



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 December 17, 2018

The Board of Trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District held a regular meeting on Monday, December 17, 2018, 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, Todd Thomas, Robert Walton, Keith Ward, and Michael Warren; Via Telephone: Nicholas LeMay

Staff: Keith Thomason, General Manager; Larry Sanders, Legal Counsel; Michael Johnston, Comptroller; Leonard Killman, Water Plant Superintendent; and Jen Zinzilieta, Executive Assistant

Pledge of Allegiance

Visitors: State Representative Dave Severin

Mr. Severin addressed the Board summarizing key topics of interest to the Rend Lake Conservancy District Board. He also wanted to express that he is available to discuss any issues or needs of the Board and management of the District.

Nick LeMay joined the meeting at 8:40 a.m. via telephone.

Minutes

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Robert Walton to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2018, 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

Board members reviewed the check register.

Upon motion by Michael Warren and second by Todd Thomas 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:

December 17, 2018 (Continued)

- Report of the daily average and maximum flows of drinking water was given
- The high service pump repair quote from our local provider has not been received since the pump is at the manufacturer. RLCD is hoping to get the second quote by the end of this week.
- Quotes are being obtained for the refurbishment of the spare raw water pump to ensure a reliable spare is always on hand.
- Atrazine levels appear to be increasing in the lake. However, finished water levels are significantly better than regulatory limits. RLCD will continue to collect at least one year of data to develop a better understanding of farm chemical impact on water quality.
- Staff is working toward a switch from aqua ammonia to ammonium sulfate to remedy the ammonia vapor problem in the 3rd floor chemical room. A permit has been received. Testing will begin as soon as approved by IEPA.
- The District is scheduled to collect additional lead and copper samples over the next three months to verify that levels from home plumbing components are safe for our customers. We have talked to a third party to ensure we are following all the procedures when a lead test comes back at the action level. RLCD will continue our public education efforts and will be reaching out to water district managers to discuss lessons learned from recent sampling events.
- Management is working to optimize chemistry at the water plant which may improve both the level of treatment and the cost efficiency of treatment. RLCD has obtained an engineering expert proposal for consideration to assist in this effort.
- Management will be restructuring assignments so the General Manager can spend more time on water issues. Larry Sanders will be resuming oversight of the recreation operations and Mike Johnston will be taking on more administration oversight and senior level management analysis to help improve financial performance of all operations. The General Manager will apply his engineering knowledge and experience to improve the water treatment and speed up the 25 year reliability plan. New schedules will be produced as part of the upcoming 5 year capital planning effort.
- The golf course finished the season in good condition but golf revenues were behind the budgeted revenues. The last two years have shown a serious reduction in revenue.
- Lodge revenues are also down and appear to be tracking with golf revenue. A portion of the reduction may be attributed to a very large veteran's event that moved north this year but is projected to return again next year. End of the season repairs are underway at Season's Lodge.
- The restaurant feedback continues to be good.

Financial Report

Mr. Johnston presented the financial report for the month of November. Mr. Johnston reported that Big Muddy Prison owed the District \$590,418.64 and the state, in total, owed the District \$642,668.46.

Leased Facilities

Mr. Sanders gave a report on the leased facilities.

- Restaurant: Overall, the restaurant has received good feedback from the customers and recreation managers. However, Tino's on the Tee is behind approximately \$3,500 in payments to the District for utilities and the lease.
- Farmers: All farmers have paid according to their contracts. For 2018, \$130,000 was received from farming income. RLCD has a little less than 1,000 tillable acres of farmland. This amounts to about \$130.00 per acre. The farmers have harvested corn and beans on the farmland this year.
- Cabins: The third cabin is in the process of being built. The cabins exceeded \$47,500 in revenue for the year.

Engineering Projects

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

December 17, 2018 (Continued)

Secondary WTP Discharge Line

Mr. Thomason reported that the bore is complete under Interstate 57 and boring under Highway 37 is in process. Work will continue as weather allows.

Pump Station Rehabilitation

Painting is continuing at the Mt. Vernon pump station as weather permits. RLCD is in the process of doing pump station rehabilitation at many locations.

Water Plant Roof Repair

Mr. Thomason reported that the repair on the water plant roof is almost complete.

Bids and Purchases

Payment to Altec Industries, Inc.

Mr. Thomason requested approval for payment to Altec Industries, Inc. to repair the damages to the water plant boom truck from the accident at the water plant and for additional repairs for normal wear and tear. The repairs cost \$18,782.22. There were also minor repairs that were made to a building at the water plant that was hit by the boom truck during the accident. RLCD has received a check for \$23,043.13 from the insurance company to cover the claim.

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Todd Thomas to approve the payment to Altec Industries, Inc. for \$18,782.22 for the repairs to the water plant boom truck, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Purchase of Two Pick-up Trucks

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding two trucks that need to be replaced. He said that the goal of the District is to replace vehicles after 10 years and 150,000 miles. Mr. Thomason requested to replace a 2WD water plant truck which has 196,000 miles on it with another 2WD truck for \$22,725. Mr. Thomason also requested to replace a 4WD sewer truck with 171,000 miles on it with another 4WD truck for \$25,830. The requested approval would be to purchase each truck from the state bid list for the price stated or from a local dealership that can match the state bid price. The price presented for each truck includes the base price plus LED utility light (\$790), tow package (\$548), delivery fee, license and title. Discussion ensued.

