

# **Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water**

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## **Meeting Minutes**

**May 23, 2022**

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, May 23, 2022; and was available for viewing/participating via Zoom video/teleconferencing. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Board Vice-Chairman Bill Ufkin. A quorum was established with Commissioners Randy Kraus, Brent Feikema, Pete Petersen, Jan Moen, Jerry Lonneman, Rod Spronk, Earl DeWilde and Mitch Kling in attendance, with Chairman Joe Weber arriving late at 5:20pm. Also attending was Enterprise Technician Jodi Greer, General Manager Jason Overby, System Supervisors Patrick McCarthy and Tom Muller, WR/GIS Tech Lance Wheeler, DGR Engineer Darin Schriever, Nathan Kinner (Kinner and Co.), Attorney Ron Schramel and Lyon County Commissioner Rick Anderson. Absent was Commissioner Frank Engels

**Agenda:** *M/S Lonneman/Kling to approve the agenda. Ayes: 10, Nays: 0, Absent: 1. Motion carried.*

Introduction of new staff member Lance Wheeler as Water Resource/GIS Technician.

**Minutes:** *M/S Feikema/Petersen to approve the minutes from the April 2022 Board Meeting. Ayes: 10, Nays: 0, Absent: 1. Motion carried.*

**Operations Report:** The Operations Report for May was presented. Discussion on the recent storm and how everything was handled. Staff were able to keep most everyone in water and had approximately a 12-hour window where some customers were out of water or low pressure due to no power available. The board thanked staff for their efforts and hard work. Muller noted that 36 hookups have signed up and paid, and 25 more to be added. Commissioner DeWilde inquired about the fire hydrant by the Slegers PRV building. McCarthy explained that it is used for flushing purposes on our mainline.

**Engineer's Report:** Schriever presented the May Engineers Report. In communications with RD, the next funding opportunity is in July. Building specs are generated for City of Rushmore. The cost estimate for the City of Brewster will be updated. Commissioner Lonneman wanted to make it clear that LPRW is selling water to the City of Brewster, not to the soybean plant. Several architects have expressed interest in our new office.

**Manager's Report:** GM Overby presented the May Manager's Report. The bonding bill did not pass, a special session may be considered. Lake Benton City Attorney, Mike Cable, has created an agreement with LRPW and the Gunninks regarding crop damages on transferred property during the 2022 growing season. Cable will get Ron Schramel the property abstract. Commissioner Ufkin recapped the city council meeting in Clarkfield, leaving with strong impression that the city is going to connect with LPRW. County commission meetings (audit presentations) are scheduled.

**Attorney's Report:** No report

**Treasurer's Report:** Kinner reviewed the Treasurer's Report for May.

*M/S Lonneman/Moen to approve the Treasurer's Report, as presented. Ayes: 10, Nays: 0, Absent: 1. Motion carried.*

**Paid Bills:**

*M/S Ufkin/Kraus to approve payment on checks #8458 to #8585, excluding voided check #8475. Ayes: 10, Nays: 0, Absent: 1. Motion carried.*

**Pending Bills:**

- DeWild Grant Reckert and Associates Company:
  - General Services = \$1,821.00
  - North Area Water Source = \$2,108.00
  - New Office = \$1,935.00
- Schramel Law Office:
  - General Services = \$2,681.10
  - North Water Source = \$1,971.50
- Ehlers Bond Trust Services
  - Lincoln County 2013A = \$3,877.50
- Northland Trust Services
  - Nobles County 20B = \$96,186.25
  - Nobles County 2021 A = \$85,090.08
  - Pipestone County 2016A = \$6,757.50

*M/S Lonneman/Feikema to approve paying pending bills, as presented. Ayes: 10, Nays: 0, Absent: 1. Motion carried.*

**Committee Reports:**

- **Executive Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Budget and Finance Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Personnel Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Water Resources & Equipment Committee:** Nothing to report.
- **Joint Powers Board Representative:** Commissioner Lonneman described recent bids for pipeline project to Madison (SD) exceeding 40% increase from engineers' estimates. Lonneman noted damages to L&CRWS tank and the Brandon water tower.

**Other Business:**

- Curtis DeZeeuw Land Lease Agreement.

**M/S Kling/Petersen to approve the 10-year land lease agreement with Curtis DeZeeuw. Ayes: 10, Nays: 0, Absent: 1. Motion carried.**

- Commissioner Spronk asked about a Board Handbook. Greer researched costs with Alternative HR which indicated about \$5,000 - \$6,000 for budgeting. Further discussion regarding an organizational policy reference manual.
- Commissioner Lonneman asked if cities are going over their daily allocation. Overby said that some cities have/are, with many of the cities having old contracts that do not include overage penalties. Staff are working in getting that resolved. A compiled database will be shared with commissioners.
- Commissioner Spronk would like to see some options at the next board meeting on hookup costs.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Next Monthly Board Meeting:** June 27, 2022 at 5:00pm.

**Adjournment:** *M/S Kling/Spronk to adjourn the meeting at 6:36pm. Ayes: 10, Nays: 0, Absent: 1. Motion carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Randy Kraus, LPRW Board Secretary