

AREA II

AREA II / RCRCA

September 2, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Lyon County Government Center and via Zoom

*Note: All Area II members were present; RCRCA had 2 voting members join via Zoom.
A roll call vote is required if any board members attend via Zoom.*

AREA II Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Larry Anderson, Joe Drietz, Rick Anderson, Lori Gunnink, Luke Johnson and Glen Kack.

RCRCA Members Present: Jeff Veerkamp, Mark Wellner (Zoom), Larry Anderson, Joe Drietz, Glen Sorensen, Rick Anderson, Mark Meulebroeck, Lori Gunnink, Paul Posthuma (Zoom), Luke Johnson, Larry Fenicle, 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 Vice Chairman Kack.

ADOPT AGENDA. Chairman Johnson asked for any additions to the Agenda. **RCRCA** - Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the Agenda as presented. Roll Call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously. **Area II** - Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

AMC – Commissioners Johnson and Anderson reported that the AMC Retreat is at the Arrowwood Resort, Alexandria. September 15 is the golf day with the legislative conference starting on September 16.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of August 2021 Board Meeting. Motion by Carter, seconded by Larry Anderson, to approve the August 2021 Minutes as corrected. Roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of August 2021 Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Gunninck, to approve the August 2021 Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – August 2021. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Bill for approval: Houston Engineering Inc. \$8,008.50. Transferred all but \$500 from the MAGIC account to the Cash Sweep Account for a better interest rate. Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Rick Anderson, to file the August 2021 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to authorize payment of the bills. Roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

CD RENEWAL – RCRCA. A \$100,000 CD at State Bank of Taunton will mature on September 8, 2021. State Bank of Taunton will offer 0.45% for 12 months to renew this CD although the rate is intended for new deposits. Motion by Sorenson seconded by Fenicle, to authorize the renewal of the current CD plus interest at 0.45% for 12 months at State Bank of Taunton. Roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – August 2021. Financials were reviewed with the Board. Revenue Received: \$5,870.39 Contract Services Income, \$27.40 Interest and \$16,738.55 Other Revenue (LQP-YB Watershed District reimbursement for Del Clark Sediment Ponds). Transferred all but \$500 from the MAGIC account to the Cash Sweep Account for a better interest rate. Bill for approval: Bolton & Menk, Inc.

\$7,296.00. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Veerkamp, to file the August 2021 Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and to authorize payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Revenue as recorded:

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 5,870.39	Projects-Bonding	\$ 0.00
Interest Income	\$ 27.40	County Levy	\$ 0.00
State of MN-Administrative	\$ 0.00	SWCD Tech Assistance	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 16,738.55	PERA Assistance	\$ 0.00

Paid bills are summarized below:

Administration	\$ 22,553.11	Office Supplies	\$ 108.97
Bonding Project Funds	\$ 0.00	Other Insurance	\$ 0.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 0.00	Postage	\$ 275.00
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,336.23	Professional Services	\$ 3,732.00
Directors’ Expense	\$ 0.00	Project Expenses Paid	\$ 0.00
Directors’ Insurance	\$ 0.00	Project Permit Fees	\$ 0.00
Employee Expense	\$ 60.48	Rent	\$ 837.00
Field Supplies	\$ 0.00	Telephone	\$ 143.87
Investigating & Testing	\$ 0.00	Utilities	\$ 0.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 411.36	Vehicle Expense	\$ 68.01
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 153.21	Continuing Education	\$ 0.00
Insurance	\$ 0.00		

Bill for approval:

Professional Fees	\$ 7,296.00
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AREA II – APPROVE BONDING COST SHARE APPLICATIONS/AMENDMENTS/CANCELLATIONS.

None.

RCRCA – APPROVE CWF COST SHARE APPLICATIONS/AMENDMENTS/CANCELLATIONS.