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Keith Ward to approve the purchases of one 2WD pick-up truck and one 4WD pick-up truck each without the LED utility light from the state bid list or from a local dealership that can match the state bid list price and to check on alternate utility lights at a cheaper cost, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Repair of High Service Pump

Mr. Thomason requested preapproval for repairs of the high service pump by the manufacturer for \$20,905. RLCD has requested a quote from a local company but the pump is currently at the manufacturer in Texas. If the quote from the local company is less than \$20,905, the pump will be shipped back for repairs.

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Paul Lawrence to preapprove the repairs of the high service pump by the manufacturer for \$20,905 or from a local company if the price is below that of the manufacturer, the Board voted as follows:

December 17, 2018 (Continued)

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Internet and Telephone Service

Mr. Thomason presented information concerning the issues of the internet and telephone service the District has been having. RLCD received a quote from ClearWave for fiber optic services which was a 6 year contract at \$43,800 per year. Discussion ensued. Mr. Thomason said that he would have the engineering intern work on a study and cost analysis if RLCD ran its own fiber optic lines and present that information at the next board meeting. No action was taken at this time.

Recreation Rates for Season's Lodge for 2019

Mr. Sanders presented information regarding the current Season's Lodge rates and presented a comparison of rates of nearby hotels. Mr. Sanders proposed to keep the summer rate at \$109 per night for the Double Queen room and increasing the winter rate from \$69.00 per night to \$75.00 per night for the Double Queen room.

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Robert Walton to approve keeping the summer rate at \$109.00 per night for the Double Queen room and increasing the winter rate from \$69.00 per night to \$75.00 per night for the Double Queen room, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Recreation Rates for Season's Golf Course for 2019

Mr. Sanders presented information regarding the current Rend Lake Golf Course rates and presented a comparison of rates of nearby golf courses. Mr. Sanders proposed to increase the weekend out-of-district rate for 18 holes with cart fee from \$53.00 to \$55.00 and leave the other rates the same. Discussion ensued regarding increasing local play and setting up meetings with local golf courses to form a partnership to help increase local play.

Upon motion by Michael Warren and second by Keith Ward to approve an increase to the weekend out-of-district rate for 18 holes with cart fee from \$53.00 to \$55.00 and to leave the other rates the same, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

The President declared the motion carried.

Nicholas LeMay left the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

2018 IDNR Lake Maintenance Bill

Mr. Thomason presented the 2018 IDNR Lake Maintenance bill of \$429,723.56. Discussion ensued.

Upon motion by Michael Warren and second by Keith Ward to approve payment for the 2018 IDNR Lake Maintenance bill of \$429,723.56, to include a request to correct bill inaccuracies, and to ask IDNR to pay their water and sewer bill with RLCD, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: LeMay

The President declared the motion carried.

December 17, 2018 (Continued)

Chemistry Optimization Project

Mr. Thomason presented information concerning the chemistry optimization project. Mr. Thomason requested approval to hire an outside consultant company, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., to provide professional engineering assistance to optimize the water treatment plant chemistry in the most cost effective manner for a total fee of \$19,500. The proposed project would be done in January and a report summarizing the overall results would be submitted to RLCD in February.

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Paul Lawrence to approve hiring the engineering consultant company, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., to provide engineering assistance to optimize the chemistry of the water plant for \$19,500, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: LeMay

The President declared the motion carried.

Membrane Control Panel Replacement Services

Mr. Thomason presented information and the options concerning the membrane control panel replacement services from Evoqua and R.E. Pedrotti. The Evoqua services consisting of repair and modernization of the software would cost \$36,794. Mr. Thomason also presented two options from R.E. Pedrotti. Option 1 would cost \$6,538 for repairs but no modernization and Option 2 would cost \$15,296 for repairs and modernization of the software.

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Paul Lawrence to approve R.E. Pedrotti to perform Option 2 which consists of repairs and modernization to the membrane control panel with a limitation that programming has to work in order to get paid, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: LeMay

The President declared the motion carried.

FEMA Repayment of Grant

Mr. Thomason presented updated information concerning the FEMA grant funding for the Rend Lake Bypass Project. FEMA is requesting part of the grant money be refunded for a section of the project that was not approved. Mr. Thomason said that they would like this issue finalized on 01/14/2019. He would like a Board member to attend the meeting with him or be available by telephone during the meeting in case any issues may arise. Mr. Thomason would like the Board to preapprove a repayment amount with an upper limit of \$500,000.

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Michael Warren to preapprove the upper limit of \$500,000 for repayment to FEMA for the grant funding for the Rend Lake Bypass Project, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: LeMay

The President declared the motion carried.

Closed Session

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Robert Walton to go into Closed Session at 10:50 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, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren

December 17, 2018 (Continued)

Nays: None
Absent: LeMay
The President declared the motion carried.

Upon motion by Ernest Collins and second by Robert Walton to come out of Closed Session at 11:30 a.m., the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Lawrence, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren
Nays: None
Absent: LeMay
The President declared the motion carried.

Closed Session Minutes

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Ernest Collins to approve the Closed Session Minutes of the November 26, 2018, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Lawrence, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren
Nays: None
Absent: LeMay
The President declared the motion carried.

Payment to HeplerBroom, LLC.

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Todd Thomas to approve payment for the final costs to HeplerBroom, LLC. of \$27,666.62 concerning the Siemens/CDM court case, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Lawrence, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren
Nays: None
Absent: LeMay
The President declared the motion carried.

Adjournment

Upon motion by Keith Ward and second by Robert Walton to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m., the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Collins, Lawrence, Thomas, Walton, Ward, Warren
Nays: None
Absent: LeMay
The President declared the motion carried.



Todd Thomas, President



Robert Walton, Secretary