

# RCRCA AREA II / RCRCA

## July 9, 2018 Boards of Directors Meeting BWSR Conference Room - Marshall, MN

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

**RCRCA Members Present:** Dennis Potter, Jeff Nielsen, Norman Holmen, Clark Lingbeek, Corey Sik, Glen Sorensen, Rick Anderson, Mark Meulebroeck, Lori Gunnink, Luke Johnson, Lon Walling, Brian Timm, Glen Kack and Tom Remmele.

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

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

**ADOPT AGENDA.** Chairman Holmen asked for any additions to the Agenda. Netzke requested an addition for correspondence received from MCEA regarding the Lake Redwood Project funding. Motion by Walling, seconded by Meulebroeck, to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

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

**MASWCD** – Supervisor Lingbeek reported that there is extensive damage to buffers, roads and projects due to the recent flooding. Discussion followed regarding: 1) possible cost-share to reseed buffers completed using State cost-share funds, 2) many gullies for SWCDs to address, 3) possible cost-share of cover crops for flood acres; and 4) possible cost-share for landowners that complied with buffer laws and seeded with their own funds. Supervisor Nielson added that the cost-shared buffers would be considered a replant with additional cost-share offered. **RCRCA** - Motion by Nielson, seconded by Lingbeek to authorize Netzke to compose a letter from RCRCA requesting that buffer re-establishment be considered as a replant with financial assistance offered to those landowners. Motion carried unanimously. The next Area V MASWCD meeting will be November 15 in Marshall; several resolutions will be presented regarding MDA's nitrogen fertilizer rule. **AMC** – Commissioner Anderson reported that the next Strategic Planning meeting is August 16-17. AMC is changing how information is worked into their platform.

**APPROVE RCRCA MINUTES of June 11, 2018 Monthly Board Meeting.** Motion by Johnson, seconded by Lingbeek, to approve the June 2018 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE AREA II MINUTES of June 11, 2018 Monthly Board Meeting.** Motion by Holmen, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the June 2018 Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE RCRCA TREASURER'S REPORT – June 2018.** Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board. Revenue received: \$1,055.36 Contract Services Income, \$130.00 Interest Income, \$60.00 Canoe Rental and \$31.07 Mileage Reimbursement from Area II. Expenses were routine with the following exceptions: 1) Special Events includes \$2,835.01 for staff time reimbursement for WRAPS meetings, 2) Professional Services includes Consultant Fees for the two WRAPs grants \$7,090.90, and 3) Project Expense of \$10,511.78 on the Redwood River Turbidity Reduction Project grant that ended June 30; payment was pre-approved last month. Bills for Approval are: Wenck Associates - Consultant Fees for the Redwood and Cottonwood WRAPs of \$22,449.40, and Annual Remote Backup Services of \$510.75. Motion by Meulebroeck, seconded by Potter, to approve the June 2018 Treasurer's Report as presented and for payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

**Revenue from the following sources was recorded:**

Canoe/Kayak Rental	\$ 60.00	Contract Services Income	\$ 1,055.36
Interest-Cash Sweep Acct/CD	\$ 125.12	Interest-Checking Acct	\$ 4.88
Grant Funds	\$ -0-	Miscellaneous Income	\$ 31.07
Appropriations	\$ -0-		

**Paid bills are summarized below:**

Operations/Occupancy	\$ 1,084.57	Travel Expenses	\$ 1,726.28
Promotion/Education	\$ 2,835.01	Contract Services-Moldestad	\$ 582.88
Monitoring/Evaluation	\$ 3,690.18	Personnel	\$ 9,534.12
Project Costs	\$ 10,511.78	Contract Services-Area II	\$ 4,664.16
Capital Outlay (Grant Related)	\$ -0-	Other Services & Charges	\$ 7,098.63

**Approved bills for payment are summarized below:**

Professional Services	\$ 22,449.40	Other Services & Charges	\$ 510.75
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**APPROVE AREA II TREASURER’S REPORT – June 2018.** Netzke reviewed the financials with the Board. Motion by Holmen, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the June 2018 Treasurer’s Report as presented and for payment of the bills. Motion carried unanimously.

