

# 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 July 25, 2022

The Board of Trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District held a regular meeting on Monday, July 25, 2022, at the Rend Lake Golf Course Banquet Room, 12476 Golf Course Road, Whittington, IL. President Michael Warren 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, and Michael Warren. Absent: Dr. John Spence

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

Visitors: None

#### **Minutes**

Upon motion by Ernie Collins and second by Nicholas LeMay to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2022, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

# Acceptance of Check Register

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

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

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. The managers and employees continue to do a good job with safety precautions.
- The District has received appointment papers for Robert Walton to be reappointed to the Board and for the new Board member, Dr. John Spence, to replace Keith Ward. The new Board member will be present at the August meeting.
- A report was given regarding the financial standing of the recreation departments.

- A report was given regarding the upgrades and repairs to the golf course and lodge. Also, a
  guest that has not played in a few years reported that the course is in the best condition he has
  seen it in.
- The development consultant has been very slow to respond with a proposal. Mr. Thomason has also asked another consultant to provide a proposal.
- A thank you letter from the Rend Lake Area Tourism Council was sent to the District for their sponsorship of the S3DA National Archery Competition which was held in June at the North Marcum Archery Complex at Rend Lake.
- A report was given regarding the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Rend Lake that will be held on September 10, 2022 in partnership with the US Army Corp of Engineers, IL Department of Natural Resources, and RLCD.
- A report was given regarding the District seeking a two-million-dollar grant for initial development for the Gun Creek Expansion Project.
- Mr. Thomason has met with some small water districts to offer assistance in completing EPA requirements.
- Mr. Thomason reported that the engineer has been doing a good job on some difficult easement issues for the water expansion project.
- Mr. Thomason gave a report on River Stilley and his accomplishments on the golf course. He is currently playing in the U.S. Junior Amateur Championship. Mr. Thomason reported that River has been a very valuable volunteer at the District for the last few years. The District is going to provide a \$1,000 sponsorship for his golf expenses in appreciation for his efforts.

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

- Mr. Johnston reported on the finances of each department.
- Mr. Johnston reported that Big Muddy Prison owes the District \$669,868 and the state, in total, owes the District \$761,223.

Mr. Larry Sanders presented a report regarding the following items:

Mr. Sanders reported that everything is going well regarding the leased properties of the District.

# Report of the Department Managers

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

Mr. Pickford gave his resignation as District Engineer.

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 of the maintenance, repairs, and upgrades in the water system was given.
- A report was given regarding the air conditioning issues the water plant has had during the month of June.
- A report was given regarding the supply issues the water plant is dealing with.

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 issues. Also, some chemical suppliers are adding fuel surcharges on their invoices.
- A report was given regarding the increase in chemical use during the summer months.
- A report of the water plant equipment and repairs was given.
- A report was given regarding the sewer system and lift stations.
- A report of the membrane system was given.

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

A report was given regarding the projects that have been completed and those that are still in process.

Mrs. Amy Krueger, Manager of Season's Lodge and Condominiums, presented the following information:

- A report was given regarding elevator issues at the condominiums.
- A report was given regarding cancellations due to COVID.
- A report was given regarding the air conditioning units being replaced at the condominiums.

District's Strategic Plan

Mr. Thomason stated that the Strategic Plan has been updated and provides an overall direction of the District. Mr. Thomason reported that the Strategic Plan will be changing as the priorities change and projects are completed.

#### **Bids and Purchases**

Valves and Piping Purchase

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding quotes received for the purchase of several different sizes and quantities of valves and PVC piping to stock the warehouse. It was determined that that the valves from one of the companies was nonconforming and does not meet specifications of the District. It was recommended to purchase from IMCO for \$75,793.00.

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Paul Lawrence to approve the purchase of valves and PVC piping from IMCO for \$75,793.00, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

Altitude Pilot Control Valve

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding the purchase of an altitude pilot control valve for the Golf Ball Water Tower. The quote received was from C & C Pumps & Supply for \$5,334.

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Todd Thomas to preapprove the purchase of an altitude pilot control valve for \$5,334 from C & C Pumps & Supply unless a less expensive valve can be found, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

Air Conditioning Units for Season's Lodge and Buck & Bass Cabins

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding the purchase of eight air conditioning units for Season's Lodge and Buck & Bass Cabins. The low bid was from Amana for \$6,009 for eight units.

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Paul Lawrence to approve the purchase of eight air conditioning units for Season's Lodge and Buck & Bass Cabins from Amana for \$6,009, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

# Increase of \$100,000 to the Recreation Capital Budget

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding the need to add \$100,000 to the recreation capital budget. He explained that \$50,000 would be allocated to the lodge and \$50,000 would be allocated to the golf course maintenance department for equipment.

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Paul Lawrence to approve an increase to the recreation capital budget of \$100,000, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

#### Increase Funding for IWS Projects

Mr. Thomason presented information regarding the need to change the IWS funding from \$8 million to a maximum of \$15 million this fiscal year for IWS projects. The plan is to change direction of the planning and spending of the IWS projects.

Upon motion by Nicholas LeMay and second by Paul Lawrence to approve an increase to the IWS funding from \$8 million to a maximum of \$15 million this fiscal year for IWS projects, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

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.

# Ordinance 306 - Tax Levy

Upon motion by Robert Walton and second by Ernest Collins to approve Ordinance 306 – Tax Levy as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

# Resolution 522 - Semi-Annual Closed Session Minutes Review

Upon Motion by Ernest Collins and second by Nicholas LeMay to approve Resolution 522 – Semi-Annual Closed Session Minutes Review as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

#### **Closed Session**

Upon motion by Ernest Collins and second by Paul Lawrence to go into Closed Session at 10:05 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: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

Upon motion by Ernest Collins and second by Robert Walton to come out of Closed Session at 11:55

a.m., the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

#### **Closed Session Minutes**

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Ernest Collins to approve the Closed Session Minutes of the June 27, 2022, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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

None Nays: Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

# Ordinance 307 – Amending the Employment Policies of the District

Upon motion by Ernest Collins and second by Paul Lawrence to approve Ordinance 307 - Amending the Employment Policies of the District as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Collins, Lawrence, LeMay, Thomas, Walton, Warren

Nays: None Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

# **Employee Health Benefits**

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by Michael Warren to authorize the three brokers and agents that provided qualifications to the District the opportunity to bring the District final health benefit rates for consideration based upon the information the District is able to provide, the Board voted as follows:

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

None Nays: Absent: Spence

The President declared the motion carried.

## Adjournment

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Ernest Collins to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m., the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None Absent: Spence

Michael Warren, President

The President declared the motion carried.

Walton, Secretary Paul Lawrence, Secretary Pro Tempore

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