

AREA II

AREA II/RCRCA

April 6, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting – Redwood County Government Center, Redwood Falls, MN

AREA II Members Present: Dennis Potter, Norman Holmen, John Maatz, Charles Sanow, Lori Gunnink, Luke Johnson, Dennis Groebner and Glen Kack.

RCRCA Members Present: Dennis Potter, Jack Vogel, Norman Holmen, Clark Lingbeek, Glen Sorensen, Charles Sanow, Mark Meulebroeck, Lori Gunnink, Paul Posthuma, Luke Johnson, Arvin Pater, Dennis Groebner and Glen Kack.

Others Present: Kerry Netzke–Executive Director, Joy Bruns–RCRCA Office Manager, and John Boulton–YMRWD.

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

ADOPT AGENDA. Area II Chairman Johnson asked for any additions to the agenda. Motion by Potter, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

Area V MASCWD – Supervisor Lingbeek reported that the MASWCD Legislative Day at the Capitol was last week. MASWCD held discussions on the Governor’s “25 by 2025” initiative, calling for a 25% reduction in water pollution by 2025. Becky Alexander, technician from the Cottonwood SWCD, was selected to meet with the Governor’s office regarding the buffer initiative and DNR mapping changes process.

MN RIVER CONGRESS – Supervisor Lingbeek recommended to the Congress organizers to contact Shawn Wahnoutka (RCRCA) to assist with the Minnesota River history and the State of the Minnesota River. This information is wanted for the next Congress to be held on May 18th in Redwood Falls. Lingbeek would like information on both Area II and RCRCA displayed at this meeting.

YMRWD – Boulton reported that tiling permit applications are coming in with the spring thaw. The Yellow Medicine 1W1P is going well and is a boost for the watersheds that do larger projects. They are working with two SWCDs for financial and technical shared services agreements. MAWD Legislative Day at the Capitol was also recently held.

SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOPS – Chairman Holmen attended the Comfrey Soil Health Workshop held on March 28th. David Brandt from Ohio was the keynote speaker and talked about his success with cover crops over a span of 40+ years (~125 attended). RCRCA/NRCS sponsored the same meeting in Marshall on March 29th (~100 attended). Slake testing on soils and a Rainfall Simulator were conducted at both locations as well.

MN PUBLIC DRAINAGE MANUAL PUBLIC OUTREACH TO DRAINAGE AUTHORITIES – Chairman Holmen shared that BWSR will be hosting three MPDM Outreach Workshops on the following dates: May 22 at the Minnesota State Community & Technical College in Moorhead; May 23 at the Coyote Moon Event Center in St. Cloud; and May 25 at the New Ulm Conference Center in New Ulm. There is a fee of \$25/person to cover expenses. An email with this information will be forwarded to the board members.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of February 2, 2017 Monthly Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Meulebroeck, to approve the February 2017 Minutes as presented per Executive Board recommendation in March. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of February 2, 2017 Monthly Board Meeting. Motion by Maatz, seconded by Potter, to approve the February 2017 Minutes as presented per Executive Board recommendation in March. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of March 2, 2017 Monthly Board Meeting. Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Posthuma, to approve the March 2017 Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of March 2, 2017 Monthly Board Meeting. Motion by Holmen, seconded by Potter, to approve the March 2017 Minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – February 2017. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Sorensen, to approve the February 2017 Treasurer’s Report as presented per Executive Board recommendation in March. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – March 2017. Netzke reviewed the March 2017 financials with the Board. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Vogel, to approve the March 2017 Treasurer’s Report and payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – February 2017. Motion by Maatz, seconded by Potter, to approve the February 2017 Treasurer’s Report as presented per Executive Board recommendation in March. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue as recorded:

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 4,367.40	Projects-Bonding	\$ -0-
Interest Income	\$ 8.08	Misc. Income	\$ 7,728.56
1W1P Grant Income	\$ -0-	County Levy	\$ -0-
State of MN-Administrative	\$ -0-	1W1P Grant Funds	\$ -0-

Paid bills are summarized below:

