

# REND LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

P.Q. BOX 907 **3** 11231 MARCUM BRANCH ROAD **3** BENTON, ILLINOIS 62812 TELEPHONE: (618) 439-4321 **5** FAX: (618) 439-2400

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE REND LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT HELD April 28, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District was held on Monday, April 28, 2014, at the Rend Lake Conservancy District Administration Office, 11231 Marcum Branch Road, Benton, Illinois. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Keith Ward with the following in physical attendance and by telephone as noted:

**Board of Trustees:** Don Lucas, James Rippy (attending by telephone do to illness), Jere Shaw, David Stewart, Todd Thomas, Robert Walton and Keith Ward

**Staff**: Keith Thomason, General Manager; Larry Sanders, Legal Counsel/Treasurer; Michael Johnston, Comptroller; Leonard Killman, Water Superintendent; and Robert Clodi, Executive Assistant.

Visitors: None

#### **Minutes**

Upon motion by James Rippy and second by David Stewart to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 24, 2014, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

### Acceptance of Check Register

Upon motion by Don Lucas and second by Todd Thomas to accept the Check Register as presented, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

**General Manager's Report:** Keith Thomason discussed the April General Manager's Report and provided an Engineering update.

### Region's Loan

Mr. Sanders reported that Midland States Bank offered to finance the water loan with a 3 year amortization at 1.25% for 3 years and the Sewer, Golf and Lodge loan separately with a 10 year amortization at 1.53% for 3 years. Midland States Bank's offer is contingent on receiving all RLCD banking and deposits. The Board expressed interest to pay off the water loan and finance the Sewer, Golf and Lodge as proposed.

Upon motion by James Rippy and second by Jere Shaw to accept Midland States Bank's offer to finance the Sewer, Golf and Lodge loan separately with a 10 year amortization at 1.53% for 3 years, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Navs: None

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Jere Shaw authorizing management to pay off the water loan to Regions Bank and to proceed with the paperwork to transfer all deposits to Midland States Bank, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

### **RLCD Projects**

Mr. Thomason presented a prioritized list of projects that the District is set to accomplish. Mr. Rippy recommended that management bring the project list back with costs and a hierarchy of things that need to be done compared to things that we would like to get done.

### **Unserved Areas**

Upon motion by Jere Shaw and second by James Rippy directing management to send letters to township commissioners seeking their knowledge of areas that are not served by a potable water distribution system and to report those unserved areas to the Board at the next board meeting, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

## Ordinance 272 – Annual Budget and Appropriations

Mr. Thomason reported that water demand has significantly increased since water service was extended to the City of Marion and the White Oak Coal Mine. Mr. Thomason requested to add another water plant union employee to the budget and to adjust the Appropriation Ordinance by \$40,000.

Upon motion by David Stewart and second by Don Lucas to approve the addition of one union employee and the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance as increased by \$40,000, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Brian Laur, Golf Pro, entered the meeting at 10:15 am.

#### Capital Plan

Mr. Thomason presented the Five-Year Capital Plan to the Board for approval. Mr. Ward requested to add the remodeling of the cabana and new golf carts to the capital plan.

Upon motion by Don Lucas and second by Todd Thomas to approve the Capital Plan, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

### Illinois Strategies

Upon motion by Don Lucas and second by Todd Thomas to renew the contract with Illinois Strategies, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: Shaw, Stewart

Abstain: Rippy

#### **Union Contract Modification**

Mr. Thomason reported that the current union contract does not offer a pay scale progression for sewer. Mr. Thomason proposed to modify the union contract to offer a pay scale progression and training for sewer and other employees similar to the water plant employees.

Upon motion by Jere Shaw and second by James Rippy to approve the proposed modification to the union contract to offer a pay scale progression for sewer and other employees, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

### **Policy Update**

A discussion ensued about performance reviews. No action was taken.

#### **Consolidated Coal Water Bill**

Mr. Sanders reported that the old contract with the coal mine provided for a discounted rate. Mr. Sanders stated that the coal mine is using little to no water and is paying only a discounted minimum usage rate. Recently the mine was sold to a new owner. Mr. Sanders proposed the District eliminate the discounted rate and send a full bill to the new mine owners. The Board members expressed their agreement to send the new mine owners the full bill for water usage.

### **Administrative Building and Grounds Improvements**

Mr. Sanders proposed to seal the parking lot, to purchase a new Board table, remodel the administrative kitchen, and to start plans to remodel the cabana to hold Board meetings.

Upon motion by Don Lucas and second by Robert Walton approving the administrative improvements as presented, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: Rippy

The President declared the motion carried.

#### **Insurance Claim**

Mr. Sanders presented a proposal to replace flood damage at the condos through an insurance claim. The proposed emergency project will be completed by Hughes Quality Flooring at total 11,161.07.

Upon motion by Don Lucas and second by Todd Thomas authorizing the emergency purchase and installation of the floor in the condos as presented, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

### **Closed Session**

Upon motion by David Stewart and second by Jere Shaw to go into Closed Session at 11:15 a.m. to consider: (1) Personnel (For the Discussion of the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal); (2) Collective Negotiations (For the Discussion of Collective Negotiating Matters); (6) Sale, Purchase or Lease of Property (For the Setting of a Price for Sale, Purchase or Lease of Property); (8) Security (For discussion of security procedures); (11) Litigation (For the Discussion of Pending, Probable or Imminent); and (21) Closed Session Minutes (For the Discussion of Closed Session Minutes), the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

Upon motion by Jere Shaw and second by David Stewart to come out of Closed Session at 12:16 p.m. the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

#### Raises

Upon motion by Don Lucas and second by Robert Walton to approve raises to managers as recommended by the General Manager, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Walton, Ward

Nays: Thomas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart The President declared the motion failed.

Upon motion by David Stewart and second by Jere Shaw to approve a 2.5% raise to all managers, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Rippy, Shaw, Stewart

Nays: Thomas, Lucas, Walton, Ward The President declared the motion failed.

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by James Rippy to approve a 3% raise for the General Manager, General Counsel, and Comptroller, and raises for all other management personnel as recommended by the General Manager, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Thomas, Rippy, Walton, Ward

Nays: Lucas, Shaw, Stewart,

The President declared the motion carried.

Mr. Stewart requested to terminate the multi-year contracts with the General Manager and the General Counsel. A discussion ensued.

Upon motion by David Stewart and second by Jere Shaw to terminate the multi-year contracts with the General Manager and with the General Counsel, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Rippy, Shaw, Stewart

Nays: Thomas, Lucas, Walton, Ward The President declared the motion failed.

#### **Closed Session**

Mr. Thomason requested the Board to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel compensation and performance.

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by David Stewart to go into Closed Session at 12:26 p.m. to consider: (1) Personnel (For the Discussion of the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal), the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Navs: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Upon motion by Jere Shaw and second by James Rippy to come out of Closed Session at 12:35 p.m. the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Navs: None

## **Closed Session Minutes**

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by David Stewart to approve the Closed Session Minutes of March 24, 2014, as presented, the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

## **Adjournment**

Upon motion by James Rippy and second by Robert Walton to adjourn the meeting at 12:40 p.m., the following vote was had:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Stewart, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Todd Thomas, Secretary