

Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water

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Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2021

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, January 25, 2021, starting at 9:00am. Mitch Kling Board Chairman conducted roll call for the Member Commissioners at the start of the board meeting to establish a quorum with Commissioners Bill Ufkin, Joe Weber, Jerry Lonneman, Earl DeWilde (joined a few minutes late), Frank Engels, Randy Kraus, Rod Spronk, Jan Moen, and Brent Feikema. Also participating, DGR Engineer Darin Schriever, Kinner and Co. Nathan Kinner, Board Attorney Ron Schramel, Supervisor Tom Muller, Enterprise Technician Jodi Greer, Water Operator Glen Grant, General Manager Jason Overby, and Lyon County Commissioner Rick Anderson.

Agenda: *M/S Engels/Feikema to approve the agenda. Upon a roll call, Aye: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 1 (DeWilde). Motion carried.*

Minutes: *M/S Spronk/Lonneman to approve the minutes from the December 2020 Board Meeting. Upon a roll call, Aye: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 1 (DeWilde). Motion carried.*

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

- SCADA Upgrades.

M/S Ufkin/ Kraus to approve payment for PPE #7 in the amount of \$64,294.33 to Thompson Electric. Upon roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

M/S Lonneman/Moen to authorize the General Manager to review and approve anticipated change order for control work and programming additions with Thompson Electric. Upon roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

- Lincoln PS Improvements. Plans and specs are prepared.
- Priority 2 Funding Reimbursement.

M/S Engels/Moen to approve submittal of project related AMR/Meter expenses and RPR labor and mileage expenses to USDA-RD for reimbursement consideration. Upon roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Operations Report: January Operations Report was presented. Muller followed up with Commissioner Engels' question related to GIS data with DNR. Muller also noted significant pricing increases for materials occurring with our suppliers; and water temperatures in the south hovering around 38 degrees.

Manager's Report: January Manager's Report was presented.

M/S Spronk/DeWilde to approve authorization for the General Manager to sign for the USDA-RD application and related documents for the North Area Water Source Project. Upon roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Attorney's Report: Schramel indicated that the final numbers for the 2020 hookups will be presented at the February meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Kinner presented the Treasurer's Report for January. Commissioner Spronk asked about the budgeted amount for rental income. Commissioner Ufkin inquired about cash reserves and LPRW's current financial position. Kinner reviewed the updated Debt Payment Schedules. Kinner indicated the weighted average of all debt service currently held is 2.43% interest rate. If LPRW was to pay down \$1M towards debt service, the net savings would be approximately \$835,133, resulting in a lowered (2.25%) weighted interest rate. No action was taken.

M/S Lonneman/Feikema to approve Treasurer's Report, as presented. Upon a roll call, Aye: 9, Nay:0. Motion carried.

- **Paid Bills:**

M/S Moen/Feikema to approve payment on checks #6481-#6672, excluding voided check #'s 6527, 6551, and 6603. Upon a roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

- **Pending Bills:**

- DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company:
 - General Services = \$411.00
 - 2016 Improvements-Pro. #2 = \$58,856.50
- Schramel Law Office:
 - General Services = \$2,957.50
 - North Area Water Source = \$797.12
- Northland Trust
 - Nobles County 2020A = \$182,670.00
- Kinner & Company, Ltd.
 - October - December = \$8,441.00

M/S Ufkin/Lonneman to approve paying pending bills, as presented. Upon a roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- **Executive Committee:** Nothing to report.

- **Personnel Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Budget and Finance Committee:** Nothing to Report.
- **Water Resources & Equipment Committee:** Commissioner Weber and GM reviewed the minutes from the committee meeting.
 - Decommissioned Surplus Summary.

M/S Spronk/DeWilde to declare all items on the list as surplus to be decommissioned. Upon roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0. Motion carried.
 - North Area Water Source. GM will be in contact with the City of Dawson and Clarkfield. Schriever questioned whether Lac qui Parle County School had been contacted.

M/S Feikema/Engels to approve the minutes from the January 20th, 2021 meeting. Upon roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0. Motion carried.
- **Joint Powers Board Representative:** Commissioner Lonneman noted the passing of L&CRWS Chairman Lennis “Red” Arndt, age 72. Red served as L&CRWS Board Chair from 2006 to present. Memorial service is scheduled for May 1 in Luverne.

Other Business:

Board Committee appointments for 2021 will remain the same as 2020.

There was some discussion on having in-person meetings again. Various sites/venues with appropriate room space were suggested for holding monthly board meetings. The Chair and GM will assess on a month-by-month basis going forward. The decision will be no later than 3 days prior to the monthly board meeting.

Lonneman recommended Board consideration for a new office and meeting facilities. There was an informal straw poll vote taken with all nine (9) Commissioners in favor of looking into options for a new office/meeting facility. GM noted that DGR has included a narrative section within the NAWS Preliminary Engineering Report for a new office/shop facility.

Public Comment:

Rick Anderson will continue to be our Lyon Co. Representative for 2021. Commissioner Ufkin asked Rick if Lyon County had a facility for LPRW Commissioners to meet. Rick indicated he will check into this.

Adjournment: *M/S Spronk/Lonneman to adjourn the board meeting at 11:15am. Upon a roll call, Aye: 9, Nay: 0. Motion carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Randy Kraus, LPRW Board Secretary