



# REND LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

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## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE REND LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT HELD April 27, 2015

The Board of Trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District held a regular meeting on Monday, April 27, 2015, at the Rend Lake Conservancy District Administration Office, 11231 Marcum Branch Road, Benton, Illinois. President Todd Thomas called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The following attended:

**Board of Trustees:** In physical attendance: Ernest Collins, Jere Shaw, Todd Thomas, James Rippy, Robert Walton, and Keith Ward. By Phone: Don Lucas (Health)

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

**Visitors:** Kelsey Landis, Benton Evening News; Mary Ellen Bechtel, City of Mt. Vernon; Jeff Hebrank, HeplerBroom, Noel Smith, HeplerBroom

### Minutes

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by James Rippy approving the minutes of the meeting of March 23, 2015 as amended, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

### Acceptance of Check Register

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Jere Shaw to accept the Check Register as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Lucas, Shaw, Thomas, Rippy, 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.

Mr. Thomason reported that a group called Friends of Rend Lake is starting up to advance public interest projects at the lake. Mr. Thomason inquired if the Board would have an interest in helping the group get started by contributing \$1,000 to pay the submittal fees to establish the organization as a non-profit. The Board as a whole expressed interest and asked to have it placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

Mr. Thomason reported that the Seasons Lodge has lost business to the new hotel across the interstate. He advised that the District does not want to get into a bidding match on lowering rates. He did recommend that the District provide amenities that add value to guests that stay at the lodge. He proposed that the District install a fish cleaning station for fisherman at minimal cost as well as special boat parking. The Board expressed interest in pursuing fish cleaning station but cautioned management to consider the location and proximity to guest activities in regards to the smell and traffic flow.

**April 27, 2015 (continued)**

Mr. Sanders explained that the initial installation of the fish cleaning station will be movable in case issues arise.

Mr. Ward asked when the new golf carts would be delivered? Mr. Sanders reported that the new carts are scheduled to be delivered May 1, 2015. Mr. Sanders added that he is working with the vendor to verify that the District can directly sell some of the golf carts that were intended to be part of the trade-in.

Mr. Johnston presented the April financial report. He presented a list of delinquent accounts to the Board.

Mr. Thomason provided more information in regards to delinquent payments from Rend Lake Resort. He reported that staff at Rend Lake Resort had been contacted regarding the delinquency. Board members encouraged Mr. Thomason to contact the owner of the Rend Lake Resort and give him 30 days to pay the outstanding balance owed to the Rend Lake Golf Resort.

Worker's Compensation Insurance

Mr. Sanders reported that three bids were received. The lowest bid for worker's compensation insurance was received from Dimond Brothers Insurance through Employers Assurance for \$100,140.

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Robert Walton awarding bid for Worker's Compensation Insurance to Dimond Brothers Insurance for Employer's Insurance at \$100,140, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: Rippy

The President declared the motion carried.

Seasons Lodge HVAC

Mr. Sanders reported that three bids were received. The lowest bid for the installation of the HVAC system at Seasons Lodge was received from J & R Mechanical for \$12,110. Mr. Sanders asked the Board to award it contingent on the verification of compliance with the bid specifications.

Upon motion by Jere Shaw and second by Keith Ward awarding bid for the installation of the HVAC system for Seasons Lodge to J & R Mechanical for \$12,110 contingent on the verification of compliance with bid specifications, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

State Bid List F250

Mr. Thomason requested approval to purchase an F250 from the State Bid List to replace a ¾ ton truck that needs a new transmission and has over 200,000 miles for the Water Department.

Upon motion by James Rippy and second by Robert Walton authorizing the purchase of an F250 from the State Bid List, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

**April 27, 2015 (continued)**

Water Tower Painting

Mrs. Towle reported that two water towers were advertised for repainting.

The water tower near the Rend Lake College received three bids. The lowest qualifying bid was received by K&W Coating for \$142,900. Mrs. Towle presented an alternate option to paint a new logo on the tower for \$10,000 more. She passed around some sample logo designs. A discussion ensued over the logo design. The Board came to a consensus to only paint the word "Rend Lake" or "Rend Lake Conservancy District" as specified in the original bid.

