

GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

August 8, 2024

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Paul Becker, Kale Miller, Allen Johnson, Doug Mohr, Gilbert Black

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Missy Abrahamson, David Hovendick

OTHERS PRESENT: Lonnie Lacina, Sally Herda - GRWD; Brian Aafedt – AE₂S

The meeting was called to order at 7:54 a.m. by President Mohr at the District office.

Minutes from the July 9, 2024 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Black, seconded by Becker to approve the minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Manager report

- **Event center update** – The proposed routing for the water line was changed due to conflicts with existing utilities with the line moved to the other side of the road. The fire marshal determined that the line serving the event center must be dedicated, so GRWD’s plan to relocate services of four users has been cancelled. The cost-share that was to be provided by GRWD due to service relocation is no longer applicable. A plan for service requirements for the event center has not been provided to the District. Blanchfield’s water users agreement places financial and legal responsibility on him for any costs associated with fire suppression use that causes an interruption to GRWD’s customers. The sewer needed to be routed around the marina due to construction issues.
- **Septic tank replacement** – Lacina reported that four tanks have been replaced in the past two months. Rob Dahl’s sewer has been cut over and new septic tank is self-contained which eliminates the lift station entirely. The final sewer (C Armstrong) has not been cut over as of this date.
 - **Scoobys lagoon** – signs have been ordered to be placed at the lagoon site. Lacina also reported on arrangements made with Ducks Unlimited for fencing the lagoon.
 - **Tank replacement fee** – Based on the number of tanks that are beginning to fail, Lacina stated the District may need to start charging a tank replacement fee on the monthly billing to offset costs for tank replacement.
- **North system capacity improvement project**
 - **AE₂S project update** - Weather conditions have continued to be an issue for the contractor. Approximately 1 mile of pipeline was installed, but rain has made conditions too wet. There are about 3 miles of 2-inch line, 2 miles of 6-inch line to complete, along with some bores and clean-up from last year’s construction. Completion date is September 1. The 6-inch line will not be used until the Saunder’s booster is on-line.

Facility – Electrical work at WTP is progressing, conduit is getting ready for new service. Panel work continues with preparation for transition at the WTP this fall, then to focus on the Saunders booster. Concrete work at the Saunders site is approximately 60 percent complete. Plans are to shut down the WTP in November to complete the plant work without having to keep the plant operational during the transition. GRWD will be purchasing water from the City when the treatment plant is taken off-line.

User expansion – As of today, 116 commitments have been received with a few applications still pending. Plans are to include applications up to today’s date, with late applications to be placed on a wait list, based on available funding. Four sign-ups are being returned – three due to high cost and the fourth upon request to withdraw

from the project. Design application for funding is on the consent agenda for SWC meeting this afternoon. Project funding & repayment options were discussed and a breakdown of the per user costs reviewed. AE₂S reviewed the preliminary engineering report with the directors and discussed results of the modeling that was completed using pressure recorders in areas of low pressure/capacity. Estimates addressing low pressure areas and maxed capacity in the Highway 19 and Webster areas were reviewed and will be added to the design funding request as these improvements are needed in order to serve the new users. Some of the users under the expansion would be turned over to NRWD or TCWD for service due to their locations. Agreements have been sent to those districts to review. GRWD would be paid for the out-of-pocket cost when these users would be turned over to their respective Districts for service.

The south booster and tower areas were also reviewed and will be monitored for future enhancements. Some options are being looked at to address pressure concerns for Pekin and potentially eliminate their pump system.

Invoices totaling \$772,346.76 were reviewed and include AE₂S \$30,000 (24 user expansion), AE₂S \$24,507.90 North System Improvement, American General #3 - \$512,470.23, John's Refrigeration #5 - \$204,868.63 and Nodak Electric - \$500 temporary single-phase transformer, Saunders site. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Becker to approve the invoices for payment. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Motion by Becker, seconded by Black to approve and authorize President Mohr to sign task order #6 to AE₂S for final design (\$304,000), bidding (\$25,000), easement (\$122,000) and inventory assessment (\$30,000) services and the Agreement for Cost-share Reimbursement with the State Water Commission for the Basic Asset Inventory and Analysis. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Office manager report

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

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>
TOTALS	876,767.05	23,603.98

- **Financial report-** July financial report was reviewed and discussed. Motion by Black, seconded by Miller to approve the financial report. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.** Project report for the current improvement project was reviewed.
- **Pledge of Assets report** – Report was reviewed by the directors. Motion by Becker, seconded by Johnson to approve the report. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Next regular board meeting will be held September 5, 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 9:30 am.

Minutes Approved: _____ September 5, 2024 _____

Doug Mohr, President _____ (signed) _____

Sally Herda, Office Manager _____ (signed) _____