

AREA II

AREA II / RCRCA

September 6, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting
BWSR Conference Room - Marshall, MN

AREA II Members Present: Dennis Potter, Norman Holmen, Corey Sik, Rick Anderson, Lori Gunnink, Luke Johnson and Glen Kack.

RCRCA Members Present: Dennis Potter, Jeff Nielsen, Norman Holmen, Clark Lingbeek, Corey Sik, Glen Sorensen, Rick Anderson, Mark Meulebroeck, Lori Gunnink, Paul Posthuma, Luke Johnson, Ed Carter and Glen Kack.

Others Present: Kerry Netzke – Executive Director, Joy Bruns – RCRCA Office Manager, and Jason Beckler - BWSR.

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

ADOPT AGENDA. Chairman Johnson asked for any additions to the Agenda. With no changes, a motion was made by Gunnink, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY AND MEETING REPORTS.

MASWCD – Supervisor Lingbeek reported on Winona SWCD celebrating their 80th anniversary. He attended a meeting in Grand Rapids and met the new MN State Conservationist, Troy Daniell, from Texas. The resolutions committee is meeting to address the resolutions for the state convention. The Watonwan 1W1P held their first meeting and are going through the process of hiring a consultant.

MN River Congress – Supervisor Lingbeek announced the upcoming meeting on September 12. The annual meeting will be held on November 8; location is to be determined. They desire more SWCD involvement.

AMC – Commissioner Anderson reported that the policy committee meetings are next week. Funding of SWCDs through taxation will likely be discussed.

BWSR – Jason Beckler reported that CWF applications were due August 31; the applications requested more dollars than available as usual. In November, the State ranking will begin, and by December, the BWSR Board will approve distribution of the funds. The BWSR Board Meeting/Tour was held in August in the Worthington/Luverne area; the focus was on groundwater protection and sensitive area stormwater storage. Hawk Creek is among the nine new 1W1Ps that were approved to start plan development. Missouri Basin 1W1P is 6-8 months from completion. Area II's Biennial Work Plan Update was approved.

RATIFY RCRCA MINUTES of July 9, 2018 Monthly Board Meeting. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Meulebroeck, to accept the Executive Board recommendation to approve the July 2018 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of August 2, 2018 Executive Board Meeting. Motion by Potter, seconded by Anderson, to approve the August 2018 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

RATIFY AREA II MINUTES of July 9, 2018 Monthly Board Meeting. Motion by Holmen, seconded by Gunnink to accept the Executive Board recommendation to approve the July 2018 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of August 2, 2018 Executive Board Meeting. Motion by Potter, seconded by Anderson, to approve of the August 2018 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER’S REPORT – July/August 2018. July and August financial reports were provided to the Board. Netzke reviewed the August financials. Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Posthuma, to approve both the July and August Treasurer’s Reports and for payment of the August bills. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – July/August 2018. July and August financial reports were provided to the Board. Netzke reviewed the August financials. Revenue received: \$6,160.25 Contract Services Income, \$25.69 Interest Income and \$85,287.58 Bonding Reimbursement. Expenses were routine. Bill for approval: \$2,160.00 Professional Services (Bolton & Menk). Motion by Gunnink, seconded by Potter, to approve the July and August 2018 Treasurer’s Reports and for payment of the August bills. Motion carried unanimously.

Revenue as recorded:

Contract Service Income (RCRCA)	\$ 6,160.25	Projects-Bonding	\$ 85,287.58
Interest Income	\$ 25.69	County Levy	\$ -0-
State of MN-Administrative	\$ -0-	1W1P Grant Funds	\$ -0-
SWCD Tech Assistance	\$ -0-	1W1P-Contract Service	\$ -0-
Miscellaneous Income	\$ -0-	Other Income	\$ -0-

Paid bills are summarized below:

1W1P Grant Expenses (cash basis)	\$ -0-	Office Supplies	\$ -0-
Administration	\$ 14,813.43	Other Insurance	\$ -0-
Bonding Project Funds	\$ -0-	Postage	\$ 70.00
Contract Services - RCRCA	\$ 1,613.68	Professional Services	\$ 4,516.50
Directors’ Expense	\$ -0-	Project Expenses Paid	\$ 79,900.33
Directors’ Insurance	\$ -0-	Project Permit Fees	\$ -0-
Employee Expense	\$ -0-	Rent	\$ 837.00
Field Supplies	\$ -0-	Telephone	\$ 28.80
Investigating & Testing	\$ 352.40	Utilities	\$ -0-
Maintenance & Repair	\$ 107.19	Vehicle Expense	\$ 212.03
Miscellaneous Expense	\$ -0-	Capital Outlay	\$ -0-

Approved bills for payment are summarized below:

Professional Services	\$ 2,160.00	Maintenance & Repair	\$ -0-
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RCRCA - APPROVE NEW COST SHARE APPLICATIONS: None

RCRCA CONTRACTS FOR PAYMENTS: None

AREA II AMENDMENT COST SHARE CONTRACTS: None

AREA II CONTRACTS FOR PAYMENT: None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT.

