

# GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

April 5, 2018

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Doug Mohr, Paul Becker, David Hovendick, Gilbert Black, Jay Klemetsrud, Allen Johnson

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Les Windjue

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Nels Halgren, Sally Herda – GRWD; Danny Foss

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by President Klemetsrud at the District office.

Minutes from the March 8, 2018 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Hovendick, seconded by Mohr to approve the minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

## Manager Report

- **Project Update** – Halgren discussed the final connections of the project under Peterson’s contract. Since so many additional hookups were added to their contract, the construction has taken more time than originally bid. Pipe prices have increased substantially since the start of the project. A review of the quantities of the remaining 7 hookups was discussed. Peterson will get back to the District on pipe prices and what he will need to complete the final connections.

John Myklebust, Starkweather P&H has final hookups to make under his contract. He will likely start in the south area of the system when weather permits to install some pasture taps. Meter prices from 4 years ago have changed and will need to be worked into the contract. There are a couple of hookups in the south area that were included in the Field Order and need the membership fee collected to remain in the project.

- **City Agreement update - Klemetsrud** – Klemetsrud relayed to the directors conversations he has had with Rural Development for loan purposes and also with the Devils Lake city engineer for buy in to the City’s treatment plant capacity for 400 gpm. Halgren put together a spreadsheet detailing costs, grant funding and buy in to the City for 400 gpm and compared to costs of expanding treatment plant capacity for 400 gpm. GRWD has used up to 300 gpm from the City during the summer during peak usage – some of this will be purchased this year through NWRD, but will still be identified under GRWD’s allotment. NWRD’s current usage is about the same as the City’s; however a 600 gpm maximum applies. Discussion continued on how to best secure the 400 gpm capacity to handle GRWD’s needs for present and future. Klemetsrud will meet with the city auditor and push to get a meeting set up for the agreement.
- **Water permits review** –GRWD’s water permits and 2017 gallons were reviewed. GRWD has a total allocation of 689 acre feet and in 2017 pumped 452.8 acre feet. GRWD also purchased the equivalent of approximately 97 acre feet from the City during peak demand of the District. At this time, the State Water Commission is saying they believe the aquifer to be fully allocated.
- **Oswald Bay update- Danny Foss** – Foss met with the directors to discuss potential expansion project in Benson County to bring rural water service to Oswald Bay area, as well as to the West Bay Heights subdivision areas. Halgren reported he had approximately 45 good intention fees which would be enough to move the project forward and that he had submitted the project to the SWC for the 2019-2021 biennium. Foss would need 10 hookups (30 lots) for the project. Under best case scenario, construction could be 2019-20.

- **Carrington proposed water rate increase review** – Halgren reported that he had been contacted by Carrington’s city auditor and met with the auditor, mayor and 1 council member to review the District’s contract and water rate. The City is proposing to increase the rate to GRWD from \$1.66 to \$5.16/1000 gallons. Carrington added a base rate to the District when they upgraded their treatment plant several years ago. The proposed rate includes Carrington’s distribution cost, which should not apply to GRWD. Carrington also wants to add \$.25 to rate to start building reserves. GRWD’s contract with Carrington calls for rate changes to be proportional to those of the City’s customers. Halgren will contact Carrington to discuss the fee structure and those costs that do not involve the District.
- **NDSWC – cost share for 19-21 biennia requests review** – Two projects have been submitted by the deadline for cost share consideration in the upcoming biennium. The Oswald Bay area line installation project for \$1.25 million was submitted as well as \$6 million for WTP upgrade of 400 gpm.
- **NDSWC policy and cost share meeting - review** – SWC member Dick Johnson met with the water districts in the Devils Lake Basin. Meeting was set up to discuss the changes in the operation of the commission, including policies and cost sharing. The SWC is setting up committees with the SWC commissioners to be more actively involved in the operation of the commission. Halgren reported the meeting was productive and all were encouraged to contact Commissioner Johnson at any time.

**Office Manager Report**

- **Accounts Payable** – Motion by Becker, seconded by Hovendick to authorize payment of the accounts payable. **All directors voted aye and motion carried.**

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>	<u>PROJECTS</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>72,625.96</b>	<b>18,293.97</b>	<b>6,321.05</b>

- **Financial report** – Office manager’s report was reviewed. Financial and expansion reports were reviewed for the month of March. Motion to approve the financial and expansion reports was made by Johnson, seconded by Black. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**
- **Scooby’s loan (internal) payment due \$14,305.81** – Halgren had contacted Chad Haberstroh, president of Scooby’s Point Association to discuss loan payment and certification of the specials. Haberstroh indicated that the District should continue to make the annual payment as amortized. Motion by Becker, seconded by Hovendick to approve the loan payment as scheduled. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 9:50.

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ May 10, 2018 \_\_\_\_\_

Jay Klemetsrud, President \_\_\_\_\_ (signed by Doug Mohr, Vice-president) \_\_\_\_\_

Sally Herda, Office Manager \_\_\_\_\_ (signed) \_\_\_\_\_