Administration	\$ 13,287.81	Directors’ Expense	\$ -0-
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 1,129.42	Rent	\$ 837.00
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 100.38	Office Supplies	\$ -0-
Professional Services	\$ 8,990.00	Vehicle Expense	\$ 57.02
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,210.88	Field Supplies	\$ -0-
Bonding Project Funds	\$ -0-	Employee Expense	\$ 168.01
Postage	\$ -0-	Project Expense	\$ -0-
1W1P Grant Expenses	\$ -0-	Investigating & Testing	\$ -0-
Directors’ Insurance	\$ -0-	Telephone	\$ 17.48
Other Insurance	\$ -0-		

Approved bills for payment are summarized below:

Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ -0-	Professional Services	\$ 5,031.00
Consulting Services - 1W1P	\$ -0-	Project Expenses	\$ -0-
Contract Services - 1W1P	\$ -0-	Investigation/Testing	\$ -0-

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – March 2017. Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board. Income received: \$4,253.23 Contract Services income, and \$42.96 Interest income. Expenses were routine. Bills to approve: \$4,434.00 for Professional Services, and \$11,800.00 for Investigation & Testing. Motion by Maatz, seconded by Potter, to approve the March 2017 Treasurer’s Report and payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue as recorded:

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 4,253.23	Projects-Bonding	\$ -0-
Interest Income	\$ 42.96	County Levy	\$ -0-
State of MN-Administrative	\$ -0-	1W1P Grant Funds	\$ -0-

Paid bills are summarized below:

Administration	\$ 13,279.79	Directors' Expense	\$ -0-
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 397.02	Rent	\$ 837.00
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ -14.20	Office Supplies	\$ 38.28
Professional Services	\$ 5,031.00	Vehicle Expense	\$ 265.17
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,745.92	Field Supplies	\$ 67.50
Bonding Project Funds	\$ -0-	Employee Expense	\$ 345.07
Postage	\$ -0-	Project Expense	\$ 2,512.50
1W1P Grant Expenses	\$ -0-	Investigating & Testing	\$ -0-
Directors' Insurance	\$ -0-	Telephone	\$ 38.74
Other Insurance	\$ -0-		

Approved bills for payment are summarized below:

Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ -0-	Professional Services	\$ 4,434.00
Consulting Services - 1W1P	\$ -0-	Project Expenses	\$ -0-
Contract Services - 1W1P	\$ -0-	Investigation/Testing	\$ 11,800.00

RCRCA - APPROVE NEW COST SHARE APPLICATIONS:

Netzke presented two cost share contract applications for water and sediment control basins, both in Redwood County Section 27 of Sheridan Township. The Redwood SWCD will provide an additional 5% of cost-share for 75% maximum. Motion by Posthuma, seconded by Lingbeek, to approve both cost share contracts. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA CONTRACTS FOR AMENDMENT: None

RCRCA CONTRACTS FOR PAYMENT: None

AREA II – APPROVE NEW COST SHARE APPLICATIONS:

Goody's Farms LLC	Lyon – Nordland 28	Small Dam Repair
Original Bid: \$20,688.89		Original Cost Share: \$15,516.67 (75%)

Netzke presented one new contract to the Board for a small dam repair in Lyon County – Nordland Township, Section 28. Motion by Potter, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the contract. Motion carried unanimously.

AREA II CONTRACT AMENDMENT: None

AREA II CONTRACTS FOR PAYMENT: None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

- Attended a meeting in Sanborn regarding DNR's proposal to remove 3 dams on the Cottonwood River on March 6. Attended the public meeting in Lamberton on March 27. The result of these meetings is a separate agenda item.

AREA II

- **Yellow Medicine One Watershed One Plan (1W1P):**
 - All 10 MOA partners have adopted the Plan by resolution.
 - The Policy Committee has been established replacing members who have retired or were not re-elected.
 - BWSR Board approved the SAM-ACPF linkage grant on March 22. The 1W1P grant amendment and RESPEC contract should arrive soon.
 - The Plan Work Group is scheduled to meet April 17 to draft the MOA for Implementation of the Plan.
- Area II is now in possession of the R8 GPS unit (Lyon SWCD) and the Trimble 5603 Total Station (NRCS). Training and computer file transfers were done by Frontier Precision on March 23. The equipment has been added to the MCIT-insured equipment list. NRCS paid for cleaning and calibrating of the total station.

