

GREATER RAMSEY WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
September 5, 2019

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

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:54 a.m. by President Mohr at the District office.

Minutes from the August 8, 2019 regular meeting were reviewed. Motion by Black, seconded by Windjue to approve minutes. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Manager Report

- **City of Crary – proposal** – Halgren presented a proposal for GRWD to assume responsibility for the water distribution infrastructure in Crary in which the Crary residents would become members of GRWD. Halgren reported that GRWD has conducted an informal review of the existing infrastructure and noted several issues that would need to be addressed. Items needing repair or inspection include broken curb stops, gate valves, hydrants, meters and line flushing. Not all of the curb stops are on their maps and these would need to be located. There have been erratic meter readings and Crary has had software issues with their radio read system. Repair bills for the past 8 years as well as correcting the issues noted above were discussed. The proposal calls for a monthly base rate of \$20, plus an additional \$15 to update the system and allow sufficient funding to make repairs. Motion by Black, seconded by Hovendick to approve the proposal with a sunset clause on the \$15 to be revisited in 5 years and to add the Crary users to the system in lieu of the membership fee. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**
- **City of Tolna – new contract discussion** – The contract for Tolna was for 25 years and is coming up for renewal. The current base rate breakdown was reviewed and had included amounts for reserves. Capacity in the treatment plant was reserved in the initial contract as part of the system infrastructure and Tolna’s turning over of their water permit to the system. With the new base rate and water rate formulas established by the directors, Tolna’s base rate would decrease and the water rate would be adjusted upwards to reflect increased distribution costs. Tolna may also be interested in changing the point of distribution from the plant to a point closer to the city. This would allow GRWD to connect additional users to this line as Tri-County has turned over 4 potential services identified in their recent canvassing of the area with these users accessing the line between the plant and Tolna. Halgren will meet with the Tolna city commission on September, 9, 2019 offering a proposal addressing both the base rate and cost of water.
- **Main lift update** – GRWD has contracted with Innovative Foundation to reline the main lift station. GRWD staff has pulled off the old deteriorated lining that was installed years ago. Innovative was on site to line the station earlier this summer but they brought the wrong truck and were unable to get it sealed. They will be back in September to complete this work. Sewage was blocked for 5-6 hours when working on the main lift and when the lines were reopened, one was blocked. When jetting the line to unplug it, a hole was blown in the ductile iron – the sewer main in this area was changed to ductile iron during work associated with the dike realignment. This line is near the road, deep, and will likely need to be replaced next year. Replacement area is approximately 100-150 feet. The water line was also changed out during the dike realignment and GRWD

has replaced couplers on both ends of this line and the line itself appears to be okay. Halgren didn't think this would need to be replaced.

- **Budget discussions** – Other than the sewer line work previously mentioned, Halgren indicated that he doesn't foresee any major needs for next year's budget. Lacina's truck is the next in rotation for replacement and there was some discussion on purchasing a larger truck that could be used for hauling equipment as the ¾ ton sewer truck is a bit light. Another option discussed was purchasing a dump truck from state auction. The budget committee will be set up next month to begin the budget process for 2020.
- **City water** – Some water quality complaints regarding chlorine have been received throughout the summer when using City of Devils Lake's water. GRWD has slowed down the amount purchased on a daily basis and will be shutting the water off shortly.
- **NRWD study** – Halgren reported that he had met with Advanced Engineering on the northeast area regional water use master plan for development of a plan to ensure a long term, drought resistant water supply to the Northeast portion of ND.
- **Oswalds Bay/Tolna/Pekin project report** – Keegan Richards and Tyson Decker from Bartlett & West Engineering (B&W) were present for this discussion. They have worked with Halgren on submitting the grant application and preliminary hydraulic review to the State Water Commission (SWC) for consideration at the SWC October 10 meeting. GRWD directors moved their next meeting to October 8 to accommodate having representation at the SWC meeting at which time the grant application will be considered. The application included three areas including the Tolna area, Forde Township area by Pekin and the Oswalds Bay area, the combination of which is more money than covered on the 75% grant. GRWD is eligible to receive \$1.3 million according to the funding formula that was agreed upon by all systems requesting funding in this biennium. The hydraulics review was completed by B&W for the 3 proposed expansion areas. The areas near Tolna and in Forde Township will see minimal effect for the surrounding users. The hydraulics for the Oswalds Bay expansion area took into account existing usage and indicates that two customers in the expansion area would be low pressure and four customers in the surrounding area of Grahams Island may see a pressure drop of 6 psi. Further evaluation would call for the pressures to be verified on site at the identified locations. Some line paralleling near the airport would improve the hydraulics. There are two segments at this location that could be done with each one offering an improvement. Other options, including a booster station were discussed and can be looked at following the SWC meeting. Cost estimate for the three expansion areas was discussed and does not include line paralleling work. It was also noted that the road right of way is being used for the Oswalds Bay line due to an easement issue from a nonparticipating owner.

Office Manager Report

- **Accounts Payable** – Motion by Windjue, seconded by Klemetsrud to authorize payment of the accounts payable. **All directors voted aye and motion carried.**

	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>
TOTALS	85,754.15	21,712.87

- **Financial report** – Office manager's report was reviewed. Financial report was reviewed for the month of August. Motion to approve the financial report was made by Johnson, seconded by Becker. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**
- **Pledge of assets** – Pledging report as of June 30, 2019 was reviewed. Some funds were renewed at different depositories and updated pledging needed to be obtained to provide

coverage as dictated by ND Century Code. Motion by Becker, seconded by Windjue to approve the pledging report. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Membership Termination

- Bruce Stewart – Southam, Blk 8, Lots 6-11 – nonpayment
 - Joshua & Lindsay Dreher – 829 7th St NE, Glenfield – no longer needed
- Motion by Johnson, seconded by Hovendick to terminate the two memberships. All directors voted aye and **motion carried.**

Next meeting date has been changed to October 8, 2019 due to State Water Commission meeting. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion at 9:45 a.m.

Minutes Approved: _____ October 8, 2019 _____

Doug Mohr, President _____ (signed) _____

Sally Herda, Office Manager _____ (signed) _____