNR Dam Safety Permit is needed prior to start of construction. Area II has agreed to provide the plan sheets and hydraulic analysis for the amendment. Dam Safety does not have any issues with the revisions as discussed. Area II will make this high priority as the contractor would like to start work on this.

**RCRCA**

- **FY2019 Audit** – All requested information has been transmitted to Kinner & Co. for the ongoing audit.
- **Pre-WRAPS Final Report** – The final report summarizing the goals/results/highlights of the grant was submitted May 29, 2020. Upon approval, a retainage amount of \$1,827.86 will be approved and sent to RCRCA.
- **2020 Canoe Trips** – As reported last month, staff made the decision to cancel the canoe trips for June 2020 as it would be difficult to maintain the social distancing requirements related to this event. Several of the annual participants are trying to arrange a smaller group to canoe/kayak the same route. The nice weather has spurred a lot of kayaking interest and calls to the office on the river conditions and suitability for kayaking.
- **Lake Redwood** – The City of Redwood Falls had the MOA on their June 2 Agenda for discussion/approval. The land acquisition is finalized, paid, reimbursed by the State, and abstracts are in hand. Houston Engineering has been working on finalizing the Plans/Specs for Phase I -- construction of the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF). The Board will be asked to authorize the advertising of bids.

## **AREA II – ENGINEER’S REPORT.**

***Springdale 19 Dams, Redwood County.*** The DNR has received the signed operation and maintenance agreement. They are ready to issue their permit as soon as easements are signed. The Corps of Engineers disputes the “no wetland” determination made by the Redwood SWCD so we have submitted additional wetland impact information to the Corps. We are awaiting further word from the Corps. ***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. An archeological survey has been completed and did not find any artifacts. The Corps permit application has been submitted and we await comments. ***Kurtz Wetland Restoration, Lyon County.*** A teleconference was held on April 20. There is some skepticism regarding the project from a few neighboring landowners. An on-site meeting will be scheduled soon to hopefully remove the reservations. ***Del Clark Lake Sediment Ponds.*** The Corps of Engineers is currently in a 10 – day comment period before issuing their permit. We are preparing the final bidding documents. ***Holly 2 Small Dam, Murray County.*** Permit applications to the DNR and Corps have been submitted. Some additional information has been provided to the Corps. ***North Hero 27 Grade Stabilization Repair, Redwood County.*** Plans for this small dike and outlet pipe have been completed and have been submitted to the NRCS for EQIP funding. Announcement of EQIP funds was expected by the end of May but has been delayed due to ranking/scoring system issues. ***County Ditch 15A Detention, Yellow Medicine County.*** The property was previously lakebed and was drained by the county ditch. Because of the landowner’s inability to farm the land along the county ditch 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. We await information on the CRP options and if that program can be combined with ours and/or funding through the ditch system. ***Gales 36 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.*** Plans have been prepared for this small 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 review. We await the decision of EQIP funds. ***Holly 4 Small Dam, Murray County.*** Preliminary design for this project is just beginning. The proposed dam would be relatively large and would control flows on a substantial watershed. ***Lac qui Parle River Flow Restoration.*** We are awaiting further survey work from the DNR before we can proceed any further on this study. ***Amiret 28 Diversion, Lyon County.*** Design is nearly complete on this project which would create a diversion channel to route storm flows away from a house and cattle yard. Funding will likely be some combination of EQIP and township moneys. ***Norman 7 Small Dam Repair, Yellow Medicine County.*** Design work is underway on this dam repair project. An adjacent shooting range with a clubhouse located in the emergency spillway area will necessitate some redesign of the spillway area. ***Sandnes 10 Riprap Protection, Yellow Medicine County.*** We visited this site of a streambank violation along the Yellow Medicine River on May 20 as the landowner added some rock along the streambank to curb bank erosion. The DNR has agreed to work with the landowner to protect the home and will consider permitting riprap if an engineered design plan is submitted. We will meet with the DNR before proceeding with any design. Some survey work is needed to establish the river elevation where the river leaves its banks.

## **AREA II – 2020 DAM INSPECTION FINDINGS.**

***Walnut Grove Reservoir (Lake Laura)*** – Looks really good. The new park manager has been doing a great job with maintenance and burning areas.

***Schoper-Bush Reservoir*** – Two issues noted: broken bolt on the low flow inlet trash rack which is causing the rack to be tilted, and needed removal of the tree debris from the Emergency Spillway.

***Minett-Krantz Reservoir*** – One issued noted: trash rack is not bolted down and has tilted due to ice accumulation.

***Wellner-Hageman Reservoir*** – Looks good. Not as much Leafy Spurge as noted in past inspections, although the inspection was conducted a few weeks earlier than in past years.

### **YMRWD Dams:**

***Hauschild-Thange Reservoir*** – Tree piles need to be burned and buried. YMRWD was asked to notify Thompson Excavating to complete this portion of the contracted work. Area II will notify the contractor as well.