- A Senate hearing was held March 7 for the administrative funding increase request. The testimony went well and the bill laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. A House hearing request has been made. Area II is currently included in the House bill at \$140,000/year.
- American Engineering Testing has completed their work. Reports should be forthcoming soon.
- Netzke and DeSchepper attended the YMRWD meeting on March 15 for the Nordland 6 Road Retention (Lyon County). All parties wish to proceed and YMRWD allocated \$10,000 toward the \$27,000 local match. The two townships are determining their contributions and Lyon County will be asked for partnership as well.

RCRCA

- The final walk-through for the Storm Water Assessment Grant (SWAG) for the Cottonwood and Redwood River watersheds was held March 20. We are basically ready to begin work and working with MVTL lab on the separate grants, sample bottles, bottle labels, extra coolers, etc.
- The “Local Work Group Kick-Off” meetings for the Phase 1 WRAPS for the Cottonwood and Redwood watersheds have been set for April 19 in Wabasso. This meeting is to establish the LWGs, summarize the work plan and sampling schedule/sites, and develop a plan to approach the civic engagement. The \$7,000 amendment to the \$70,000 grant is being routed through MPCA for approval to reimburse RCRCA for mileage, staff time, and testing expenses. Unlike previous WRAPS projects, the LWG staff will be reimbursed at \$40/hour.
- RCRCA co-sponsored a Soil Health Workshop with NRCS on March 29 in Marshall. This was done through the Redwood River Turbidity Reduction Grant with past RCRCA cooperators receiving a special invitation. Of the 150 invitation letters mailed out, 23 were returned as the recipients had either moved or passed away, and 15 cooperators attended the workshop. With RCRCA serving as the fiscal agent, several donations will be received to offset the expenses for the workshop.

PROPOSED DAM REMOVALS ON THE COTTONWOOD RIVER. Netzke attended the meetings regarding the removal of 2 dams near Sanborn and one by Lambertson. The dams were not constructed for flood control purposes, but rather recreation. The Minnesota Legislature approved \$850,000 for this project to remove the three dams and install riffles or rapids. At both meetings, the public was concerned about maintaining current water levels. Several similar dam removals in the region were listed with successful results. All three dams must be removed as part of the grant to improve this reach of the Cottonwood River. The consensus of the groups was move forward with the removal project.

RCRCA – JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT RENEWAL (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019). Netzke provided the Board with a draft RCRCA Joint Powers Agreement. Netzke will provide the county and SWCDs with the Agreement, noting that only the dates were changed with the appropriations remaining the same. The RCRCA partners will be asked to authorize their delegates to sign the Agreement at the June 1st Board meeting.

RCRCA SUMMER CANOE TRIP UPDATE. Netzke reported that the canoe trips have been set: Redwood River on June 20th, Cottonwood River on June 22nd. Postcards will be mailed to past participants that have requested to be reminded of the trips, postings on Facebook and the RCRCA website, and flyers provided to the counties and SWCDs to be posted in their offices. Subway box lunches are planned for the meal. Bruns provided some flyers to the board members. Lingbeek recommends that we look into getting info/story/pictures in the local newspapers free of charge.

RCRCA CANOE/KAYAK RENTAL RATES. Netzke would like the Board to review the current rental rates of \$6/day for a canoe and \$3/day for a kayak, damage deposit of \$50 for each. After some discussion, a motion was made by Lingbeek, seconded by Vogel, to set the rates at: \$10/day for a canoe, \$5/day for a kayak, with \$50 damage deposit for each. Motion carried unanimously.

2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE.

Area II –

FY’18/FY19Administrative Services – hf398/sf348 – \$189,000/year from the general fund to BWSR for a grant to

Area II. A hearing was held March 7 with the Senate Environmental Finance Committee. A House hearing has been requested. As of today, both the House and Senate omnibus bills have \$140,000/year for Area II administration. Area II Bonding – hf447/sf588 – \$1M bond proceeds to BWSR for a grant to Area II for flood hazard mitigation projects. Hearings have been requested. The Senate has approved the 2016 Bonding bill language, however the House has made no progress on this. If project money is approved this year, the funds will likely not be available until the fall. Area II may be out of project money by the end of the year.

