

GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
November 4, 2021

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Gilbert Black

OTHERS PRESENT: Nels Halgren, Sally Herda – GRWD

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

Minutes from the October 7, 2021 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Hovendick, seconded by Windjue to approve the minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Manager Report

- **Transmission line breaks** – Three breaks along the transmission line have occurred in the last 6 weeks. Most of the breaks in this line have occurred within a 2-mile area. When exposing the pipe during the past couple of breaks, the pipe appears to be deflected. There are several pipeline sizes on the transmission line, with the majority of the breaks having occurred on the 14-inch line. The couplers and pipeline are becoming more difficult to order as supplies have been depleted at this time. Cost for these materials has also sharply increased.
- **Rest area reroute participation discussion** – The directors viewed a proposal to bore a line that will keep the rest area in service if the transmission line continues to fail in the same area. The rest area has a larger pressure tank that can store some water, but the last break showed that the storage wasn't sufficient to keep the rest area at full pressure. Halgren has been working with the DOT on the proposal and they have funding in their maintenance budget to handle the cost of the reroute. Halgren offered to spread out the cost over 4-6 months on their monthly bill. The work is being completed today by Peterson Construction.
- **Request for qualifications for engineering services – committee appointments**– Halgren reported the State will accept projects that are not in their current development plan. Legal notice has been published in the Devils Lake Journal for evaluation of current and future needs, grant funding attainment and design and construction services. Deadline for submission of the responses is November 17, 2021. Halgren reported that he has had contact with the current engineer and another firm. Both have ideas on what can be done at the treatment plant, transmission and distribution areas of the system. Becker appointed the budget committee of Mohr, Hovendick and himself to review the responses and interview the engineering firms prior to the December meeting.
- **COSA discussion - budgeting** – There was lengthy discussion on the cost of service for both water and sewer. The bulk services water rates and realignments were reviewed and discussed at length with some of the concerns to be revisited in the model for fine tuning. There was also discussion on base rates, pasture taps and seasonal users. Some of these services in the model need to be separated out for more accurate evaluation of the user classification. A three base rate structure on the water system for standard, seasonal and pasture taps users will be used for budgeting purposes. Sewer rates were also discussed for standard and commercial accounts. At present, rates are based on a per tank basis. Few customers remain that are sewer only, so a volumetric rate based on water usage could be a viable option.

- **Succession planning discussion** – Discussion was held on formulating a plan for the next several years.
- **Expo planning** – Expo will be held February 1-3, 2022 in Fargo. Rooms will be booked for those planning to attend.

Office Manager Report

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

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>
TOTALS	192,021.72	8,720.71

- **Financial report**– Financial report for October was reviewed. Motion by Mohr, seconded by Windjue to approve the report. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**
- **Bylaws** – Proposed changes to the bylaws were reviewed and will be presented by the committee at the December meeting. Changes approved in December can be sent to the members in the December newsletter and provides required notification for action at the annual meeting.

Membership termination

- Sandra Skallerud – Timber Ridge Shores, Lot 11 – not using
- Bryston Berg – 8875 68th St NE, Starkweather – not using

Motion by Hovendick, seconded by Klemetsrud to approve the membership terminations. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 10:10 a.m.

Minutes Approved: _____ December 9, 2021 _____

Paul Becker, President _____ (signed) _____

Sally Herda, Office Manager _____ (signed) _____