



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 October 25, 2021

The Board of Trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District held a regular meeting on Monday, October 25, 2021, at the Rend Lake Golf Course Banquet Room, 12476 Golf Course Road, Whittington, Illinois. President Michael Warren called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The following attended:

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Visitors: Anna Guetersloh, CPA from Kerber, Eck, & Braeckel, LLP

Minutes

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Ernest Collins to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2021, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Lawrence

The President declared the motion carried.

Acceptance of Check Register

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: Lawrence

The President declared the motion carried.

Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2021

Anna Guetersloh, CPA from Kerber, Eck, & Braeckel, LLP presented the auditor's report for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2021.

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Keith Ward to accept the auditor's report for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2021 as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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October 25, 2021 (Continued)

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

Nays: None

Absent: Lawrence

The President declared the motion carried.

Report of the Executive Team

Mr. Keith 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.
- A report was given regarding the recreation departments. The busy season is nearing the end and the managers have done a good job this year keeping track of their budget. The District will be working to improve all facilities over the winter.
- InterCity Water will be tackling a repair on the 36" pipe at a very tricky location. The managers have showed strong commitment to safety and will be proceeding with caution for both pipe reliability and safety of all involved.
- New regulations for lead and copper will be coming in 2022. Updates will be given to the Board when more information is released.
- The District has discontinued work on the land acquisition for a potential lake as discussed at the last meeting. The City of Marion has requested a letter stating the District's final decision and payment for title work for the easement portion of the project.
- The executive team has reached out to several lake utilities to seek strategic relationships for the future.
- Representative Severin has secured a grant for infrastructure within his District. RLCD has been named as a recipient of the grant. More information will be coming in the future regarding the details of the grant.
- InterCity Water had taste and odor issues last month but that has been fixed.
- The Wine & Art Festival at Rend Lake was held in October. The festival went very well with good attendance. The festival was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID restrictions.

Mr. Michael Johnston presented the financial report for the month.

- Mr. Johnston reported that all departments are ahead on revenue except the General Fund.
- Mr. Johnston reported that Big Muddy Prison owes the District \$666,579 and the state, in total, owes the District \$752,934.

Mr. Larry Sanders presented the following information:

- Mr. Sanders expanded on the information regarding the requests of the City of Marion that Mr. Thomason mentioned in his report. The City of Marion has asked for a letter of explanation since the District has stopped discussions before the Memo of Understanding expires on 12/31/2021. The City of Marion is also requesting approximately \$8,000 for easement and title work costs.

Report of the Department Managers

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

- A report was given regarding the extremely good year they have had at Season's Lodge and Condominiums.
- A report was given regarding the projects that are going on at the lodge, condominiums, and manor such as the bathroom remodel that will be beginning soon.
- A report was given regarding the rehab of the pool.

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

- A report was given regarding the positive feedback he has received from customers regarding the condition of the golf course.
- A report was given regarding the options of moving the senior tees at the golf course.

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Mr. Pete Hunter, Golf Course Superintendent, presented the following information:

- A report was given regarding the early purchase program offered by golf course chemical companies for golf course chemicals.

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Robert Walton to approve golf course chemical purchases up to \$64,000 through the early purchase program, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, LeMay, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None

Absent: Lawrence

Abstain: Thomas

The President declared the motion carried.

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

- A report was given regarding the projects that have been completed this past month and projects that are about to begin throughout the District. The next project will be the remodel of twenty-four bathrooms at the lodge.

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 was given regarding the EPA regulations being met.
- A report was given regarding chemical supply. The water plant chemicals are currently out for bid. The results will be brought to the Board next month.
- A report was given regarding the taste and odor issues of the water. The cause was identified and the problem was fixed.
- A report of the water plant equipment and repairs was given.
- A report was given regarding the sewer system and lift stations.
- A report was given regarding the impact on the water system when weather issues such as storms occur.

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 increase in prices across the board for parts and services.
- A report was given regarding the status of the inventory for the water plant.
- A report was given regarding issues the water and sewer departments have had regarding power outages the past several months.

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

- A report of the engineering projects was given.
- A report was given regarding a tank near Waltonville. Mr. Pickford will evaluate the restoration, demolition, or painting of the tank and report his findings to the Board.
- A report was given regarding initial costs of a pump for the raw water intake to be approximately \$130,000.
- A report was given regarding the easements for the parallel water line project.

District's Strategic Plan

Mr. Thomason stated that he and the managers have set a list of priorities to address on the District's Strategic Plan. They continue to discuss and prioritize the objectives.

Bids and Purchases

Parts for Inventory

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Keith Ward to preapprove the purchase of \$100,000 a month for parts to be put into inventory for the water and sewer departments, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

October 25, 2021 (Continued)

Nays: None

Absent: Lawrence, LeMay

The President declared the motion carried.

Illinois Legislative Update

Mr. Sanders informed the Board that Mr. Bradley continues to keep in touch with him on legislation that might impact the District. Mr. Sanders and Mr. Thomason had a Zoom meeting with Senator Duckworth this past month. A meeting with Senator Fowler is being scheduled.

Investment Report

Mr. Sanders gave a report on allowable investments for municipal bodies including the District. Mr. Sanders reported on the District's current investment portfolio. He reported that he spoke to four brokers regarding investing in municipal bonds. No action was taken.

Closed Session

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Ernest Collins to go into Closed Session at 10:52 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, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None

Absent: Lawrence

The President declared the motion carried.

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Keith Ward to come out of Closed Session at 11:31 a.m., the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Lawrence

The President declared the motion carried.

City of Marion

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Michael Warren to reimburse the City of Marion for easement and title work they performed, in the amount of approximately \$8,000, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Lawrence

The President declared the motion carried.

Closed Session Minutes

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Todd Thomas to approve the Closed Session Minutes of the September 27, 2021, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Lawrence

The President declared the motion carried.

Mr. Collins left the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

October 25, 2021 (Continued)

Adjournment

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Michael Warren to adjourn the meeting at 11:41 a.m., the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

Nays: None

Absent: Collins, Lawrence

The President declared the motion carried.



Michael Warren, President



Robert Walton, Secretary


Nicholas LeMay, VP