LOP-YB WD Bonding – hf1230/sf761 – \$500,000 in bonding for the engineering of two floodwater control projects. Hearings have been requested. House and Senate have made no progress on this.

RCRCA –

Lake Redwood Reclamation and Enhancement Project – hf413/sf294 – \$7.825M in bonding. The project was included in the 2016 Bonding Bill which was not signed by Governor Dayton. That same bonding bill was approved by the Senate Capitol Investment Committee and awaits vote by the full Senate. The House has not drafted a bonding bill yet.

AREA II ENGINEER’S REPORT.

Redwood Falls 18 Small Dam, Redwood County. After a teleconference with the Corps of Engineers Project Manager, we are still awaiting the Corps further review and comments. **Lincoln CD 37 Pump Station, Lincoln County.** A contract for this work has been processed for Thompson Excavating. We are now awaiting shop drawings and construction schedule information from the contractor. **Morton Dam Repair – Birch Cooley 19, Renville County.** Final plans for this project will be completed soon once some additional survey of the new emergency spillway is completed. The project is planned to be constructed in Spring using Flood Recovery Funds from the Renville SWCD. **Delhi 5 Small Dam Repair and Diversion Project, Redwood County.** We have met with the landowner for these grade stabilization and diversion channel projects. We are now waiting for successful funding with EQIP that was to be announced on March 17th. Bids are to be let April 13 for both projects. **Charlestown 34 Small Dam, Redwood County.** This small dam was planned several years ago at this location, but sand was discovered in the borings. A new site, further upstream of the previous location, has been investigated. Additional borings have been completed by American Engineering Testing and we are awaiting their report. **Gales 26 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.** Design work for this project was also completed in January. This is another project intended to be funded with EQIP funds. We met with the landowner who approved the design. If EQIP funds are not awarded, this project would qualify for Area II Bonding funds. Bids are to be let April 13. **Charlestown 30 Small Dam (Jeckell).** Bids for this project were received on March 23rd. The low bidder was Ryan West Excavating at \$69,039.20. The second low bidder was Mathiowetz Construction at \$72,237.00. The Engineer’s Estimate was \$93,099.05. **Nordland 20 Small Dam, Lyon County.** The plans for this dam are completed and the Corps of Engineers permit application has been submitted. The dam will impact a small wetland area, so mitigation of the impact in terms of a bypass tile line is anticipated to be required. Wetland credits may also need to be purchased. **Johnsonville 34 Small Dam Repair, Redwood County.** Bids for this project were accepted on March 23rd. The low bidder was Thompson Excavating at \$24,869.50. The second low bidder was Ryan West Excavating at \$26,372.06. The Engineer’s Estimate was \$29,733 including the contingency. The project is funded 100% with flood recovery funds through Redwood SWCD. **Shelburne 19 Wetland Restoration, Lyon County.** In conjunction with the Lyon SWCD, we are designing this wetland restoration for a landowner near Florence.

YELLOW MEDICINE ONE WATERSHED, ONE PLAN (1W1P). Netzke reported on the progress for the 1W1P. A grant amendment of \$50,000 is being drafted for the completion of the SAM-ACPF tool linkage. The funds would pay for administrative costs to Area II for fiscal management and reporting, and for a \$48,451.00 contract with RESPEC. Netzke requests authorization to sign the Amendment and RESPEC contract. Motion by Potter, seconded by Groebner, to authorize Netzke to sign the 1W1P Grant Amendment upon arrival. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Potter, to authorize Netzke to sign the RESPEC contract upon arrival. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT. With no other business to address, Area II Chairman Johnson and RCRCA Chairman Holmen declared the meeting adjourned at 10:28 AM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

May 2017 Board Meeting	May 4, 2017	Marshall, MN – BWSR Conference Room – 9:00 AM
June 2017 Board Meeting	June 1, 2017	Redwood Falls, MN – MN West Conf. Room – 9:00 AM
July 2017 Board Meeting	July 6, 2017	Marshall, MN – BWSR Conference Room – 9:00 AM