

The following minutes are in draft form subject to review and approval by the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

14-31

## **LAKE AGASSIZ WATER AUTHORITY**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Ramkota Hotel  
Bismarck, North Dakota  
December 2, 2014**

A meeting of the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (LAWA) was held at the Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck, North Dakota, on December 2, 2014. The meeting was called to order by Chair Furness at 1 p.m.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair Bruce Furness  
Vice Chair Keith Burley  
Director LaVonne Althoff  
Director Rick Bigwood  
Director Clark Cronquist  
Director Ken Vein  
Alternate Kris Knutson  
Secretary Dave Koland

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Director Winston Johnson  
Director Carol Siegert  
Director Bob Werkhoven

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Staff members of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District were present along with others. The registration sheet is attached to these minutes as Annex I.

The meeting was recorded to assist with compilation of the minutes.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Director Althoff to approve the board meeting agenda as presented.  
Second by Director Vein. Upon voice vote, motion carried.**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES**

**Motion by Director Cronquist to approve the May 7, 2014, minutes as distributed.  
Second by Director Bigwood. Upon voice vote, motion carried.**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

**2014 Budget Analysis Statement** - - Dave Koland, Secretary, referred to the Budget Analysis Statement for the period of January 1 to October 31, 2014, a copy which is attached to these minutes as Annex II.

Total income for 2014 is \$838,299. Expenses are \$38,491.

**Motion by Vice Chair Burley to accept the Budget Analysis Statement for the period of January 1, 2014, to October 31, 2014. Second by Director Althoff. Upon roll call vote, the following directors voted aye: Althoff, Bigwood, Burley, Cronquist, Furness and Vein. Alternates voting aye: Knutson. Those voting nay: none. Absent and not voting: Johnson, Siegert and Werkhoven. Motion carried.**

**Bills Paid** - - Mr. Koland reviewed bills paid since the May board meeting, including expenses for water sampling and liability insurance.

**Cost Share Request** - - Mr. Koland referred to a copy of and explained the cost share request from the LAWA to the State Water Commission to extend the option contracts for the right-of-way work on the Red River Valley Water Supply Project (RRVWSP) estimated at \$320,000. A copy of the request letter is attached to these minutes as Annex III.

**Local and State Investment** - - Chair Furness referred to and reviewed the table showing the past history of what the local share has been for the RRVWSP. A copy of the table is attached to these minutes as Annex IV.

Mr. Koland said this table points out that the locals have invested \$4.4 million to date on the project, and the State Water Commission has invested approximately \$4.2 million. He added that there are two reasons for going to a 90-10 cost share: 1) we were looking at a substantial expenditure during the legislative session and 2) before coming up with the 90-10 cost share, almost all of the money had come from local investment.

Pat Zavoral, City of Fargo, commented that during the last legislature, during the 12<sup>th</sup> hour, Grand Forks, Fargo and Bismarck got together in an attempt to put together an infrastructure revolving loan fund, which ended up to be \$150 million. This session, there seems to be additional interest in taking up an infrastructure revolving loan fund of \$500 million with discussion of it possibly being \$1 billion. It is being suggested that this be spread out over a term of 50 years so projects with multi-generational benefit would allow for more than one generation of property owners or taxpayers to pay for a project.

**Summary of Dues Paid** - - Chair Furness referred to the table showing membership fees and cost share payments submitted. To date, \$53,400 has been received for 2013-2014 dues and \$798,025 in cost share payments. A copy of the list is attached to these minutes as Annex V.

## **RED RIVER VALLEY WATER SUPPLY PROJECT UPDATE**

Michelle Klose, Assistant State Engineer, State Water Commission, introduced the representatives from CH2MHILL, who conducted the RRVWSP alternative route study and the intake study. They are here to provide information and background as to where we are at today with the studies. Reports will be finalized in January.

**Alternative Route Engineering Study** - - Bruce Spiller, CH2MHILL, said the objective of the route study was to help the state select the alignment that provides the best opportunity to complete the RRVWSP. A presentation was provided by PowerPoint outlining the study objective, evaluation criteria, results and recommendations.

Mr. Spiller stated that there were three parts to this study: 1) look at alignment alternatives, 2) look at technical and permitting issues and 3) look at the cost estimates for the project.

Mr. Spiller commented that the highest score is the project that gives the best benefit. The ones shown are the Washburn to Baldhill Creek Alternative (northern alignment) with a capital cost of \$918 million and the other is the Bismarck to Lake Ashtabula Alternative (southern alignment) with a capital cost of \$901 million. Annual operating, maintenance and replacement costs are \$3 million to \$15 million depending on whether the river conveyance system is used.

The recommendation that came out of the alternative route study was to conduct a hydrogeologic and engineering study on intake locations.

Mr. Spiller said the route analysis did not eliminate either the northern or southern alignment. It was felt that they were both technically feasible routes. Both were about the same capital costs. Based on the stakeholders selected criteria, the northern alignment had more benefit.

A copy of the Executive Summary of the Final Report prepared for the State Water Commission on the RRVWSP Alternative Route Engineering Study is attached to these meeting minutes as Annex VI.

**Intake Study** - - Mr. Spiller also reviewed the objective and scope of work for the Missouri River Bank Filtration Intake Hydrogeologic Investigation. The objective was to identify feasible locations for a bank filtration system that could be used on either the northern or southern alignment of the RRVWSP. There was also a secondary objective, which was to determine where a feasible bank filtration system intake could be located along the Missouri River from Washburn to Bismarck for other potential uses.

Kevin Bral, CH2MHILL, reviewed the pumping tests that were conducted.

Todd Heglich, XRI Geophysics, and Mr. Spiller provided a report on the preliminary ground-based and airborne geophysical surveying results.

Mr. Spiller stated they will next be developing conceptual intake designs.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation reviewing the 2014 Engineering Studies on the RRVWSP is attached to these minutes as Annex VII.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Koland referred to the copy of the 2014-2015 Work Plan, which was provided to the board for informational purposes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**OTHER**

**Resolution - -** Chair Furness pointed out that this will be Dave Koland's last LAWA board meeting before his retirement at the end of January. He suggested that a resolution of appreciation be prepared for him and made a part of the official minutes.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

(SEAL)

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Bruce Furness, Chair

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Dave Koland, Secretary