

# REND LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

11231 MARCUM BRANCH ROAD ■ P. O. BOX 907 ■ BENTON, ILLINOIS 62812 TELEPHONE: (618) 439-4321 ■ FAX: (618) 439-2400

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE REND LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT HELD March 22, 2021

The Board of Trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District held a regular meeting on Monday, March 22, 2021, at the Rend Lake Golf Course Banquet Room, 12476 Golf Course Road, Whittington, 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, Paul Lawrence, Nicholas LeMay, Todd Thomas, Robert Walton, Keith Ward, and Michael Warren.

**Staff**: In physical attendance: Keith Thomason, General Manager; Larry Sanders, General Counsel; Michael Johnston, Comptroller; Tony Furlow, Water Plant Superintendent; Jeremy Richardson, IWS Distribution Manager; Keith Vaughn, Buildings Construction and Repair Manager; Sean Pickford, District Engineer; Jason Stilley, Golf Professional; Amy Krueger, Season's Lodge and Condominiums Manager; and Jen Zinzilieta, Executive Assistant.

Visitors: None

#### Minutes

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Michael Warren to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2021, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

## **Acceptance of Check Register**

Upon motion by Michael Warren and second by Paul Lawrence to accept the Check Register as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

#### Report of the Executive Team

Mr. Thomason presented a report regarding the following items:

- A report of the District's response to the Coronavirus Pandemic was given. All utility operations
  remain fully functional. The managers and employees have done a very good job complying with
  the recommendations.
- Mr. Thomason will be reaching out to all the mayors and chairmen. The District will be offering
  assistance to wholesale customers that need help completing their Risk and Resiliency
  Assessment.

- The District continues to create a warehouse that will house parts the District needs as well as the District's wholesale customers in emergency situations.
- Mr. Thomason reported that there are two new oil wells on District property on Marcum Branch Road.

Mr. Johnston presented the financial report for the month of February.

 Mr. Johnston reported that Big Muddy Prison owes the District \$567,366 and the state, in total, owes the District \$654,026.

Mr. Sanders presented a report covering the following items:

- Mr. Sanders reported the video gaming board will meet on April 22, 2021.
- Mr. Sanders stated that all farmers are current on their payments to the District.

Ernest Collins left the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

### Report of the Department Managers

Mr. Tony Furlow, Water Superintendent, presented the following information:

- A report of the daily average and maximum flows of drinking water was given.
- A report of the water plant equipment and repairs was given.
- · A report of chemical costs was given.
- A report was given regarding EPA testing of Rend Lake water.
- A report was given regarding pumps at the sewer lift stations.

Mr. Jeremy Richardson, IWS Distribution Manager, presented the following information:

- A report of the water and sewer leaks during the past month was given.
- A report was given regarding the District helping other towns in emergency situations.

Mr. Sean Pickford, District Engineer, presented the following information:

- A report of the engineering projects was given.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Street Water Main Project: The pipe has been delivered for the project. Weather has delayed this project, but it should be beginning soon.
- A report was given regarding assisting West Frankfort with their Risk and Resiliency Assessment.

Mr. Jason Stilley, Golf Professional, presented the following information:

Mr. Stilley reported that he has transferred back to the pro shop on March 15, 2021.

Mrs. Amy Krueger, Lodge Manager, presented the following information:

A report was given on the status of the winter projects at the lodge department.

Mr. Keith Vaughn, Buildings Construction and Repair Manager, presented the following information:

- Mr. Vaughn reported that he has been helping with Cabin #4 construction since January 1.
- A report was given of the projects that have been completed throughout the District and projects that are currently in process.

#### **Bids and Purchases**

Purchase of Two Items Less Than \$5,000 Each

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding the purchase of two items each costing less than \$5,000:

- A Lifepoint-Duo Mobile Tie-off Fall Protection Device from Garlock Chicago for a total of \$3,220.
- Replacement of twelve batteries on the generator switchgear from Electrorep Energy Products for a total of \$3,274.

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Keith Ward to authorize the purchase of the Lifepoint-Duo Mobile Tie-off Fall Protection Device for \$3,220 from Garlock Chicago and the purchase of the twelve batteries for the generator switchgear for \$3,274 from Electrorep Energy Products, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

### Sand Filter Media

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding the purchase of sand filter media and support gravel. The District received a quote from All-Service Contracting Corp. for a total cost of \$20,250.40.

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Robert Walton to authorize the purchase of the sand filter media and support gravel from All-Service Contracting Corp. for a total cost of \$20,250.40, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

### Draft Budget May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022

Mr. Thomason presented the draft budget for Board discussion and approval for public review.

Upon motion by Michael Warren and second by Keith Ward to approve the draft budget for public review, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

#### Schedule Budget Hearing - April 26, 2021 at 8:25 a.m.

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Paul Lawrence to approve the public budget hearing for April 26, 2021 at 8:25 a.m., the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

### **Illinois Legislative Update**

Mr. Sanders informed the Board that Mr. Bradley has kept in touch with him on legislation that might impact the District.

#### **Marketing Information**

Mr. Thomason reported that the District is evaluating its marketing efforts in order to be ready for the busy season. Mrs. Jen Zinzilieta presented information regarding a marketing company that presented their ideas on how the District could improve its online presence and marketing efforts. The marketing company is asking for a three month commitment from the District. The Board discussed the idea of hiring a Communications Director. Discussion ensued.

#### District's Strategic Plan

Mrs. Jen Zinzilieta reported on the status and timelines of the objectives within the District's Strategic Plan.

#### **Closed Session**

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Michael Warren to go into Closed Session at 10:25 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 Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Paul Lawrence to come out of Closed Session at 12:15 p.m., the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

#### **Closed Session Minutes**

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Paul Lawrence to approve the Closed Session Minutes of the February 22, 2021, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

### **Legal Contract**

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Michael Warren to accept the legal contract with Attorney Edward J. Kionka, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

#### **Restaurant Lease**

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Nicholas LeMay to allow Mr. Sanders to amend the restaurant lease with the leasee, Anthony Heinrich, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

### **General Manager & Legal Counsel Contracts**

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Michael Warren to approve the contracts between the Board of Trustees and the General Manager, Mr. Thomason, and the Legal Counsel, Mr. Sanders, as discussed, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Collins

The President declared the motion carried.

## Adjournment

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Michael Warren to adjourn the meeting at 12:21 p.m., the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Coffins

The President declared the motion carried.

Todd Thomas, President Nicholas LeWay, Vice-President

Robert Walton, Secretary