

Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District
Special Emergency Meeting Minutes #605.1
Wednesday, July 15, 2020

Call to Order

The special emergency meeting was held in the Lac qui Parle County Annex, 422 5th Avenue, Madison, MN 56256 with ZOOM option. The meeting was officially called to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call was taken. **Managers present:** Chairman Darrel Ellefson, Vice-Chairman John Cornell, & Secretary David Craigmile. Manager David Ludvigson joined via ZOOM. Managers absent: Michael Frank. **Staff present:** Trudy Hastad. Jared Roiland and Mitch Enderson joined via ZOOM. **Others Present:** Commissioner DeRon Brehmer. Lac qui Parle County Auditor Jake Sieg joined via zoom.

Chairman Ellefson explained the emergency meeting was called to discuss quotes for a Roxor and a pickup for use by the Watershed staff and managers. The County receives buffer money to use for overseeing the buffer program and buffer enforcement in Lac qui Parle County. The Watershed District also receives buffer money for the Watershed Ditches. The Board of managers felt the Roxor and a pickup would be a good use for some of these dollars as we are required to do inspections of the ditches and enforcement of the buffer. Currently staff are using their own vehicles and borrowing family and friend's side-by-side to get to some of the sites. Discussion followed.

Hastad reported on the amount of buffer dollars the Watershed has received to date and some of the expenses incurred.

Manager Craigmile reported on what he found for pickups using the State bid site and availability of pickups. The supply inventory isn't so great as getting to the end of the year and due to COVID there isn't a lot of availability. Manager Craigmile priced a vehicle similar to what was purchased in 2017 for the park and it priced approximately \$2000 more. Discussion followed. The managers felt a four door would be nice for meetings. Manager Ellefson felt we should also price locally.

Auditor/Treasurer Jake Sieg replied that with County purchases local dealers are pretty competitive with the State bid sheet and if they are close in price the County tries to go with the local dealer. Sieg also discussed the buffer funds and felt this would be an acceptable purchase, but would need County Board approval. The County Board has asked the Watershed to perform a big task in maintaining the ditch systems and buffer enforcement and should have the tools needed to do the job.

The Watershed Board reviewed quotes for a side-by-side and a ROXOR and felt the ROXOR was the better choice as it is very sturdy and can be licensed for road use. Discussion followed. There was discussion if a pickup would be a better option as can use all year round. Discussed using the vehicle for spot spraying of ditches. There was some discussion on distance of ditches and would be nice to use pickup to tow ROXOR to sites.

Manager Ludvigson reviewed a quote for a ROXOR of \$13,900 and some additions that would be needed which would bring the price up to around \$16,000.

Manager Craigmile discussed a quote for a 150 Ford pickup in Montevideo for approximately 30,000.

The managers felt there was a need for both a pickup and Roxor for a total price around \$50,000 plus tax.

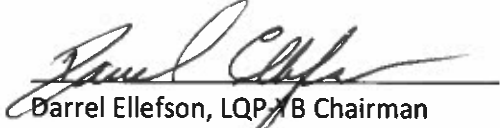
Discussion followed. The Watershed Board would like to use County buffer money to pay for the vehicles and the Watershed would carry the insurance, licensing, and maintenance. Auditor Sieg felt this was fair.

M/S/P to have Administrator Hastad present the information to the Lac qui Parle County Board of Commissioners' at their next meeting to purchase a pickup and ROXOR for a total price around \$50,000 plus tax with the Watershed to pay license, insurance, & maintenance.


Motioned: David Ludvigson **S**econded: David Craigmile Roll call vote **P**assed: 4-0

The Board discussed the bull thistle problem on R-6 and Lazarus Creek. Hastad reported the thistle is starting to go to seed and may be too late to spray this summer. Discussion followed with the Board agreeing to spray for the thistle this fall, next spring and possibly again in the fall.....three times to try and get them under control. Hastad will send the Township a letter letting them know the plans.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.


Darrel Ellefson, LQP-YB Chairman

ATTEST:


David Craigmile, LQP-YB Secretary

Minutes prepared by Hastad