NEW COST SHARE CONTRACTS:

Plum Creek Grant - CWF-2021-05

Landuyt Land & Livestock
EST Cost: \$98,867.92

Holly 3 – Murray

EST Cost Share:

CWF C/S:

319 Funds

410 Grade Stabilization

\$74,150.94 (75%)

\$18,537.74 (18.75%)

\$55,613.20 (56.25%)

Plum Creek Grant - CWF-2021-06

Steve Meyer
EST Cost: \$16,696.00

Holly 7 - Murray

EST Cost Share:

CWF C/S:

319 Funds

410 Grade Stabilization

\$12,372.00 (75%)

\$ 4,124.00 (25%)

\$ 8,248.00 (50%)

Netzke presented two new cost share contracts: Holly 3 - Murray 410 Grade Stabilization project and Holly 7 – Murray 410 Grade Stabilization project. Motion by Rick Anderson, seconded by Larry Anderson, to approve the cost share contracts. Roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

- **Vacation** – Netzke will be taking vacation from September 17 through September 24.
- **LCCMR Award** – The LCCMR funding decision for the “Increased Intense Rain and Flooding in Minnesota’s Watersheds” proposal by Dr. Jason Ulrich was announced on August 26. The proposal ranked 31 out of 99 presentations and scored 70. LCCMR will be meeting again on September 9 to determine the lowest score (typically 50-60) to fund proposals.

- **Server Hard-drive** – One of the 4 hard drives has gone bad requiring replacement. The \$581.10 cost was shared between the two organizations. SW/WC will bill for the diagnosis and 5-minute installation.

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- **MN Stream Mitigation Program** – The Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District adopted a stream mitigation program requiring mitigation where stream impacts cause a functional loss. The program requires mitigation through the purchase of stream credits or project specific stream restoration following a Stream Quantification Tool survey. The start date for this new program is not known.
- **Biennial Plan** – The BWSR Southern Region Water Plan Committee is meeting virtually on September 14 to review the Biennial Plan and recommend approval to the full BWSR Board on September 22. Once approved, the grant agreement will be executed and payment of \$140,000 to Area II.

RCRCA

- **Lake Redwood Dredging** – Work this month included:
 - 1) **Pre-construction Meeting:** August 11 at RACC. Houston Engineering prepared slides to present the timeline and activities. Three representatives from JF Brennan were in attendance to add information and to answer questions. There were about 30 in attendance with some good questions asked.
 - 2) **Permits:** The MNDOT Utility Accommodation permit application was received August 19. The crossing over Ramsey Creek, due to its Trout Stream classification, requires a “License to Cross Public Lands and Waters” from DNR. The application was submitted March 2021, however it is considered incomplete until the Contractor (JF Brennan) provides a Contingency Plan in the event a pipeline leak occurs and how it would be handled. Houston Engineering has reviewed the Contingency Plan and submitted the information to DNR on September 1.
 - 3) **JF Brennan’s 2021 Schedule:**
 - September – November 2021
 - Install pipe in road ditches, driveway crossings & boring under Highway 19
 - RCRCA will mail out postcards to impacted landowners of the driveways and field approaches with the tentative week that pipeline installation will likely happen.
 - Door hangers will be placed upon the homes at least 24 hours prior to digging. RCRCA will be printing up the postcards and door hanger notices.
 - Sediment survey via air boat will be September/October 2021.
 - 4) **CDF Insurance:** Netzke spoke with MCIT. Since the CDF is a Class 3 (low hazard) dam, it is automatically covered by MCIT. RCRCA liability follows RCRCA to any of its operations, so the CDF is covered as well. The only “property” that is not earthen is the concrete pipe through the embankment. There is a \$400,000 maintenance bond carried by Mathiowetz Construction Company that covers any defects from materials or workmanship. MCIT reviewed the insurance required by the contract and the limits, and concurred that it meets the required limits. MCIT Property/Casualty insurance estimates for 2022 have been received. RCRCA’s premium has increased significantly; MCIT determined \$3,369 is the portion attributable to the CDF which can be charged to the grant.
 - 5) **Photos:** Netzke obtained photos from the Redwood County Historical Society of the dam/lake in hopes of seeing what the pond area looked like before the lake filled. Most photos were taken after the lake had filled or of the dam construction itself. It is still unknown if the cut trees were removed.

- **Pell Creek CWF Application** – In similar fashion to the CWF grant that was applied for and received for the Plum Creek subwatershed, a \$648,075 grant application was submitted for Pell Creek. The Redwood SWCD is partnering with RCRCA and would provide 50% cost-share with 319 funds, with 25% cost-share from CWF, and 25% provided by the project cooperator. BWSR Board will announce awards at their December 2021 meeting.