Upon motion by Ernest Collins and second by Keith Ward denying the alternate option for a new logo and to only repaint the existing logo with the words "Rend Lake," the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Shaw, Thomas, Ward

Nays: Lucas, Rippy, Walton

The President declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Towle reported that the bid for repainting the inside of the Golf Ball Water Tower received three bids. The lowest qualifying bid was received by Maxcor for \$93,300.

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by James Rippy awarding the bid to repaint the inside of the Golf Ball Water Tower to Maxcor for \$93,300, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Keith Ward awarded the bid to repaint the water tower near Rend Lake College to K&W Coating for \$142,900, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Keith Ward momentarily left the meeting at 10:05 am.

Mr. Thomason reported that RLCD staff is not capable of inspecting the water tower painting project. He reported that RLCD has received quotes for the inspection of the water tower painting project. The lowest quoted price was \$7,200 for the tower near Rend Lake College and \$6,000 for the Golf Ball Water Tower.

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Robert Walton to award the bid for paint inspection services for \$7,200 for the tower near Rend Lake College and \$6,000 for the Golf Ball Water Tower, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Lucas, Rippy, Shaw, Thomas, Walton

Nays: None

Absent: Ward

The President declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Towle reported that there may be a concern by the IEPA that particulate matter from the sand blasting activity will drift past the property boundary and that the IEPA may require containment around the tower. An alternate bid was received by Maxcor to provide containment for \$88,000. Mr. Thomason reported that management will contact IEPA for additional advisement.

Keith Ward returned to the meeting at 10:07 am.

**April 27, 2015 (continued)**

**Closed Session**

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Keith Ward to go into Closed Session at 10:08 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), a discussion was held with Mr. Shaw expressing his displeasure with going into closed session as it would change the order of the agenda; the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lucas, Rippy, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: Collins, Shaw

The President declared the motion carried.

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Keith Ward to come out of Closed Session at 11:05 a.m. the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

**Ordinance 276 – Annual Budget and Appropriations**

Mr. Rippy commented that with the total General Fund reimbursement being paid by the Water Fund suggests that the General Manager, the General Counsel, and the Comptroller do not provide any support to the Recreation Department. Mr. Thomason explained that this is not the case and the budget reflects the Board's current direction. Mr. Rippy requested management to provide a comparison of sales vs. administrative costs and to have that item placed on the next Board meeting agenda.

Mr. Shaw sought an explanation of the \$150,000 increase in Administrative Reimbursement from Water to the General Fund. Mr. Johnston provided a brief discussion citing the Board's prior decision for the same.

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Robert Walton to approve Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #276 as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lucas, Thomas, Walton, Ward

Nays: Collins, Rippy, Shaw

The President declared the motion carried.

**Capital Plan**

Mr. Thomason presented the Five-Year Capital Plan to the Board for approval. Mr. Ward asked if the Board could review the proposed Capital Plan and vote at the next meeting. The Board took no further action.

**Illinois Strategies**

Mr. Thomason reported that with the change in staff he feels Illinois Strategies is not providing the support RLCD once received and that the State is not currently providing grants. He recommended that the Board terminate the services of Illinois Strategies.

Upon motion by Jere Shaw and second by Todd Thomas to terminate the contract with Illinois Strategies, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

**April 27, 2015 (continued)**

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Keith Ward to set the baseline sales incentive award for the Lodge Manager at \$850,000 and the Golf Pro at \$680,000, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

**Closed Session Minutes**

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Keith Ward approving the Closed Session Minutes of March 23, 2015 as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Mr. Shaw asked Mt. Vernon responded to the letter sent regarding the RLCD water service contract and the proposed sale to Illinois Water. Mr. Thomason responded that RLCD has not received a response to the letter. Mr. Shaw expressed dissatisfaction with wording of the letter stating that he thought the letter should have been more aggressive in nature.

**Adjournment**

Upon motion by Jere Shaw and second by Robert Walton to adjourn the meeting at 11:24 a.m., the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

The President declared the motion carried.

  
Todd Thomas, President

  
James Rippy, Secretary