

Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System

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 30, 2023

The regular scheduled meeting of the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water (LPRW) System Board of Commissioners was held at the LPRW Office in Lake Benton, MN, on Monday, October 30, 2023; and was available for viewing/participating via Zoom video/teleconferencing. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Board Chair Joe Weber. A quorum was established with Commissioners Bill Ufkin, Peter Petersen, Mitch Kling, Brent Feikema, Rod Spronk, Jan Moen, Randy Kraus, Frank Engels, and Jerry Lonneman in attendance. Commissioner Earl DeWilde and DGR Engineer Darin Schriever joined shortly after the start of the meeting. Also attending were Board Attorney Ron Schramel, Lyon County Commissioner Rick Anderson, Nathan Kinner (Kinner and Co.), Enterprise Technician Jodi Greer, Field Supervisor Tom Muller, and General Manager Jason Overby. Attending via Zoom link was Tyson Vogt with designArc Group.

Agenda: *M/S Engels/Feikema to approve the agenda. Ayes: 10, Nays: 0, Absent: 1 (DeWilde). Motion carried.*

Minutes: *M/S Ufkin/Lonneman to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2023 Regular Monthly Board Meeting. Ayes: 10, Nays: 0, Absent: 1 (DeWilde). Motion carried.*

Operations Report: Muller presented the Operations Report for October. Additional items discussed included progress of PRV pit rehabs, Burr WTP panel card failures, status of new hookups and well rehab at Holland Wellfield.

Darin Schriever and Commissioner Earl DeWilde joined the meeting.

Engineer's Report: Darin Schriever presented the Engineers Report for October. Items discussed further included:

- Holland Improvements/biottta – funding for improvements through USDA-RD versus MN DWSRF.

M/S Engels/Moen to authorize DGR to proceed with RD-Apply for the remaining funding for the Holland Improvement/biottta Project. Further discussion with no vote taken up.

M/S Ufkin/Lonneman to table previous motion made by Engels, seconded by Moen, to proceed with USDA-RD for further funding until additional information is gathered. Motion carried unanimously.

- Reviewed Municipal/Cities interested in connection.
- Balaton-RRRWS and the 8 RRRWS customers receiving LPRW water. Need to address in the future.

Manager's Report: GM Overby presented the Manager's Report for October. Additional items highlighted included: updates on IT security changes; follow-up on questions regarding Rural and Municipal hookup charges through project construction and USDA-RDs opinion; and follow-up on recent Senate Bonding Tour.

- 2nd Generation Water Purchase Agreements Term Lengths.

M/S Spronk/Ufkin to approve the new term length of 5 years, with automatic renewal on successive 5-year terms, for 2nd Generation Water Purchase Agreements with cities that do not require a bond or capacities. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney's Report: Ron Schramel presented the Attorney's Report for October. Reappointments for Commissioners Bill Ufkin and Mitch Kling were approved by the District Court. A summary listing of Commissioner Terms was presented. 2023 hookup assessments are wrapped up and will be summarized for county and court approvals.

Treasurer's Report: Nathan Kinner presented the October Treasurer's Report.

M/S Lonneman/Kraus to approve the Treasurer's Report, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

FY2022 Financial Statement (Audit) Report. Kinner presented the audit in the absence of representatives from Wahlenberg, Ritzman & Co.

M/S Spronk/Kling to accept the FY2022 Audit Report, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Paid Bills: September transactions were reviewed.

M/S Kling/Lonneman to approve September payments on checks #10557 through #10678. Motion carried unanimously.

Pending Bills:

- DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company:
 - North Area Water Source = \$5,932.00
 - City of Brewster 2nd Connection = \$1,229.00
 - General Service = \$5,617.50
- Schramel Law Office:
 - General Services = \$2,329.58
- designArc Group:
 - Bidding = \$634.50
- Kinner & Company Ltd
 - July – September = \$6,364.50
- USDA

- Loan #91-31 = \$120,684.97
- Loan #91-33 = \$383,410.11

M/S Lonneman/Moen to approve paying pending bills, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- **Executive Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Budget and Finance Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Personnel Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Water Resources & Equipment Committee:** Commissioner Ufkin discussed the bid opening for the new Office/Shop complex. Only one sealed bid was received by LPRW. Concerns were expressed by Commissioners regarding local contractors' acknowledgment of addendums, and amount of available time to generate a bid. Tyson Vogt with designArc Group was available to answer questions.

M/S Kling/Moen to accept the WR/E Committee's recommendation to accept the bid from Brennan Construction of MN, Inc. in the amount of \$6,339,000.00 for the construction of the Office/Shop Complex, contingent upon review and approval from designArc Group and legal counsel; and to accept the Bid Add Alternate #1 from Brennan Construction of MN, Inc. for poured concrete for the main driveway/entrance in the amount of \$101,500.00, contingent upon review and approval from designArc Group and legal counsel. Upon roll call vote: Ayes – 5 (DeWilde, Ufkin, Moen, Kling, Feikema), Nays – 6 (Petersen, Engels, Lonneman, Weber, Kraus, Spronk). Motion failed.

There was more discussion as to why the motion failed and what the Commissioners would like to see going forward with the new bid request. Petersen suggested to rebid to pursue additional bidders. Engels suggested extending the time allowed for contractors to generate a bid.

M/S Petersen/Ufkin to rebid using the existing plans with a bid deadline of December 14th, 2023, and to schedule the Substantial Completion date to August 1, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner DeWilde left the meeting at 8pm.

M/S Kling/Kraus to approve the minutes of the October 19th WR-E Committee meeting. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0, Absent – 1 (DeWilde). Motion carried.

- **L&C MN Joint Powers Board Representative:** Nothing to report.
- **MRWA Representative:** Nothing to report.

Other Business:

- Customer Payment Platform. GM Overby presented information on a new customer payment platform with Nuvei-Paya.

M/S Feikema/Petersen to approve the new payment platform contingent on Nuvei-Paya accepting language changes to the Client Service Agreement. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0, Absent – 1 (DeWilde). Motion carried.

- Arc Flash Hazard/Risk Assessment Study. GM Overby presented the proposals for the Arc Flash Hazard/Risk Assessment Study.

M/S Kling/Lonneman to accept MMUA's proposal for Arc Flash Hazard/Risk Assessment Study in the amount of \$31,500.00. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0, Absent – 1 (DeWilde). Motion carried.

Public Comment: No responses.

Adjournment: *M/S Kling/Engels to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 PM. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0, Absent – 1 (DeWilde). Motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Randy Kraus,
LPRW Board Secretary