

**GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING**

May 4, 2023

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Paul Becker, David Hovendick, Gilbert Black, Missy Abrahamson,
Doug Mohr, Allen Johnson

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Les Windjue

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:57 a.m. by President Black at the District office.

Minutes from the April 10, 2023 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Abrahamson, seconded by Mohr to approve the minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Manager report

- **AE₂S**
 - **Saunders Booster** – Proposed booster has been renamed due to confusion with the previous “Crary booster” labeling and because location has changed. Preconstruction meeting was held with Swanberg last week. Swanberg will be utilizing sub-contractor Breidenbach for fusing pipe. Pipe will be arriving in the next two weeks. The 16-inch line should be installed this year ahead of schedule due to sub-contracting, but it is unknown if the switchover connections from the 12-inch line will be completed. With the change in location for the booster, a 6” line to the Doyon area has been added to the plans and is reflected in Change Order #1. The change order amount was \$312,625, higher than estimated but in line with current market conditions. The booster design has three lines that will come out of the booster station. One line will supply Tri-County, another will fill the North tower and the third one will tie into the Doyon area to provide higher pressure to that area and solve some pressure issues. The Pare tower will continue to fill out of the treatment plant. The Crary booster station will still be used and will contain a pressure sustaining valve as this is the metering location for Crary and the Crary meters do not have pressure regulators. Motion by Mohr, seconded by Hovendick to approve Change Order #1 in the amount of \$312,625.00. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.** Land acquisition was discussed, with Lacina reporting he has been in conversation with the owner for the purchase of 5 acres. The site will have the ability for placement of a fill station and a generator is also planned and sized for full flow pumping capability. One of the next steps will be the geotechnical review.
 - **Final design – Well @ WTP** – The test well drilled by LTP is located approximately 800 feet south of the plant between well 1 and well 2. Locating the new well at this site will allow for a variable frequency drive (VFD) and use of the generator for full production in the event of power failure. Currently only well 1 is on the generator. High service pumps will be upgraded and another added in lieu of the Tolna pump. Anticipated bid date is August, 2023. LTP’s estimate for an 800 gpm well with a 75 hp pump was \$172,718 and estimate for 1000 gpm well using a 100 hp pump was \$199,393. Motion by Becker, seconded by Johnson to hire LTP to drill well that would provide 1000 gpm with 100 hp pump. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**
 - **Project funding, invoice for payment** – Project funding was reviewed. AE₂S presented invoice #86896 in the amount of \$72,484.23 bringing final design to 55%. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Abrahamson to approve the invoice for payment. **Motion carried** unanimously.

- **Expansion assessment** – A listing of potential users was provided to AE₂S for potential consideration for a project. Mobilization costs, engineering and construction for these potential users prove to be an unfeasible option. Some of the requests could fit into the Garrison Diversion grant program.
- **Possible change order – Bloomquist line** – During easement acquisition, the potential for another user and shoreline development area was identified. Lacina will work with AE₂S to work into a change order.
- **Garrison Diversion Grant – upfront customer portion** – Lacina reported four applications were submitted for service requests under the GDCD grant program. Submitted applications include a bid for construction from one of the local contractors. Last year when construction was complete, GRWD submitted for grant funds, paid the contractor, then requested balance from the user. There was discussion of collecting a portion or all out-of-pocket costs up front rather than when construction was completed. Motion by Mohr, seconded by Becker to request non-grant costs from the user up front prior to construction. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**
- **Gate valve bolts** – Pictures were shown of a recent break in a subdivision area due to gate valve bolts that had deteriorated. Rural areas of the original system had been focused on in the past to replace these with stainless steel bolts, but for the most part, they have not been replaced in the subdivisions. Lacina is putting together kits to begin replacing bolts in these areas using District equipment.
- **Sewer issues**
 - Freeze ups – A couple of areas have recently experienced freeze ups. One individual sewer outlet line needed to be dug up, a 45° elbow in the road was found to be the issue. Another freeze up occurred at a tank for a commercial customer on a tank “not used in the winter.”
 - Infiltration/sumps – Informational letters were handed out to sewer customers and those receiving violation notices have made the required plumbing changes. The spring runoff was not as active as anticipated and the proactive approach taken by the District to educate and assist the residents proved invaluable.
 - 4 single lifts – Lacina identified 4 lift stations from the original sewer project that are serving one user. Operational and maintenance costs of these sites exceed revenue generated. These locations will be needing major work in the short-term future and Lacina presented other options to convert these to a tank with a pump chamber. GRWD will bear the cost to convert when needed and once completed, they will be turned over to the user. This is a similar method to new installs that don’t meet grade to reach the sewer main.

Office manager report

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

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>
TOTALS	1,141,404.37	27,659.98

Financial report- April financial report was reviewed. Motion to approve the report was made by Becker, seconded by Hovendick. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.** Motion by Hovendick, seconded by Johnson to invest \$1,000,000 for 6 months to 1 year term at the highest bid rate using funds from the Treasury money market account. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

- **2022 annual audit** – Herda reported that the 2022 audit should be completed soon.

Membership termination

- Motion by Mohr, seconded by Johnson to terminate memberships of Clarice Kroll (8821 53rd St NE, DL) and Hall Trucking (Tract in SW¼ SW¼ 22-153-63) for nonpayment.

Neither curb stop has been used and there are no meters at these locations. **Motion carried** unanimously.

Next meeting date is scheduled for June 8. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 9:50 a.m.

Minutes Approved: _____ June 8, 2023 _____

Gilbert Black, President _____ (signed) _____

Sally Herda, Office Manager _____ (signed) _____