



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 June 22, 2020

The Board of Trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District held a regular meeting on Monday, June 22, 2020, via teleconference. President Todd Thomas called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The following attended:

Board of Trustees: In attendance via telephone: Ernest Collins, Paul Lawrence, Nicholas LeMay, Todd Thomas, Robert Walton, Keith Ward, and Michael Warren

Staff: In attendance via telephone: Keith Thomason, General Manager; Larry Sanders, General Counsel; Michael Johnston, Comptroller; Tony Furlow, Water Plant Superintendent; Jeremy Richardson, IWS Distribution Manager; Amy Krueger, Manager of Season's Lodge and Condominiums; Jason Stilley, Golf Professional; Pete Hunter, Golf Course Superintendent; Sean Pickford, District Engineer; Ryan Farley, Project Engineer; and Jen Zinzilieta, Executive Assistant. The chief legal counsel and chief administrative officer were physically present at the regular meeting location

Visitors: None

Minutes

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Nicholas LeMay to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2020, 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 Paul Lawrence and second by Todd Thomas to accept the Check Register as presented, the Board as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

General Manager's Report

Mr. Thomason presented the General Manager's report covering the following items:

- A report of the daily average and maximum flows of drinking water was given.
- A report of the water and sewer leaks during the past month was given.
- 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.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Serving Southern Illinois Since 1955

June 22, 2020 (Continued)

- The buildings of the District are starting to deteriorate. Keith Vaughn has accepted a new position with the District as Buildings Construction and Repair Manager to help with this situation.
- The District had one emergency purchase during this past month. A new air conditioning unit was purchased for the banquet room at the restaurant.
- The District will provide Woodlawn a letter for Rural Development about providing Woodlawn water if Mt. Vernon cannot. Mt. Vernon is not wanting to sign an extended contract at this time. Mr. Thomason is going to meet with Mt. Vernon to discuss concerns regarding water reliability.
- No safety issues to report for this period.

Financial Report

Mr. Johnston presented the financial report for the month of May. Mr. Johnston reported that Big Muddy Prison owes the District \$549,982.71 and the state, in total, owes the District \$624,430.00.

Engineering Projects

Mr. Thomason provided an update on the following engineering projects:

Secondary WTP Discharge Line

Mr. Thomason reported the project is close to being finalized. A few issues need to be resolved before the project can be finalized such as the Baptist Camp Road repair issues, a fence at Camp Manitowa, and the contractor of the project is requesting additional money.

Highway 37 Water Main Relocation Project

Mr. Thomason reported that the relocation of the service lines is completed but IDOT has some cleanup to complete on the project.

Booster Pump Station Upgrades

Mr. Thomason reported that upgrades have been completed and the contractor has been paid. Clinton Electric was the contractor on the project and did a great job on the project.

9th Street Project

The 9th Street area in West Frankfort has had repeated breaks in the water line. It has been determined that RLCD will focus on repairing the portion of the line in more dire need of repair and not on replacing the entire line at this time.

Recreation Facilities Update

Mr. Sanders reported the following information regarding the recreation facilities. The Coronavirus Pandemic has had a major impact on the recreation departments.

- Lodge: The occupancy rate at the lodge has improved over the last month. There are some issues with the pool that are being evaluated. Cabin rentals seem to be holding steady.
- Golf Course: The golf course is having some issues with only one person per cart due to the COVID-19 restrictions.
- Plans are underway for six parking lots around the golf course and lodge to be repaved or resealed. The administration office lot will be repaved as well.

Leased Facilities Update

Mr. Sanders reported the following information regarding the leased facilities. The Coronavirus Pandemic has had a major impact on the leased departments.

- Restaurant: The restaurant has suffered due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the many mandatory restrictions. Mr. Heinrich has opened the patio for outside dining with some level of success.

