

North Prairie Regional Water District

April 18, 2024, Board Meeting

Minot City Public Works Board Room

Directors Present: Lisa Krueger, Tara Shannon, Darrel Loftesnes, Crystal Hendrickson, Lori Flaten, Austin Hanson. Directors Absent: Kelly Drevecky. Also present: Teresa Sundsbak Manager, Monte Rogneby Vogel Law Firm, Public

Chairman Krueger called the meeting to order at 12:00.

Chairman Krueger moves to add Monte Rogneby and Burien Associates Contract to agenda. Motion by Loftesnes seconded by Flaten to accept proposed agenda with additions. Vote to approve agenda, Loftesnes-Yes, Shannon-Yes, Hanson-Yes, Flaten-Yes, Hendrickson-Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hendrickson seconded by Flaten to add Velva Levy to agenda. Vote to approve, Loftesnes-Yes, Shannon-Yes, Flaten-No, Hanson-Yes, Hendrickson-Yes. Motion carried.

Ryan Ackerman from Souris River Joint Water Resources Board addressed board with their concerns regarding the Velva Levy. Monte Rogneby stated he has been in communication with their attorney regarding this issue. Chairman Krueger stated that North Prairie's engineer is not present at the meeting to answer questions and the board does not have all the information at this time.

Minutes: Motion by Shannon seconded by Loftesnes to approve the minutes as mailed. Vote to approve minutes as mailed, Hanson-Yes, Loftesnes-Yes, Flaten-Yes, Shannon-Yes, Hendrickson-Yes. Motion carried.

Financials: Motion by Flaten seconded by Loftesnes to accept financials as mailed. Vote to approve financials as mailed, Loftesnes-Yes, Flaten-Yes, Shannon-Yes, Hanson-Yes, Hendrickson-No. Motion carried.

Old Business: Monte Rogneby confirms with the board that the District reached out to Vogel Law Firm, signing a retainer for any District legal services.

Monte Rogneby expressed his concern for the amount in legal expenses being consumed by the District resulting from Director Hendrickson's open record requests and legal issues. He further explains that these open record requests are not always simple requests and is creating a significant amount of work for the manager, legal counsel, and involve communications with the attorney general. Monte Rogneby states that laws allow for Director access to records that may not be open; however, the board has policies that can restrict that access. Monte Rogneby voiced concern allowing Director Hendrickson access to confidential records due to her public watchdog page that can allow for individual or district liability.

Monte Rogneby proposes bringing recommendations to address Hendrickson's access to information as a director to the board for review at May's monthly meeting. Motion by Loftesnes seconded by Shannon accepting Monte Rogneby's proposal, vote to approve, Loftesnes-Yes, Hanson-Yes, Shannon-Yes, Flaten-Yes, Hendrickson-No. Motion carried.

Manager Sundsbak brings Burian and Associates proposal to the board to review. Proposal allows for NPRWD office training and services, manual, and on-call assistance for the NPRWD Comprehensive Planning Model in the amount of \$14,115.00.

Motion by Hendrickson to reject Burian and Associates services proposal. Motion dies.

Motion by Loftesnes seconded by Flaten to accept proposal and not to exceed \$14,115.00 in fees. Vote to accept proposal, Flaten-Yes, Loftesnes-Yes, Shannon-Yes, Hanson-Yes, Hendrickson-No. Motion carried.

New Business: Discussion held on the annual meeting. Directors to hold informational meetings for proposed By-Law changes prior to the annual meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:22.

Tara Shannon Secretary