AREA II – ENGINEER’S REPORT.

Springdale 19 Dam, Redwood County. We have reviewed submittals from R & G Construction. They are preparing for construction in late October or early November. The Redwood SWCD is preparing the contract documents with R&G. **Del Clark Lake Sediment Ponds, Yellow Medicine County.** We are working on the final payment for this project and have provided the contractor with a punch list of final work to be completed before final payment will be released. **Springdale 13/24 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.** L&S Construction has

provided submittals and is preparing for construction soon as silage was recently chopped from the fields. **Holly 7 Water and Sediment Control Basin, Murray County.** Ryan West is preparing for construction this fall. CWF and 319 contracts are being finalized. **Perch Lake Outlet, Lincoln County.** At the request of Lincoln County, we are exploring the construction of tile line to provide an outlet for Perch Lake. The lake has no natural outlet until it reaches a very high elevation and has been at historically high stages for the last few years. The township and adjacent landowners wish to proceed. Netzke added that a preliminary plan and cost estimate was sent to Lincoln County on September 1. We will wait for their response before proceeding with survey and design. **Nordland 20 Small Dam, Lyon County.** We have completed most of the design work for this small dam, which is located just upstream from a larger dam constructed in 2019. This dam would capture sediment before it enters the larger dam's reservoir. **Shaokatan 31 Small Dam Repair, Lincoln County.** Design work is nearly completed for this dam repair. The pond behind the dam is used primarily for cattle watering and has insufficient capacity to store water. As part of the project, the dam is proposed to be raised and the outlet pipe replaced. **Island Lake 19 Small Dam, Lyon County.** We have just started design work for this structure which would help to capture sediment.

AREA II/RCRCA - 2022 HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWALS. SW/WC Service Cooperative is arranging a transition from BCBS to Medica, which is anticipated to be smooth with the coverage remaining the same. Renewal rates for 2022: Area II earned a 0.3% increase and received a 3.0% increase to \$1,835.46 per month (Area II's portion \$1,453.48, employee's portion \$381.98). RCRCA did not earn or receive an increase with rates remaining the same – \$926 per month (single coverage)/\$1705 (family coverage). RCRCA will pay \$926 for single coverage and \$1,486.88 for family coverage with the employee paying \$218.12. **RCRCA** – Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Veerkamp, to approve the 2022 health insurance renewal. Roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously. **Area II** – Motion by Johnson, seconded by Drietz, to approve the 2022 health insurance renewal. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

LAKE REDWOOD RECLAMATION PROJECT UPDATE.

Engineering: Netzke reviewed Houston Engineering, Inc.'s (HEI) report for the July 11, 2021 to August 7, 2021 period with the Board.

AREA II/RCRCA 2021 ANNUAL MEETING. November 4 will be the date of the annual meeting. Netzke has been in contact with both suggested venues: Painted Prairie Winery near Dovray and Schell's Brewery in New Ulm. Information was received from Schell's Brewery yesterday as the company will begin renting out the Bier Halle for private parties starting November 1. A user agreement will be forthcoming. Tours of the facility are limited to 30 people, so two tours will be arranged with waiting in the private taproom/taste testing area. A meeting will follow with a catered meal from an outside vendor at the end of the meeting. Save the Date cards will be mailed soon. Event details will be worked out over the next month. Rick Anderson noted that a date conflict with PrimeWest Health that meets in Alexandria from 1-3 PM. This may prevent some county commissioners from attending. It is hoped that the change of location may attract more legislators to attend.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW – Netzke. Vice Chair Kack reported that the Executive Board met virtually with Netzke on September 1 for her performance review. She received a favorable review averaging 2.86 out of 3 (7 of 9 counties returned the questionnaire). A merit increase was not budgeted this fiscal year, only a 2% COLA that was received July 1, 2021. Motion by Larry Anderson, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the performance review. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT. With no other business, RCRCA Chairman Johnson and Area II Vice Chairman Kack adjourned the meeting at 9:58 AM. The next meeting will be October 7, 2021 in Redwood Falls at the Redwood County Government Center.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

October Board Meeting	Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021	via Zoom – In-person (Hybrid) Redwood
November Board Meeting/Annual Meeting	Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021	Schell's Brewery, New Ulm, MN

John Maatz, AREA II Chairman

Date