

**GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING**

August 4, 2011

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Doug Mohr, Kerwin Borgen, Jay Klemetsrud, Paul Becker,  
Les Windjue

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Cindy Brown

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Nels Halgren, Sally Herda – GRWD

The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. by President Mohr at the District office.

Minutes from the July 7, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Klemetsrud seconded by Becker to approve the minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

**Manager Report**

- **Construction review –**

- **Hwy 19** – Sewer work has been completed. New pumps have been installed at the Peterson Road lift station, then problems were encountered as the pipe coming out of the station blew out. Halgren stated they were able to get this fixed. Water is planned to be switched over today as it must be turned on by tomorrow. Pay estimate for Peterson Construction is \$452,886.72. Motion by Windjue, seconded by Borgen to approve pay estimate to Peterson subject to approval and reimbursement from the City of Devils Lake. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**. There will be one more pay estimate to Peterson's for the remainder of their contract. Seeding and retainage remains. The District will be submitting costs from this project to the City of Devils Lake for reimbursement and will submit project costs in time for their meeting on August 15. Halgren reported Peterson Construction has done a good job. Easements still have to be paid for. Within next month, this project should be nearly complete.

- **Acorn Ridge** – Sewer line on the west side is in and in use. Some of the water line is also in. The ditch on the east side is being dewatered. The manhole/lift station on the east side can be put in, then will have to wait until the road is built up to complete work. Jerry Ratzlaff will be connecting services and is looking to connect sewer into Terry Paine's line. As sewer will be pumped in this line, concern was expressed on liability with GRWD maintenance. Typically the District maintains the lines beyond the tank, but since this will be pumped into an existing sewer service line, it is not a standard installation. The directors reviewed this hookup and prefers connection be made at the sewer main, but would allow the connection into the service line if Ratzlaff would sign an agreement to accept liability should his injection system cause a backup into Paine's basement. Also discussed was Lien's sewer hookup and need for this work to be completed before the existing service is cut off.

- **Approve Building parking lot payment \$33,345.00** – Paving work on the parking lot has been completed. The parking area was dug both wider and deeper than initially proposed, but bid price remained the same. The directors also authorized striping for parking which would include a handicapped parking spot. Motion by Borgen, seconded by Klemetsrud to approve payment of \$33,345.00 as bid to Tri-State Paving. **Motion carried**.

- **Fire Protection Attorney's opinion** – Halgren asked if an attorney's opinion should be obtained to indemnify the District if fire protection is requested. Codes in the commercial zone require a level of fire protection and there was general discussion on the availability of water at any given moment to provide protection. The directors agreed

something needs to be sent and authorized Halgren to will provide a letter stating what is available as of the current date.

- **Rural Fire Dept Request** – The Rural Fire Dept is requesting a fire hydrant be placed east of town to help provide fire protection for housing and business construction being done on that side of town. Hydrant is requested to be located near Quality Welding. The Rural Fire Dept will be informed to explore options for funding said request and if funding is available, the District will look at the request. The Rural Fire Dept chief will be informed that the City also has a line coming into town that might provide another option for consideration.
- **FEMA Update** - Halgren met with Ken Beebe, FEMA, from Denver office and took him to sites affected in this year's disaster declaration. Halgren informed FEMA the sites were nonfunctional. Beebe requested an estimate of what was damaged and Halgren was able to put together a spread sheet showing close to \$250,000 in damages. This information was sent to FEMA; the PW has been completed and is in for review. FEMA officials stated they don't know how to approach a fix for the system that has now become nonfunctional. Halgren also indicated FEMA is not looking at rip rapping vulnerable lift stations.
- **Ken Aune request** – The board reviewed letter from Aune that requests technical and financial assistance from the District to relocate their sewer service as they move their house closer to the street. Halgren stated the sewer main is fairly deep and is located in the middle of the paved road. An option was given to Aune to tie into the neighbor's line which would be a considerable cost savings. The District's policy is for each user to provide and install their own septic tank. The District does not provide assistance for individuals and has not received any FEMA funds to do so.
- **Dennis Lommen FEMA request letter** – The directors reviewed letter from Dennis Lommen requesting FEMA to provide funding to the District to restore the sewer system. The City may be buying out Wayne Thompson; they are in the process of appraising. The Corps of Engineers have been asking about up and over lines in 3? Locations. Even if COE puts crossings in, they may not be placed in time as homeowners may have to do something individually prior to that time. It is unknown at this time if FEMA assistance would be available in these areas. Motion by Windjue, seconded by Borgen to leave the up and over sewer crossings in the COE plans, with individuals to get their services relocated to the crossing area at their own expense, unless FEMA can provide assistance to the homeowner. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**
- **Lift Station Protection Discussion** – Quantities of fill to build up the Peterson Road and Belford lift stations were reviewed. Halgren thinks the quantities are off. The District could get the barrel for the Peterson lift station, so it would be ready for spring. The landowner near the Belford lift station will be building the lot up to 1460 which would benefit the lift station. Interior drainage may be a concern at this location and the District may be able to offer some assistance by providing a pump. Halgren also reported the Assembly of God lift station is also vulnerable.
- **East Highway #2 sewer discussion** – Ackerman is working on another subdivision area (40 lots) in the back of his existing one and is talking about a lagoon system. At the same time, he wondered if the District might be interested in purchasing additional acreage for lagoon for future rural sewer use for the Cliffs subdivision area. The directors stated the District may be interested if the opportunity is there.

### **Office Manager Report**

- **Accounts Payable** – Motion by Borgen, seconded by Windjue to authorize payment of the accounts payable as listed. **Motion carried.**

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>	<u>BLDG</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>246,360.74</b>	<b>12,707.81</b>	<b>1,598.06</b>
<b><u>August Accounting</u></b>			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>305.44</b>	<b>101.81</b>	

- **Financial Report** – Financial information of the District was presented. Motion by Borgen, seconded by Becker to approve the financial report. **Motion carried.**
- **Audit Items – Fixed asset and credit card policies** – Motion by Borgen, seconded by Windjue to put the fixed asset policy on second reading and passage. **Motion carried.** Motion by Becker, seconded by Borgen to place the credit card policy on second reading and passage. **Motion carried.**

**Membership Suspension/Termination**

- Thomas McEnroe – Oakway Sub, Lot 24
- City of Devils Lake – Otis – Eagle Bend #6, Lot 3
  - Michalski – Happy Acres, Lots 3-4
  - Dean Black shop – Ford Addn, Lot 11
- Judy Ovre – Eagle Bend #2, Lot 6 - termination  
Motion by Windjue, seconded by Borgen to approve the membership suspensions and terminations. **Motion carried.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion.

Minutes Approved: September 8, 2011

Doug Mohr, President (Signed)

Sally Herda, Office Manager (Signed)