

GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
May 6, 2021

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jay Klemetsrud, Les Windjue, Paul Becker, Allen Johnson, Gilbert Black
DIRECTORS ABSENT: Doug Mohr, David Hovendick
OTHERS PRESENT: Nels Halgren, Sally Herda – GRWD

The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. by President Becker at the District office.

Minutes from the April 8, 2021 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Black, seconded by Klemetsrud to approve the minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Manager Report

- **Ferguson propagation study review** – Study results for a fixed based network were reviewed. The study analyzed information from 9 potential sites with maps showing the sites along with the coverage each location would provide. Ferguson estimates conservatively that approximately 40% of reading would be captured using all nine sites. The best provided coverage would use three gateways and yield approximately 37% of the readings. Using the north tower location alone would capture 725 readings (31%). Cost for each site to set up the fixed base network is approximately \$22,000. Not included would be upgrading meters to capture incremental data. Other reading options were discussed. Halgren also updated the board on progress of switching the reading process over to a cloud-based platform. Plans are currently to have the updated system in place for readings at the end of June.
- **RRVWSP letter discussion** – Halgren reported that the letter to RRVWSP has not yet been sent as a group letter due to circumstances other systems have encountered. The directors indicated that the letter should be sent sooner, rather than later with GRWD to send its own if a group letter can't be done within a month.
- **Webster area/NRWD discussion** – A valve has been placed near Garske at a location that had been identified by Bartlett & West to address pressure and volume issues during peak flows. Between valve placement and purchasing additional water from NRWD, the District will analyze the impact this will have to improve water delivery to the outlying areas during peak demand. The additional water purchased from NRWD will be counted toward the total flow rate contracted from the City of Devils Lake. Director Becker will keep track of daily usage at his farm during the peak demand time to provide information for additional analysis.
- **Garrison Diversion/GRWD construction grant review** – Garrison Diversion has developed a grant program to assist in new customer hookups with a 50% cost share for costs exceeding \$5,000 with a maximum reimbursement of \$10,000 per hookup. Halgren has received some interest in the New Rockford area, but the locations are approximately 5-6 miles from GRWD's line and would still be high cost. Halgren asked if GRWD's construction policy would still be used for out-of-pocket costs if grant monies were received. The existing policy will continue to be applied for out-of-pocket final costs.
- **Ackerman line request** – The directors reviewed the previously approved request for waterline extension to an area in Ackerman Valley 1st Addition. One person has purchased 8 lots and power was installed in the area where the water was planned for installation. An alternate line routing was discussed and as long as 5 memberships are

received, GRWD will participate as previously approved. The approved request also includes a cost share in the commercial area upon receipt of 3 memberships.

- **COSA Agreement/contract** – The formal contract was presented to the board to be signed. The agreement was approved at the April meeting and president Becker signed the contract to begin the process of conducting a cost of service for both the water and sewer systems.
- **Leadership Retreat** – Medora July 14-16. Directors interested in attending were requested to let the office know so registration can be sent in.

Office Manager Report

- **Accounts Payable** – Motion by Windjue, seconded by Johnson to authorize payment of the April bills. **All directors voted aye and motion carried.**

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>	<u>CHECK #</u>
TOTALS	73,611.60	46,538.31	

- **Financial report**– Financial report for April was reviewed. Motion by Black seconded by Mohr to approve the report. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Membership Termination

- Paul McCarthy – 1813 Burke Blvd – nonpayment. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Black to terminate membership. **Motion carried** unanimously.

Other Business

- Transmission line – Halgren reported completion of a 2-inch bypass line that will keep 5 users on line for most of future transmission line breaks that have occurred in the same approximate area. Halgren also submitted a map, request for funding and an estimate of \$17,000 to the State for Covid funding to install a bypass line to keep the rest area in service during transmission line breaks in this same area.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 9:24 a.m.

Minutes Approved: _____ June 10, 2021 _____

Paul Becker, President _____ (signed) _____

Sally Herda, Office Manager _____ (signed) _____