

GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
May 9, 2019

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Doug Mohr, Jay Klemetsrud, Allen Johnson, Les Windjue,
Paul Becker, David Hovendick

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Gilbert Black

OTHERS PRESENT: Nels Halgren, Sally Herda

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

Minutes from the April 4, 2019 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Klemetsrud to approve minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Manager Report

- **Lake Agassiz Water Authority membership approval** – Halgren updated the board members on the status of the Red River Supply project with recent funding approved by the legislature. Grant funding was less than requested and the District’s share of costs keep increasing should the District decide to remain in the project. Many water systems have opted out due to costs and changes to the project. Halgren reported that he is still receiving information on the project and GRWD is currently sitting on an advisory committee. Annual membership is \$500 but does not commit the District for inclusion in the project. Motion by Windjue, seconded by Hovendick to pay the membership. **Motion carried** unanimously. Halgren also discussed the study that the City of Devils Lake, Northeast Regional Water District and GRWD are working on to look at using up allocated water within the area water permits.
- **Bulk base rate review** – Halgren presented a spreadsheet for options to update base rates to the bulk users in a manner that is consistent throughout the system. The type of service – demand vs. storage and units of water were used for the calculation for the proposed changes. Halgren was directed to contact Eric Volk, NDRWSA for consultation as Volk is a certified rate setter and may be able to offer some insight into charges for bulk and contract users.
- **Main lift update** – This lift station was been lined a number of years ago and the lining has started to peel off. Deterioration behind the lining is occurring and this station is one scheduled for lining this year by Innovation Foundation. GRWD will chip off the current lining and prepare the station prior to Innovation’s arrival. They hope to be in the area after the July 4 holiday. Pumps have been recalibrated and check valves replaced recently at this lift station.
- **Treatment plant exterior review** – Halgren showed photos of the back wall of the water treatment plant showing where some leakage has occurred. The District regouted areas of the wall a number of years ago. The photos show where some brick has come off and others have become loose. Water likely got behind the brick where the roof meets the wall. The roof was patched in the southeast corner of the building and has stopped the leakage. Halgren stated the brick looks different than what is shown in the plans. Leben’s did the brick work and will be contacted to have them check the wall and make an assessment on what should be done.
- **Oswald Bay project planning, Pekin/Tolna, DL high cost users** – The state’s funding allocation ranks the Oswald Bay project as moderate and it has a good chance of being funded. Halgren reported there is a manager’s meeting next month to discuss the projects that are up for funding. Halgren has contacted the principal parties involved in the Oswald Bay project and they are still interested in moving forward. An expressed

concern was that of the lake going down and how that might impact the developments. Due to the high initial estimated costs, it was discussed that there could be more upfront monies requested or a higher membership fee. Some additional subdivision development may be in the works and Halgren informed the parties that the District would need to know if they plan to move forward with development so that it is included in the design work. There was also discussion on the potential users in the Pekin/Tolna area that were turned over to GRWD by Tri-County during their current expansion project as they are unable to serve those users. Halgren also has a few Devils Lake users interested in becoming involved in the project. These areas would add approximately \$1 million to the project and the directors indicated that the current application should be updated to include these added users.

- **Bartlett & West project engineer update** – Kristi Brunner, project engineer has accepted employment elsewhere and the District has not yet been assigned a new engineer. If the Oswald Bay project moves forward, it is likely the District will be required to interview for an engineer in order to obtain grant funding.
- **NDPERS health insurance rate update** - Approved rates for the upcoming biennium were reviewed. The rate change is effective July 1, 2019.

Office Manager Report

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

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>
TOTALS	63,696.83	29,689.72

- **Financial report** – Office manager’s report was reviewed. Financial report was reviewed for the month of April. Motion to approve the financial report was made by Windjue, seconded by Johnson. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Membership terminations for nonpayment

- **Hunter Hanson – CHS Rohrville Station**
Motion by Johnson, seconded by Becker to terminate membership due to nonpayment. **Motion carried** unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 9:09 a.m.

Minutes Approved: _____ June 6, 2019 _____

Doug Mohr, President _____ (signed) _____

Sally Herda, Office Manager _____ (signed) _____