- **Vacation** – On vacation August 22-24 and August 30-31.
- **Brown County Commissioners** – Netzke visited the Brown County Commissioners on August 7 for annual updates of both organizations and to present the levy request payable in 2019.
- **SW/WC Annual Meeting** – SW/WC hosted the annual insurance meeting on August 29 where premiums for 2019 were presented. Increases are projected; 2019 rates will be discussed as a separate Agenda item.

AREA II

- **Lake Laura Re-Inspection** – The Walnut Grove Reservoir (Lake Laura) was reinspected on August 17. The dam is in excellent condition considering the amount of water that went through it on July 3. If it weren't for photos taken during the flood event, the high water mark would not be obvious as no trash lines exist. The only repair needed is in the lower section of the emergency spillway where two gully sections formed. As a side note, Redwood County hired Wenck Associates to conduct a carp assessment of Lake Laura. There is a huge carp population in the lake despite it being a fairly good fishing spot.
- **Hauschild-Thange** – A contract was drafted between Eloise Hauschild and Thompson Excavating for the \$2,500 of tree removal at the dam site. YMRWD is offering a monetary incentive to the upstream landowner if he takes care of the tree removal first.
- **BWSR Board Tour/Meeting** – The BWSR Board toured Rock/Nobles Counties on August 22-23. The Area II Annual Plan, including the new bonding appropriation of \$700,000, was approved. Administration and Bonding contracts should be forthcoming soon.

RCRCA

- **Middle Minnesota WRAPS** – Netzke attended the work session in New Ulm on August 13 to help determine priority areas and targeted BMPs for the Middle Minnesota watershed. There are orphan areas in the Middle Minnesota that will become part of the Redwood and Cottonwood watersheds for IWIP development.
- **Cottonwood/Redwood WRAPS/TMDL** – Netzke attended the Drainage Water Management Tour at SWROC on the morning of August 16. The WRAPS Local Work Group met that afternoon at SWROC. Wenck presented more stream data analysis of the impaired reaches. Preliminary lake sediment core data was presented as well as the carp assessment survey results.
- **Clean Water Fund Applications** – Watershed monitoring data from 2017 could be considered as enough justification for the grant application, however BWSR staff feels that the application would be weak without the prioritization/targeting component that will come from the WRAPS and TMDL reports. A year from now, we will have ample information to be competitive. SWCDs were contacted for proposed projects that exist in these watersheds. Based on this information, an application for Sleepy Eye Creek was not considered due to the few numbers of projects at this time. Lyon SWCD submitted projects for Three Mile Creek; however the overall measurable outcomes would not be impressive. Applications will wait until 2019.
- **LCCMR Work Plan Presentation** – The first draft of the Work Plan and Budget was submitted to LCCMR on August 10 after meeting with Jim Doering, Redwood Falls Public Works Manager and Mike Weckwerth, MPCA. LCCMR comments were received August 15 for expansion of some sections. These revisions were submitted August 28. Once approved, a 10-minute PowerPoint will be created for the presentation and Q&A session on September 13, 2018 in St. Paul.

AREA II/RCRCA – 2019 HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS – Netzke presented the 2019 health insurance premium rate increases: Area II - 11.6%, going to \$1,885 for family coverage. RCRCA – 11.3%, going to \$977 for single coverage. These rates may be reduced by 0.5% by changing the prescription coverage (excluding CVS and Target). Two options for an increased deductible were discussed, increasing from a \$0 deductible to a \$300 or \$500 deductible. Discussion followed. **RCRCA** - Motion by Anderson, seconded by Carter, to recommend changing the deductible to \$500 and to have a BCBS Insurance Specialist discuss the insurance changes with the employees. Motion carried unanimously. **Area II** - Motion by Anderson, seconded by Gunnink, to recommend changing the deductible to \$500 and to have a BCBS Insurance Specialist discuss the insurance changes with the employees. Motion carried unanimously.

RCRCA – Lake Redwood Reclamation & Enhancement Project

A. Houston Engineering, Inc. – Meeting September 7, 2018

This meeting with Houston Engineering, the City of Redwood Falls, and RCRCA is to recap recent discussions with dredge contractors and to discuss some details that will require alteration from the 2008 project design.

B. LCCMR Work Plan Presentation/Q&A – September 13, 2018.

LCCMR is requesting a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation to the LCCMR Committee on September 13. An additional 10 minutes is scheduled for questions and answers. Following approval, the LCCMR/Bonds will be released and contracts drafted.

