

GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
September 10, 2020

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Doug Mohr, Jay Klemetsrud, Les Windjue, Paul Becker, David Hovendick, Allen Johnson, Gilbert Black

OTHERS PRESENT: Nels Halgren, Sally Herda – GRWD; Tyson Decker – Bartlett & West

The meeting was called to order at 7:55 a.m. by President Johnson at the District office.

Minutes from the August 6, 2020 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Mohr, seconded by Hovendick to approve the minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Manager Report

- **Dakota Rural Water** – Request to serve users within GRWD’s district – Dakota Rural Water has a current expansion project and has 5 signups located in GRWD’s district. The location of these users was reviewed and Halgren indicated the distance and terrain make it prohibitive for GRWD to be able to serve them. Motion by Becker, seconded by Black to allow Dakota Rural Water to serve the 5 users within GRWD’s district. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**
- **Transmission line update** – A break in the transmission line occurred on September 4. There have been approximately 7 breaks that have occurred over the past few years within a 3mile area. A bypass valve had been previously installed to keep water moving to Prairiewood and Eastbay Campground. One of the valves was not closed to allow the bypass to operate fully, causing water shortage and loss of pressure to this area. The bypass valve does not help the rest area, which has needed to be closed when these breaks have happened. Tyson Decker, Bartlett & West stated that pipe fatigue could be a contributing factor if varying pressures occur over the life of the pipe. Cost for replacement runs approximately \$300,000 per mile. Bill Woods’ event center has had events scheduled that have been affected by the breaks that have occurred on the transmission line. Halgren discussed an option to place a valve on the 14” line that would keep more of the 6” line in service, and includes the rest area. Cost of the valve is approximately \$10,000 and with a total estimated completion cost of \$15-18,000. The location of the valve placement would be in a field and the landowner would need to be contacted to make arrangements. Consensus of the board was to purchase the valve this year.
- **Crary City Commission meeting update** – Halgren attended the last Crary Council meeting and went through the timeline for the transfer of water service. A number of issues were identified and are more than anticipated. Some of these include meters with valves not working, meters under water, differing meter brands, meters not reading on their AMR system, unknown location of curb stops, and meters that have not been read in years. GRWD will need to get a list of the residents from the auditor to begin the transfer process. An attorney will need to draw up an agreement to transfer the ownership of the system to the District and easements will need to be obtained for each curb stop. There are approximately 57 services in Crary. GRWD would like to get into some of the residences to get an idea of what may be encountered once the system is transferred. There are no pressure regulators on their system as there is one at the Crary booster station. GRWD has requested a meter photo, reading equipment, maps and testing equipment be provided to the District. Plan is to take a final reading December 31, 2020, at which time the District would take over the distribution system.

- Webster booster area review** – A 6-month usage report was sent to Bartlett & West to be used to compare actual usage against the model used to determine pressures and flow particularly in the area served through the Webster booster during peak demand of the spray season. Tyson Decker, B&W stated that paralleling segments of pipeline wouldn't help much. Decker explained the pump curve at the Webster booster and how the peak days go off the end of the curve. Decker provided some handouts showing pressure loss to customers at both 75 psi and 95 psi at the booster and explained why bigger pumps are not the answer. Options were discussed as efforts to handle the peak demand through this area has not achieved the desired results and has been getting worse for the affected users. One short term option is to continue buying water from NRWD and look to contract for a larger amount. A long-term option would be to consider putting up a tank, allowing for additional storage and pressure. The State has been funding these on a 75% grant basis. Decker was questioned on the possibility of placing an in-line booster to help out 3 users at the end of a line as discussed at the August meeting – B&W has not looked at this option. Also discussed was use of flow restrictors for filling tanks only, not to affect household use. This may require additional storage facilities for those needing large amounts of water during peak demand. Another option discussed was the possibility of setting up a site for bulk water purchase. One potential location might be in the Rohrville area. The District will continue to work on potential options for a long term resolution. Discussion continued on the modeling of the system as a whole and the process of fine tuning the usage to have the model aligned more closely to actual usage. Halgren has been working with the engineers in assigning different values within the system (i.e. a smaller unit around the lakeshore users) to more accurately define the needs and demand. Decker also suggested that the use of pressure recorders would provide great information for analysis. Some was done last year in a portion of the system where a user was having some issues.
- Expansion update, pay estimate #2, change order #1** – Most of the 4" line has been installed except in the areas along the highway. Compaction tests are being completed with the first one having passed. The bore around the bridge has been completed, but the crew had encountered some issues initially and had to make a second attempt. A stronger pipe was installed in this area. Tie-in to the supply will be completed soon. Some pressure testing has been completed. Line pigging and chlorination will be the next step. Meters are being issued, meter pits are going in and hopefully water will be flowing by end of next week. Payment #2, in the amount out of \$247,895.81 was presented and recommended for payment. Motion by Windjue, seconded by Becker to approve Payment #2, \$247,895.81 for payment. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**. Change order #1, increasing the contract by \$24,234.62 was presented for approval. Change order reflects some changes made to the plans and is not included in the pay estimate. Changes reflect wet conditions in July and the addition of a couple new users. Motion by Becker, seconded by Hovendick to approve change order #1 in the amount of \$24,234.62. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Office Manager Report

- Accounts Payable** – Motion by Mohr, seconded by Windjue to authorize payment of the August bills. **All directors voted aye and motion carried.**

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>	<u>PROJECTS</u>
TOTALS	78,959.33	9,029.14	266,749.45

- Financial report**– Financial and expansion reports for August were reviewed. Motion by Mohr seconded by Windjue to approve the reports. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Membership termination

- **Randy Munson** – 182 Lange St, Grace city – service no longer needed
 - **Susan Schwab Kjelland** – Woodland Place, Lot 18 – service not being used
- Motion by Hovendick, seconded by Black to approve the membership terminations.
Motion carried unanimously.

Membership transfer

- **Mike Steffan** – from Ackerman Valley 1st, Blk 2, Lot 3 to Outlot 30-0045 (Ackerman Valley area). Motion by Becker, seconded by Mohr to approve the membership transfer. All directors voted aye and **motion carried**.

Other Business

- Contractors for repair work – Midland will be closing down business at the end of this year and there was some discussion on emergency and other work contracted by GRWD. Concept for other options was discussed. Halgren thought other local contractors would be able to cover the needs for the District.

The October meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2020 at 8 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 9:55 a.m.

Minutes Approved: _____ October 8, 2020 _____

Allen Johnson, President _____ (signed) _____

Sally Herda, Office Manager _____ (signed) _____