

Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water

415 E Benton St., P.O. Box 188, Lake Benton, MN 56149

507-368-4248 or 800-462-0309

fax: 507-368-4573

email: lprw@itctel.com

Meeting Minutes

October 26th, 2020

The regular scheduled meeting of the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water (LPRW) System Board of Commissioners was held at the LPRW office in Lake Benton using WebEx video/teleconferencing on Monday, October 26th, 2020, starting at 5:02pm. Mitch Kling Board Chairman conducted roll call for the Member Commissioners at the start of the board meeting to establish a quorum with Commissioners Glen Grant, Bill Ufkin, Joe Weber, Jerry Lonneman, Earl DeWilde, Frank Engels, Randy Kraus, Rod Spronk, Jan Moen, and Brent Feikema present. Also attending were DGR Engineer Darin Schriever, Kinner and Co. Nathan Kinner, Board Attorney Ron Schramel, Supervisor Tom Muller, Enterprise Technician Jodi Greer, General Manager Jason Overby, and Lyon County Commissioner Rick Anderson.

Agenda: *M/S Spronk/Lonneman to approve the agenda. Upon a roll call, Aye: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 2 (Engels, Feikema). Motion carried.*

Commissioner Engels joined the meeting.

Minutes: *M/S Grant/Ufkin to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2020 Board Meeting. Upon a roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0, Absent: 1 (Feikema). Motion carried.*

Engineer's Report: Darin Schriever presented Engineering Report for October.

- System-wide SCADA Project.

M/S Lonneman/Kraus to approve payment for PPE#4 in the amount of \$41,768.06 to Thompson Electric. Upon a roll call, Aye: 8, Nay: 0, No Vote: DeWilde, Absent: 1 (Feikema). Motion carried.

- Tyler-Russell Pipeline Project.

M/S Moen/Engels to approve payment for PPE#3 in the amount of \$181,790.84 to Winter Contracting LLC. Upon roll call, Aye: 8, Nay: 0, No Vote: DeWilde, Absent: 1 (Feikema). Motion carried.

- North Area Water Source. Schriever provided update on DNR review and funding.

Commissioner Feikema joined the meeting.

Operations Report: October Operations Report was presented. Tom Muller mentioned the lack of moisture in the ground may cause concern for freezing of pipelines. Additional equipment is being considered to retrofit the Thaw Trailer. Jodi Greer

highlighted the increased number of water service requests coming in due to drought-like conditions.

Manager's Report: October Manager's Report was presented. GM Overby provided highlights from meeting with Riverview Dairy representatives at their Louriston Dairy. Chairman Kling and Commissioner Weber participated in discussion and a group tour of the facility. Overby also added that LPRW received CARES funding in the amount of \$7,245.11 from Lincoln County to cover costs associated with COVID-19-related PPE, disinfection products and equipment to facilitate remote meetings.

Attorney's Report: Ron Schramel discussed the utility easement issue with the Schroeder family located in NE ¼ of Section 3, T102N-R40W, Nobles County. The family initially asked for \$40,000 in exchange for a fully signed utility easement that covers LPRW's 6-inch mainline on their property. After rejection of initial offer by LPRW, the attorney for the family has requested a free water service hookup plus \$5,000 cash for the lack of a recorded utility easement. LPRW staff generated hard costs associated with installing a new service to Margaret Schroeder residence, both in private and in public ROW. Schramel recommended to the Board, to settle this matter for LPRW to consider providing a water service hookup to Margaret Schroeder at no cost to her, in exchange the Schroeder family is to sign a utility easement and lay no further claims against LPRW.

M/S Ufkin/Grant to accept the offer for a water service hookup to the Margaret Schroeder residence and to reject the \$5,000 cash payment request in exchange for a properly signed utility easement on the NE ¼ of Section 3, Worthington TWP, Nobles County. Upon a roll call, Aye: 10, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Schramel mentioned that finalization of the 2020 Special Assessments will be completed by the end of October; that Board Reappointment approvals from all 10 counties are in and will be prepared for Judge Zimmer's approval. And lastly, Red Rock Rural Water had received \$5.5M in state bonding appropriations for the construction of their Lindstrom WTP.

Treasurer's Report: Nathan Kinner presented the Treasurer's Report for October. Kinner also reviewed LPRW Long-Term Debt Summary, with consideration given for paying off Jackson-Nobles \$800,000 GO Refunding Bond, Series 2010A. Budget-Finance Committee will assess this payoff option at a November committee meeting.

M/S Lonneman/Feikema to approve Treasurer's Report, as presented. Upon a roll call, Aye: 10, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Paid Bills:

M/S Feikema/Weber to approve payment on checks #6124-6261. Upon a roll call, Aye: 10, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Pending Bills:

- DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company:
 - General Services = \$1,707.50
 - 2016 Improvements-Pro. #2 = \$11,747.50
- Schramel Law Office:
 - General Services = \$1,577.80
 - Project #2 = \$1,085.00
- Kinner & Company, Ltd
 - July – September Services = \$4,819.00

M/S Grant/Kraus to approve payment of pending bills, as presented. Upon a roll call, Aye: 10, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- **Executive Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Budget and Finance Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Personnel Committee:**

Employee Health Insurance Review. GM Overby presented overview of employee health insurance options provided by Kozlowski Ins.

M/S Ufkin/Feikema on the recommendation from staff, to continue the employee health insurance coverage option with Mn PEIP. Upon roll call, Aye: 10, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

M/S DeWilde/Lonneman to approve the minutes from the October 23rd Personnel Committee meeting. Upon a roll call, Aye: 10, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

- **Water Resources and Equipment Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Joint Powers Board Representative:** Lonneman indicated that the JPB is intending to meet soon to discuss options for retaining the Federal reimbursement for State's (MN) funding advancement to the L&CRWS construction project.

Other Business:

- Resolution Regarding General Obligation Water Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2020B of Nobles County, Minnesota.

M/S Lonneman/Moen to approve the Resolution Regarding General Obligation Water Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2020B of Nobles County, Minnesota. Upon roll call, Aye: 10, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

- Sam Krueger (Lobbyist) Letter to the Board. Correspondence congratulating LPRW in their success for State bonding appropriation awarding of \$5.75M towards the North Area Water Source Project.

Public Comment: Lyon County Commissioner Rick Anderson congratulations to LPRW for success in receiving State bonding money.

Next meeting will be at 10:00AM, November 30th via virtual (WebEx) platform.

Adjournment: *M/S Feikema/Lonneman to adjourn board meeting at 7:00 pm. Upon a roll call, Aye: 10 Nay :0. Motion carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Randy Kraus, LPRW Board Secretary