



# 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 February 24, 2025

The Board of Trustees of the Rend Lake Conservancy District held a regular meeting on Monday, February 24, 2025, at the Rend Lake Event Center, 14967 Gun Creek Trail, Whittington, IL. Vice-President Nicholas LeMay 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, John Spence, Todd Thomas, and Robert Walton, Absent: Michael Warren.

**Staff:** In physical attendance: Gary Williams, General Manager; Sean Pickford, District Engineer; Tony Furlow, IWS/Sewer Manager; Keith Vaughn, Buildings Construction and Repair Manager; Amy Krueger, Seasons Lodge Manager; Pete Hunter, Golf Course Superintendent; Judith Markham, Comptroller; and Jen Zinzilieta, Office Manager.

**Legal Counsel:** Jonathan Cantrell

**Visitors:** Deborah Barnett, Executive Director of *SI Now*  
Mrs. Deborah Barnett presented to the Board the goals and objectives of *SI Now*.

### Minutes – Regular Meeting

Upon motion by John Spence and second by Todd Thomas to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2025, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

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

Nays: None

Absent: Warren

The Vice-President declared the motion carried.

### Acceptance of Check Register

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: Warren

The Vice-President declared the motion carried.

### Report of the Executive Team

Mr. Gary Williams, General Manager, presented the following information:

- A report was given highlighting the information provided in the General Manager's Report included in the Board packet.

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**February 24, 2025**

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

- A report was given highlighting the information provided in the Engineer's Report included in the Board packet.

### **Report of the Managers**

Mrs. Judith Markham, Comptroller, presented the following information:

- A report was given regarding the financial statements included in the Board packet.

Mr. Tony Furlow, IWS/Sewer Manager, presented the following information:

- A report was given highlighting the information provided in the IWS/Sewer Manager's Report included in the Board packet.

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 throughout the District.

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

- A report was given regarding the projects that will be completed on the golf course to improve playability.

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

- A report was given regarding the St. Louis Golf Expo that representatives of the District recently attended.

### **District's Strategic Plan**

Mr. Gary Williams reported that the District's Strategic Plan continues to be updated with the completion of projects.

Mr. Ernie Collins left the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

### **Bids / Purchases**

#### Approval of Contract with Hanson Engineering

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Todd Thomas to approve the contract with Hanson Engineering for the design of the raw water intake replacement project in the amount of \$149,183, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Spence, Thomas, Walton

Nays: None

Absent: Collins, Warren

The Vice-President declared the motion carried.

#### Approvals for Bids/Purchases/Contracts

Upon motion by Paul Lawrence and second by Todd Thomas to approve the following items:

- Contract with WRF Engineering for the design of the phased replacement of the WTP HVAC system in the amount of \$141,062
- Contract with BFW Engineering for the structural engineering related to the replacement of the WTP HVAC system in the amount of \$18,200
- Contract with RP Coatings for the recoating of three water tanks (Christopher and Frisco) in the amount of \$1,790,000

## February 24, 2025

- Change Order related to the emergency work to replace a 14" watermain near Mulkeytown by Midwest Petroleum & Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$17,174.33 for a total project cost of \$45,394.33

The Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Spence, Thomas, Walton

Nays: None

Absent: Collins, Warren

The Vice-President declared the motion carried.

### **State and Federal Legislative Update**

Mr. Gary Williams provided a report which outlined the bills of interest that could affect the District.

### **Legal Issues – MT Realty**

Mr. Jonathan Cantrell provided an update to the discussion at the January 27, 2025 board meeting concerning the ground lease with MT Realty. Mr. Cantrell reported that he will draft the ground lease extension with MT Realty which will include a statement regarding the rent being reduced for RLCD farming part of the land covered by the ground lease.

### **Ordinance 324 – Modifying the Employment Policy**

Upon motion by John Spence and second by Robert Walton to adopt Ordinance 324 – Modifying the Employment Policy regarding vacation time as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Spence, Thomas, Walton

Nays: None

Absent: Collins, Warren

The Vice-President declared the motion carried.

### **Discount Policy**

Mr. Jonathan Cantrell discussed the current and proposed discounts offered to RLCD employees, past RLCD employees, and board members. Mr. Cantrell will draft an official discount policy to be adopted by the Board at the March 24, 2025 board meeting.

### **Resolutions in Support of the Extension of the TIF Districts with the City of Mt. Vernon**

Upon motion by Todd Thomas and second by John Spence to approve the resolutions in support of the extension of the TIF Districts with the city of Mt. Vernon as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Spence, Thomas, Walton

Nays: None

Absent: Collins, Warren

The Vice-President declared the motion carried.

### **Closed Session Minutes**

Upon motion by John Spence and second by Paul Lawrence to approve the Closed Session Minutes of the January 27, 2025, Regular Meeting as presented, the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Spence, Thomas, Walton

Nays: None

Absent: Collins, Warren

The Vice-President declared the motion carried.



**February 24, 2025**

**Adjournment**

Upon motion by John Spence and second by Todd Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m., the Board voted as follows:

Ayes: Lawrence, LeMay, Spence, Thomas, Walton

Nays: None

Absent: Collins, Warren

The Vice-President declared the motion carried.

  
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Michael Warren, President

  
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Robert Walton, Secretary