

GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
September 9, 2021

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jay Klemetsrud, Paul Becker, Allen Johnson, Doug Mohr, Les Windjue, Gilbert Black

DIRECTORS ABSENT: David Hovendick

OTHERS PRESENT: Nels Halgren, Sally Herda – GRWD; Sarah Sesselman – AE2S, Tyson Decker – Bartlett & West

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by President Becker at the District office.

Minutes from the August 5, 2021 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Mohr to approve the minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Manager Report

- **ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act)** – Halgren informed the directors that investments in water and sewer are eligible for ARPA funding. Funding has been sent to Ramsey County as well as other counties served by GRWD. Halgren met with the county auditor to discuss the application process for these funds and was referred to the county commission chair. Potential District projects that would be eligible for this funding were discussed and program information reviewed. Becker will contact commission chair Jeff Frith for additional information on ARPA availability and the application process.
- **Emerald Ridge – Water/sewer line construction** – Approximately 4,000 feet of line has been installed, leaving 2,000 feet remaining. Photos of the subdivision area were viewed. Peterson Construction is using a trencher to put in the lines and has encountered sand on the south end of the subdivision. Once water is installed, the road will be put in. At this time there is no plan for the rural sewer. Another sewer option was discussed – this option would involve placement of a pressurized system and would require the homeowners to install a tank that would pump into the system. Cost to install the pressurized line would be substantially less than a gravity line system. Some of the north lots have sufficient elevation to gravity into GRWD’s sewer system. Halgren will work with the developers to begin work on the sewer plan.
- **COSA (Cost of service analysis) - Final** – Sarah Sesselman, AE2S met with the board to present the final report of the study and findings for the rural water and the rural sewer system. The model will be provided to GRWD for ongoing analysis and can be updated with real time data. Sesselman will set up a time to work with Halgren and Herda to train in on the model. The model will integrate into the budgeting process to project rate requirements needed for full cost recovery as well as for capital and system renewal.
- **Developer’s agreements payment review** - Halgren reviewed the new development areas that have been installed this season under the District’s cost share approvals. GRWD will request a bill statement from the contractor and collect the funds from the developers and will pay the contractor. Payment from the developer to GRWD will have the District’s cost share deducted following verification of the membership requirements, with the District to pay the contractor in full for the construction.
- **Lakeshore service request discussion** – With lowered lake levels, the District has received several requests for water service at locations previously served. Some are able to use existing curb stops. Requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis depending on viability of curb stop, elevation and whether another curb stop would need to be installed. Concerns over reconnecting to the sewer system were discussed.

- **Succession planning seminar update** – Halgren reported on a virtual seminar he attended that discussed the components of succession planning. Information from the seminar has handed out to the directors.

Office Manager Report

- **Accounts Payable** – Motion by Klemetsrud, seconded by Black to authorize payment of the August bills. **All directors voted aye and motion carried.**

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>
TOTALS	143,409.49	14,831.71

- **Financial report**– Financial report for August was reviewed. The 2020 audit was also reviewed and discussed. Motion by Mohr seconded by Black to approve the August financial report and the 2020 audit. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Other Business

- **Tank inspection** – Tyson Decker, Bartlett & West was present for general discussion. Larry Kirschman from their office will be in the area next week and will inspect the Pare water tower and the north tower. This will complete the tower inspection work and will identify what work needs to be done between the 3 water towers of the District. Decker also discussed potential federal and state funding for water projects. At present, GRWD does not have any projects in the state’s plan. Decker stated some systems have preemptively applied for projects in anticipation of funding if additional monies become available.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes Approved: _____ October 7, 2021 _____

Paul Becker, President _____ (signed) _____

Sally Herda, Office Manager _____ (signed) _____