**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.**

• **Historic Flooding** – July 3, 2018 – The 7”-12” overnight rainfall was historic, especially on already-saturated soils. Damages to roads and some projects were reported. Storm-event sampling was crazy in the Redwood and Cottonwood watersheds and was covered well by Shawn, Kerry and MPCA. Once stormwaters recede, inspections of the reservoirs and projects impacted by the storm will be conducted by Area II staff. The Walnut Grove/Tracy area appears to be the worst of the damages. Dam inspections were completed on June 15 for Minett-Kranz, Walnut Grove, Schoper-Bush and Wellner-Hageman. Walnut Grove will need to be reinspected. Photos of the first-time ever flow through the emergency spillway and high water levels were shared with the Boards.

• **Governor Dayton Visit** – Governor Dayton visited the Murray/Redwood/Lyon County area on July 6 to see flood damages first hand. Netzke could not attend the meeting due to backup sampler obligations. Commissioner Walling attended the meeting at Walnut Grove and recapped the discussions. Walling and others escorted the Governor, Congressman Peterson and Senator Tina Smith to the Springdale 21 Road Retention project (2 miles west of Walnut Grove) to view the damages from overtopping of the roadway. Area II’s retention efforts were explained to the legislators and the damages that were prevented by these projects performing as well as they did, and despite cosmetic damages.

**AREA II**

• **Hauschild-Thange Reservoir** – The trees cut by the upstream landowner have washed up against the embankment. This landowner was asked to remove the trees in 2017, but did not. It appears that debris is caught in the trash rack as the outflow pipe is not flowing as full as expected. A contractor has been contacted to remove the trees, but has not yet due to the high water levels. The YMRWD attorney is forming an opinion at this time as to whether this landowner is liable for tree removal.

• **FY2018-2019 Biennial Plan Update** – The BWSR Southern Region Water Plan Committee met via teleconference on June 21 and approved the Update, as well as the 2018 Bonding Work Plan. Very positive comments were made regarding Area II’s work. The BWSR Board will review/approve the recommendation at their August meeting. Release of administrative funds (\$140,000) will follow the approval.

**RCRCA**

• **Cottonwood and Redwood WRAPS/TMDL** – The Local Work Group (LWG) met June 28 at Sleepy Eye and watched the sediment core collection and electrofishing for carp. Netzke accompanied Wenck on June 27 to help with the sediment core and electrofishing on North Double Lake (Cottonwood County). The public meetings in July are scheduled as follows:

July 18	Walnut Grove - Community Center	1:00 PM
July 19	Sleepy Eye - REA Building	7:00 PM
July 24	Lake Benton – Chalet (Hole in the Mountain)	1:00 PM
July 25	Marshall – Marshall/Lyon County Library	3:00 PM
July 26	Redwood Falls – Community Center	7:00 PM

• **MCEA Contesting the Bonding Bill** – A letter was received from MCEA requesting information from MMB on the legality of the \$98 million appropriation in the Bonding Bill. This could impact the \$7.3 million appropriated to the Lake Redwood Dredging Project. This item will be added to the agenda for discussion.

• **Drainage Water Management Demonstration** – An informational flyer was distributed for this event on August 16 at the Southwest Research & Outreach Center near Lamberton from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

**AREA II/RCRCA LEGISLATIVE GATHERING DATE AND LOCATION.** Netzke reported that the Redwood Area Community Center was booked for November 1, 2018 with The Roadhouse of Wabasso catering. The tentative schedule is: 2:30 pm business meeting, 3:00 pm registration, 3:30 pm annual meeting featuring a presentation on the Lake Redwood dredging project, followed with an early supper at approximately 5:30 pm. Invitations will be sent to all the County Commissioners, SWCD board members, Watershed District Managers and our local politicians. We anticipate requesting Houston Engineering as our speaker.