June 22, 2020 (Continued)

- Shooting Complex: The shooting complex is open as much as possible with the COVID-19 restrictions. They are waiting to see if there will be any impact to the shooting complex since the Grand American Championships at the World Shooting and Recreation Complex in Sparta has been cancelled.

Keith Ward left the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Sewer I and I

Mr. Thomason updated the Board on the sewer inflow and infiltration issues. A new pump has been purchased and installed for the Ewing sewer plant. Sean Pickford, District Engineer, will be recommending some operational changes to help increase performance in the near future. Mr. Pickford has determined that the Whittington Woods Campground can come on the District's sewer system at this time.

Southern Illinois Arts & Crafts Marketplace

Mr. Thomason presented information updating the Board on the Southern IL Arts & Crafts Marketplace. The IDNR has begun using the property outside of the way the contract allows by putting IDNR offices in the building and moving the Conservation Police onto the property. Mr. Thomason and Mr. Sanders have a phone conference scheduled with the IDNR on Wednesday, June 24, 2020. Mr. Thomason would like preapproval from the Board to reconvey the building back to the Rend Lake Conservancy District if the IDNR continues to use the building for office space or conservation police purposes.

Upon motion by Michael Warren and second by Paul Lawrence to grant preapproval to Mr. Thomason to reconvey the Southern IL Arts & Crafts Marketplace back to the Rend Lake Conservancy District if the IDNR continues to use the building for office space or conservation police purposes, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ward

The President declared the motion carried.

Bids and Purchases

Zero-Turn Mower

Mr. Thomason reported that a new zero-turn mower is needed for the sewer plant. Ben's Lawn Service has agreed to hold the bid price of \$9,557.49 from the last time RLCD got bids for this type of zero-turn mower.

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Nicholas LeMay to approve the purchase of a zero-turn mower for the sewer plant from Ben's Lawn Service for a price of \$9,557.49, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ward

The President declared the motion carried.

Invoice from Spitzer and Boyes, LLC

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Michael Warren to approve the payment to Spitzer and Boyes, LLC for \$15,840.00 for services rendered regarding the lawsuit with the City of Sesser, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ward

The President declared the motion carried.

June 22, 2020 (Continued)

Truck Purchase

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding the purchase of a two-wheel drive extended cab truck for the engineering department. The state bid price for the truck is \$32,836.

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Michael Warren to approve the purchase of a new two-wheel drive extended cab truck for the engineering department from the state bid list or from a local dealer if they can beat or come within \$1,000 of the state bid price, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ward

The President declared the motion carried.

Illinois Legislative Update

Mr. Sanders provided a legislative update regarding the following topics:

- John Bradley continues to advise and work with the state legislature and state agencies on behalf of the District.
- John Bradley continues to be helpful and responsive regarding the various changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The District has a phone conference with the IDNR later this week to discuss the Southern IL Arts & Crafts Marketplace.

Closed Session

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Nicholas LeMay to go into Closed Session at 9:55 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: Collins, Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Warren

Nays: None

Absent: Ward

The President declared the motion carried.

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Michael Warren to come out of Closed Session at 10:30 a.m., the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ward

The President declared the motion carried.

Closed Session Minutes

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Ernest Collins to approve the Closed Session Minutes of the April 27, 2020, Regular Meeting and the May 18, 2020, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Ward

The President declared the motion carried.

June 22, 2020 (Continued)

Adjournment

Upon motion by Ernest Collins and second by Todd Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 a.m., the Board voted as follows:

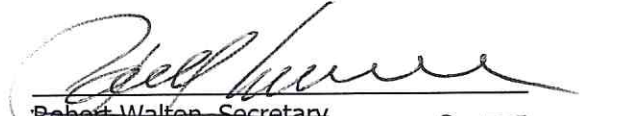
Ayes: Collins, Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Warren

Nays: None

Absent: Ward

The President declared the motion carried.


Todd Thomas, President


Robert Walton, Secretary
Paul Lawrence, Secretary Pro Tempore