

GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

December 4, 2025

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Paul Becker, Gilbert Black, David Hovendick, Allen Johnson, Doug Mohr, Kale Miller, Missy Abrahamson (electronically)

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:59 a.m. by President Johnson at the District office.

Minutes from the November 6, 2025 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Hovendick, seconded by Mohr to approve the minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Manager report

- **EXPO** – February 10-12, 2026 – Directors Johnson, Becker and Black indicated they would like to attend the conference.
- **Farmer’s Appreciation Luncheon** – Motion by Becker, seconded by Abrahamson to sponsor the same number of lunches (20) as last year. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**
- **NDIRF – recommendation** – Lacina recently attended a ND Rural Water training session on insurance coverages through the ND Insurance Reserve Fund. With insurance cost under the current provider estimated to rise another 17% next year, a review of the cost of participation under the Reserve Fund may yield cost savings to the District. A listing of agents was provided to the directors for recommendation. The directors gave the go-ahead for Lacina to select an agent that he would be comfortable working with and preference to an agent that is a District customer.
- **Budget**– Lacina provided a water and sewer summary budget for 2026 and reviewed some of the big-ticket items being worked into the budget numbers. With the new SCADA system, the costs will be higher next year due to the end-point design that will provide instant data and response time. Lacina stated that he is projecting rates to stay the same for 2026 and that he will be working with the budget committee to have the budget ready for approval at the January meeting.
- **Devils Lake bulk water rate** – Devils Lake will be raising the rate of bulk water by \$.25 to \$2/1000 gallons. This will also be reflected in the purchase price from Northeast.
- **Allen Olson shop condos** - A development plan from Allen Olson for 60 shop-condo lots on the east side of Walleye Drive has been provided to GRWD. The design shows 8” sewer mains that would be tied into the force main. If grinder pumps are installed, there would be no need for septic tanks. Each unit would have its own water membership and meter. The contractor would be installing curb stops on each of the lots. Construction is planned for Spring, 2026 with all infrastructure to be installed at that time. Lacina inquired on what should be charged to tie into the water main to guarantee service. Hookup will follow guidelines of developments to guarantee service to the lots and would be a buy-in with no monthly fee from the developer. Individual service fees would begin when the new user connects to the system. Lacina should have additional information will be available at the next meeting.
- **North system capacity improvement project**
 - **AE₂S project update** - AE₂S hopes to close out the American General contract in coming months and move into the warranty phase of the contract. O&M manuals need to be provided and retainage released to complete closeout.

WTP generator expansion – Finalizing the change order and funding request submission will be done this month to be placed on the agendas for the January and February precommission and commission meetings. Installation would be completed Fall, 2026.

No pay applications were presented for approval.

No changes or updates on the budget and contingency for the project.

- **User expansion project**

- **AE2S project update** – Construction progress – The 2025 construction season has come to a close on November 26 and will resume in May, 2026. Over 90 services have been added to the system during 2025. Crop damage for the year should be finalized by year end. Approximately 75-80% of the project has been constructed during 2025. Total number of services to be added under the project is 140-145.

Pay application #7 - \$22,550.58 for Karas Construction was presented for approval. A large pay request will be made after the end of the year.

Contingencies and project budget were reviewed.

Invoices – Motion by Black, seconded by Hovendick to approve project invoices: AE2S (\$43,665.06), crop damage #2 (\$38,279.30) and Karas Construction #7(\$22,550.58) for a total of \$104,494.94. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Future planning – South system – A preconstruction application for the South System Phase II Expansion was submitted to the SWC for \$735,000 that includes design and bidding engineering for pipeline and south pump station/reservoir facility, modeling rebuilds and easements. The precommission meeting held on November 20 went well and no questions were asked. The application is now on the consent agenda for the SWC meeting being held December 16.

- **Allocated water capacity** – GRWD’s approved water permits are 689-acre feet annually and the most used was 573 in 2023. Due to system growth and future needs of the system, Aafedt suggested the District explore a new application for a water permit as a proactive measure. The process is relatively simple, has minimal cost, and demonstrates the District’s commitment to secure water to meet ongoing needs.

Office manager report

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

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>
TOTALS	179,431.38	13,330.24

- **Financial report** – November financial report was reviewed and discussed. Motion by Becker, seconded by Black to approve the financial report. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**. Project reports for the current projects were reviewed, along with monthly cash requirements for the local cost share of the projects.

- **CDs due** – Motion by Mohr, seconded by Black to authorize the President and Herda to renew funds at the highest bid following request for rates from the District’s depositories. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Membership termination

- **Chaz Reeves** – 108 Ackerman Dr - nonpayment
Motion to terminate membership was made by Mohr, seconded by Hovendick and **approved unanimously**.

Other Business

- Flushing – Becker reported low inlet pressure alarms at the Event Center went off when flushing water mains was done on the West side. With line improvements made during the user project this year, there should have been sufficient pressure while flushing to prevent this. Lacina will investigate to see why this would have happened.

Next regular board meeting will be held January 8, 2026.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 9:58 am.

Minutes Approved: _____ January 8, 2026 _____

Allen Johnson, President _____ (signed) _____

Sally Herda, Office Manager _____ (signed by Krista Wold) _____