



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 August 26, 2019

The Board of Trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District held a regular meeting on Monday, August 26, 2019, 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, Paul Lawrence, Nicholas LeMay, Todd Thomas, Robert Walton, Keith Ward, and Michael Warren

Staff: Keith Thomason, General Manager; Larry Sanders, Legal Counsel; Michael Johnston, Comptroller; Tony Furlow, Water Plant Superintendent; Sarah Towle, District Engineer; Jason Stilley, Rend Lake Golf Professional; and Jen Zinzilieta, Executive Assistant

Visitors: Robert Dimitri, Whittington Woods Campground Owner; Robert Risley, Whittington Woods Contract Operator; Shawn Wilkerson, Fick, Eggemeyer & Williamson Certified Public Accountants, PC, District Auditors

Mr. Dimitri, owner of Whittington Woods Campground, presented information to the Board regarding his request to the Rend Lake Conservancy District to build a lift station for the campground and discharge that lift station into the RLCD sewer system.

Minutes

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Michael Warren to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2019 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 Nicholas LeMay 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.

General Manager's Report

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

- Report of the daily average and maximum flows of drinking water was given.
- Report of the breaks/leaks of the water and sewer system for the past month was given.
- The conversion to sulfuric acid at the water plant was completed this past month. RLCD staff is working on chemical management issues.

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- The second round of membrane modules have been installed. Management is planning installation of the third set of membranes for October. The membrane technician was very helpful for training purposes and employees were able to double the speed of installation with his expertise.
- The crane safety issue has been identified and is being resolved in order to remove the large motor at the water plant.
- The spare raw water pump motor was sent to Tennessee for repairs.
- Monthly labor costs continue to be higher than anticipated for maintenance labor in most departments. Management continues to look for ways to reduce these costs.
- A report was given regarding the sludge recycling analysis, the equipment needed, the operating costs related to doing the work internally, and the manpower required.
- RLCD has worked on Inflow & Infiltration issues several years ago to resolve some sewer overloading issues. Improvement was made but I & I remains an issue at RLCD. I & I has again become a priority at RLCD and we are working with Ewing to resolve our most immediate issue at one of their manholes. At the same time, we have received a request for a new service that could not be approved until I & I issues are once again reduced. RLCD is looking at several options to resolve this issue.
- Safety – No accidents to report for this past month. RLCD held a safety luncheon for the water plant employees in which the importance of safety was stressed.

Financial Report

Mr. Johnston presented the financial report for the month of July. Mr. Johnston reported that Big Muddy Prison owes the District \$471,930.00 and the state, in total, owes the District \$530,753.00.

Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2019

Shawn Williamson from Fick, Eggemeyer & Williamson Certified Public Accountants, PC presented the auditor's report for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2019.

Engineering Projects

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

Secondary WTP Discharge Line

Mr. Thomason reported the project had been delayed due to the high-water levels near the Highway 37 bore site. The contractor is currently on-site to finish the project. The work is going very slow because the contractor has hit rock while trying to bore under Highway 37.

Booster Pump Station Upgrades

Mr. Thomason reported that employees are currently painting and refurbishing booster pump stations. A new engineering plan for an electrical upgrade to two booster pump stations will be discussed later in the meeting.

I & I Projects

Mr. Thomason reported that currently a RLCD employee is conducting inspections on our property of sewer manholes to help resolve the I & I issues.

Membrane Installation

The second round of membrane modules have been installed. Management is planning installation of the third set of membranes for October. The last delivery and installation of modules is planned for April 2020.

Leased Facilities Update

Mr. Sanders gave a report on the leased facilities.

- Restaurant: RLCD continues to receive good feedback regarding the restaurant food and service. Management has also received good feedback on the beverage cart being on the golf course for the players.

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- Farmers: This is the last year for the current 5-year lease cycle for the farm contracts. Mr. Sanders discussed possible requirements and changes to the next contract that will be placed for bid this Fall.

Recreation Facilities Update

Mr. Sanders gave a report on the recreation facilities.

- Lodge: The cabins continue to be rented on a regular basis.
- Golf Course: A report was given regarding the golf cart batteries and the need to replace several. The number of golf rounds are up for the month of July 2019 compared to July 2018.
- Mr. Sanders introduced Jason Stilley and recounted the success of the summer youth golf league. The Board members joined in the congratulations.

Bids and Purchases

Lime Sludge Recycling

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding lime sludge recycling from the lagoons at the water plant. The low bid was from Metro Ag for \$61,500 for each lagoon.

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Nicholas LeMay to approve the lime sludge recycling from the low bidder, Metro Ag, for \$61,500 for each of two lagoons at the water plant, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Membrane Module Removal Tool

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding the need to purchase a membrane module removal tool to help with the changing of the membrane modules. The total price of the tool is \$3,269.83.

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Paul Lawrence to approve the purchase of the membrane module removal tool for a total price of \$3,269.83, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Peach Orchard Project

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Nicholas LeMay to approve the purchase of the component parts for the Peach Orchard Project for \$19,864.00, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Electric Upgrades to Booster Station

Upon motion by Michael Warren and second by Nicholas LeMay to approve the electrical upgrades to the booster pump stations in Ewing and McLeansboro from the low bidder, Clinton Electric, for a cost of \$223,840.00, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

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36" DI Spool Piece

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Michael Warren to approve the purchase of the 36" DI spool piece for the 36" south discharge water main project from the low quote by IMCO for \$4,376.00, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Illinois Legislature Update

Mr. Thomason and Mr. Sanders presented information regarding pending legislation that could have an impact on the Rend Lake Conservancy District. Mr. Sanders reported that he met with Mr. Bradley and they discussed the disbursement of the State Capital Plan.

McLeansboro Water Contract

Mr. Thomason reported that McLeansboro has requested a new 40-year water contract in order to receive a loan through the Rural Development Agency to do upgrades to their system. Mr. Thomason and Mr. Sanders presented information regarding the new language that will be added to the new water contracts.

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Keith Ward to approve the water contract with McLeansboro with the new language, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Greater Egypt Regional Planning and Development Commission Appropriation

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Todd Thomas to approve the appropriation request of \$4,049.34 to the Greater Egypt Regional Planning and Development Commission, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Rend Lake Resort Concession Lease

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding the Rend Lake Resort Concession Lease and the state bid process. He discussed the different options that can be bid on at the Rend Lake Resort. Discussion ensued.

Upon motion by Michael Warren and second by Keith Ward to approve the submission of a bid for the Rend Lake Resort Concession Lease, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Ward, Warren

Nays: Collins, Thomas, Walton

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Closed Session

Upon motion by Ernest Collins and second by Todd Thomas to go into Closed Session at 12:05 p.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

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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, Ward, Warren

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Upon motion by Ernest Collins and second by Michael Warren to come out of Closed Session at 12:25 p.m., the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Closed Session Minutes

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Michael Warren to approve the Closed Session Minutes of the July 22, 2019, 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.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Michael Warren to adjourn the meeting at 12:27 p.m., the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.



Todd Thomas, President



Robert Walton, Secretary