***Porter Dam*** – Looks good. No major problems noted.

***Sonstegaard-Telste Reservoir*** – Apparently the water level had been high for a while in 2019 and the large mass of moss by the inlet noted from the last inspection is suspected to have caused it. A line of cocklebur has developed on the upstream face of the dam where the high water was. Trespassing must also be a problem as “No Trespassing” signs are now posted at the site.

**Fales-VanHyfte Reservoir** – No changes from last year. DNR Conservation Officer Derek Daniels was onsite and informed Area II staff that a car was found at the bottom of the lake by ice fisherman and reported it to the Yellow Medicine County Sheriff's office. The plates are from a vehicle reported stolen several years ago and never recovered. The sheriff's office plans to remove the vehicle with Daniel's assistance (scuba diving).

**AREA II DRAFT FY21 BUDGET.** Netzke presented the board with an updated draft budget for FY21 with four options of COLA and merit increases ranging from 1% COLA to 2% COLA + 1% merit. Discussion followed. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Anderson, to approve Option 1 (1% COLA). Motion carried unanimously. Netzke will update the FY20-21 Biennial Plan with the approved budget before submitting to BWSR.

**AREA II FY20-21 BIENNIAL PLAN UPDATE.** Netzke presented the board with a draft of the updated plan for FY21. Approval of the update no longer requires a meeting and approval from the BWSR Southern Region Water Plan Committee nor the BWSR Board. The BWSR Executive Director has the authority to approve plan updates. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Biennial Plan Update as discussed for FY21. Motion carried unanimously.

**AREA II – RFP for FY20 AUDIT.** Netzke presented the board with a list of local auditors to send an RFP for Area II's FY20 audit. Motion by Anderson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the list of auditors. Motion carried unanimously.

**LAKE REDWOOD RECLAMATION PROJECT UPDATE.**

**Engineering:** Netzke reviewed Houston Engineering, Inc.'s report for the past month with the board.

**MOA between RCRCRA and the City of Redwood Falls.** An amended agreement was on the City of Redwood Falls' Council agenda for June 2, 2020 (last evening). It is anticipated that it was approved and signed.

**CDF Property Acquisition:** The closing was completed on May 6, 2020. Final payment has been made.

**Authorization of Advertisement of Bids for Confined Disposal Facility (CDF).** Netzke reviewed with the board the advertisement and bid process for the CDF. Ads will appear in the Marshall Independent and Redwood Falls Gazette newspapers, and the online Quest advertising site. Plans will only be available by Quest website. On June 17, a mandatory pre-bid meeting (2 persons/contractor) will be held in Redwood Falls, and on June 26 the bid opening will be held in Redwood Falls facilitated by Houston Engineering, Inc. An award recommendation will be made to the RCRCRA Board at the July 2 meeting. Motion by Kack, seconded by Sorensen, to approve the proposed advertisement for Phase I -- Construction of the CDF. Motion carried unanimously.

**RCRCRA – 2015 DODGE RAM Tire Replacement.** Recently, during a regular oil change, it was brought to our attention that the front tires were not wearing evenly, most likely from an alignment issue. One tire was in bad shape and needs replacement. A warranty may be available on the tire and will be inspected this afternoon by the tire dealer. Pre-authorization to replace at least 2 of the tires is requested if the warranty will not replace the tire. Discussion followed. Motion by Crowley, seconded by Anderson, to replace all 4 tires with an alignment. Treasurer Meulebroeck will concur with Netzke on the best option for tires and alignment. Motion carried unanimously.

**DEAD COON LAKE OUTLET.** Sorensen inquired about the status of Dead Coon Outlet to see if another inspection was warranted and if more work is needed to resolve the problem. Last June, the boards visited the site where the lake outlet was flooding a private driveway for a prolonged period of time. Duane Hansel, PE and Bill Moldestad looked at the site and put together some repair options. None of the options would resolve the issue entirely and were all very costly. Lincoln County provided repair work to make the driveway more secure and passable with Lincoln, Lyon and Redwood Counties splitting the costs (25/50/25 according to agreement).

**NEXT MEETING.** Chair Johnson noted that the next regular meeting is scheduled for July 2, 2020. Discussion followed regarding holding the meeting in-person and a possible meeting location. Netzke will find a suitable indoor location that will allow for social distancing. This will be posted on the website and included with the board meeting information prior to the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT.** RCRCA Chairman Johnson & Area II Chairman Maatz declared the meeting adjourned at 10:33 AM.

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**UPCOMING MEETINGS.**

July Board Meeting	Thursday, July 2, 2020	In-Person Location To Be Determined
August Board Meeting	Thursday, August 6, 2020	Location To Be Determined
September Board Meeting	Thursday, September 3, 2020	Location To Be Determined

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John Maatz, Area II Chairman

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Date