C. Area II/RCRCA Legislative Gathering – November 1, 2018.

Houston Engineering will be the guest speaker on the Lake Redwood Dredging project. Houston intends to make this an educational presentation to inform the audience of the process, expectations and potential complications of the project. A business meeting will be at 2:30 PM. Registration for the Annual Legislative Gathering will start at 3:00 PM with the meeting starting at 3:30 PM. The meeting time will complement the AMC meeting. An evening meal will be served following the meeting.

AREA II ENGINEER'S REPORT.

Projects under Construction. The following projects are currently under construction. All have been delayed by the recent wet weather. **Birch Cooley 19 Small Dam, Renville County.** The contractor has continued to struggle to get the banks stabilized and finished. The work is almost complete and seeding should be done in the first part of October. **Nordland 6 Road Retention, Lyon County.** A punch list of clean up items was given to the contractor to complete before final payment will be approved. **Delhi 5 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.** Bids were recently received with Ryan West Excavating as the low bidder. The construction date has not yet been set.

Nordland 20 Small Dam, Lyon County. Bidding will be scheduled as soon as the bonding money is available. **Alta Vista 18 Small Dam Repair, Lincoln County.** Plans for this project are completed and funding is being secured. **Charlestown 34 Small Dam, Redwood County.** Wetland credits will be purchased as soon as bonding funds become available. Ryan West Excavating may then start work as soon as soil conditions allow. **Hansonville 27 Small Dam Repair, Lincoln County.** The DNR has waived the dam safety permit fee for this project. Work should start in mid-September by Groundworks (Bill Sterzinger). **Springdale 19 Dams, Redwood County.** The project could include two or three dams in the area of the Tracy Golf Course. Another public meeting which will include a discussion about the use of a special taxing district is scheduled for September 12. So far, MnDOT has not expressed any major concerns with the project as long as they do not have to be financially involved or have permitting authority. **North Hero 18 Streambank Stabilization, Redwood County.** This bank stabilization was designed with riprap protection. The DNR was reluctant to permit the work on this Public Water unless the design was changed to include some bioengineering. We have redesigned the project and are awaiting the permit. **North Hero 30 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.** This project is located on property owned by Meadowland Farmers Coop east of Walnut Grove. The intent is to construct a grade stabilization structure and to clean an existing ditch in order to control drainage from a large Ag watershed. The design is nearly complete and we plan to meet with the owner on September 12. **Lyons 12 Small Dam Repair, Lyon County.** This is another typical dam repair project. The plans are nearing completion. **Lynd 15 Small Dam Repair, Lyon County.** At the request of the Lyon County Highway Department, we are evaluating a culvert crossing under County Road 74 as well as the repair of a small dam directly downstream of the road crossing. The culvert may be replaced and we are tasked to coordinate the hydraulics of both the culvert and dam repair. **Lake Marshall 32, Small Dam Repair.** This project is located on land donated to the DNR. The DNR has located a project sponsor and funds for the 25% local match which is the MN Waterfowl Association – Shetek Prairie Chapter. The project is currently out for bids.

Non-Board members were excused from the meeting for personnel performance reviews.

RCRCA – Performance Review – Wohnoutka. Wohnoutka is entering his 16th year of employment with RCRCA. He will move from 1.5 hours/month to 1.75 hours/month of vacation earned. Netzke recommended a 1% increase. If requested by the Yellow Medicine Watershed, Wohnoutka indicated his willingness to assist with SWAG sampling of rivers and lakes for the second round of WRAPS starting in 2019. Motion by Lingbeek, seconded by Sorensen, to approve the recommendation of a 1% increase beginning September 2, 2018. Motion carried unanimously. Chair Holmen expressed his thanks to Wohnoutka for his dedication and hard work and inform Wohnoutka of the unanimous approval of the motion.

RCRCA ADJOURNMENT – Chair Holmen adjourned the RCRCA meeting at 10:33 AM.

AREA II - Performance Review - Netzke. Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Anderson met with Netzke prior to the meeting this morning. It is the recommendation of the executive committee to approve a 1% merit increase as budgeted, retroactive to August 22, 2018. Motion by Holmen, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Executive Committee recommendation to increase Netzke’s hourly rate by 1%, retroactive to August 22, 2018. Motion carried unanimously. The board complimented Netzke on her ability to juggle all the work required for both Area II and RCRCA.

The Area II Board requested that the job descriptions be updated for the Executive Director and Engineering Technician positions. Netzke agreed to provide these for the October meeting for further discussion and action.

AREA II ADJOURNMENT. With no other business to address, Chairman Johnson and Chairman Holmen declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

UPCOMING MEETINGS.

October Board Meeting	Thursday, October 4, 2018	Redwood Falls, MN - 9:00 AM
November Board Meeting	Thursday, November 1, 2018	Redwood Falls – RACC – 2:30 PM
Annual Legislative Gathering	Thursday, November 1, 2018	Redwood Falls – RACC – 3:30 PM (Registration 3:00 PM)
December Board Meeting	Thursday, December 6, 2018	Redwood Falls, MN - 9:00 AM