**AREA II ENGINEER’S REPORT.**

***Projects under Construction.*** The following projects are currently under construction. Of course, all have been delayed by the recent wet weather. ***Birch Cooley 19 Small Dam, Renville County.*** The contractor has the pipe installed and most of the pond excavation completed. The remainder of the dam is yet to be placed. ***Nordland 6 Road Retention, Lyon County.*** The trees have been removed and the topsoil stripping completed. ***Shetek 23 Grade Stabilization, Murray County.*** The tile has been installed but some of the excavation of the detention pond has been delayed until the site dries. ***Nordland 20 Small Dam, Lyon County.*** We have received the Corps permit for this project. Bidding will be scheduled later in the summer once the new bonding funds are available. ***Lake Marshall 32 Small Dam Repair, Lyon County.*** This dam repair is located on property owned by the DNR. The DNR has secured \$2,000 from the Tracy Chapter of the MN Waterfowl Association as a local sponsor and is requesting additional funds from the Lyon SWCD. Bonding funds will be used once available. ***Willow Lake 10 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.*** A pre-construction meeting was held last week in anticipation of starting the work. However, the site is so wet that construction will be delayed until the water recedes. ***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.*** Work on this project will start as soon as soil conditions allow. Wetland credits will be purchased soon. ***Hansonville 27 Small Dam Repair, Lincoln County.*** The DNR has waived the dam safety permit fee for this project. Work will start as soon as soil conditions allow. ***Springdale 19 Dams, Redwood County.*** We are continuing to work on the preliminary design of one or two dams in the area of the Tracy Golf Course. Recurrent flooding along this stream has caused damage, both at the golf course and on downstream agricultural properties. We will be further researching the best options for dams on this stream and providing more information to the group on July 10 when we meet again. Fish and invertebrate passage on the public waters of Lone Creek may be an obstacle with the DNR. ***Sodus 36 Road Retention, Lyon County.*** Preliminary design work on this road retention has been started. The project is interesting in that there are two low dips on the township road which need to be filled to prevent overtopping. ***Lynd 33 Small Dam Repair, Lyon County.*** After receiving word from the landowner on this site that the water was going over the emergency spillway, we resurrected repair plans which were started some 9 years ago. Since the cost of the project quite nicely fit the available RCRCA funds which expire June 30, it was quickly bid and will be completed by June 30. ***North Hero 18 Streambank Stabilization, Redwood County.*** This bank stabilization project was designed with riprap protection. The DNR was reluctant to permit the work unless the design was changed to a bioengineered design. It now appears that a compromise on the design, using willow postings in addition to riprap, will be permitted. The design is being altered. ***North Hero 30 Grade Stabilization, Redwood County.*** This project is located on property owned by Meadowland Farmers Co-op east of Walnut Grove. The intent is to construct a grade stabilization structure and clean out an existing ditch in order to control drainage from a large agricultural watershed. The design is partially completed.

**RCRCA – MCEA LETTER – Lake Redwood Project Funding.** – Netzke received a courtesy copy of the letter from the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy addressed to MN Management and Budget (MMB). RCRCA was copied as a potential recipient of the bonding funds. The letter states concerns concerning the legislature’s recent allocation of appropriation bonds based on money dedicated to the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. Netzke placed a call to BWSR Executive Director John Jaschke for more information; however a return call was not received prior to today’s meeting. MCEA’s letter addressed to Commissioner Frans cites questions to the legality of the appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund and requests data from MMB. More information will be available next month.

**ADJOURNMENT.** With no other business to address, Chairman Johnson and Chairman Holmen declared the meeting adjourned at 10:16 AM.

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**UPCOMING MEETINGS.**

August Board Meeting	Thursday, August 2, 2018	Redwood Falls, MN – 9:00 AM
September Board Meeting	Thursday, September 6, 2018	Marshall, MN – BWSR Conference Room – 9:00 AM
October Board Meeting	Thursday, October 4, 2018	Redwood Falls, MN - 9:00 AM