



Excellence in Training and Technical Assistance
RECEIVED

TO: Friends of Rural Water
FROM: Minnesota Rural Water Association
DATE: November 15, 2020

NOV 19 2020

CITY OF COLERAINE

WE NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE...HELP!...if we don't tell our story, then NO ONE will!

As our legislators struggle with the growing deficits it becomes more and more important to bring our message of water and wastewater issues to Washington, DC. Although water and wastewater are non-partisan issues, it is always an educational process to keep our federal legislators focused on infrastructure and compliance issues that face small systems.

MRWA currently has programs through USDA Rural Development, Farm Services Agency and EPA to bring on-site technical assistance and training to you. Rural communities believe these programs result in more environmental improvement than any other programs. As a result, the programs have become the backbone of compliance with environmental mandates and increased public health in rural areas. Each year MRWA provides approximately **5300 on-site hours** to water and wastewater systems across the state and almost **3600 water/wastewater operations specialists, administrative and governing officials** attend our training sessions.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TODAY!! Please take a few minutes to send us a letter or e-mail of support for the assistance we have been able to offer you over the past years. These letters will be used to show the support of our programs to our federal legislators. **Let our federal legislators know how important these programs are to you. Without your support these programs are in jeopardy of not being funded!!**

SAMPLE: *The purpose of this letter is to express the major importance of the Rural Water Technical Assistance programs to our small community. During the past year technical assistance has been provided to us when...*

- | | |
|---|---|
| ➤ we needed help locating water lines and valve boxes | ➤ we needed sewer collection line televised |
| ➤ our chlorinator broke down | ➤ we needed to calibrate our lift stations |
| ➤ we needed help identifying our wastewater I&I | ➤ we needed help with our security vulnerability assessment & emergency response plan |
| ➤ our water tower froze | ➤ we needed training to renew my certification license |
| ➤ we had a main break and were losing 50,000 gpm | ➤ we needed funding for a project |
| ➤ we needed a water or sewer rate analysis | ➤ we needed assistance with asset management |
| ➤ we needed a groundwater wellhead protection plan | ➤ we had an energy assessment completed |
| ➤ we have failing infrastructure and need help providing affordable water/wastewater to customers | ➤ or whatever we helped you with??? |

Without the help of Minnesota Rural Water Associations on-site technical assistance, many small systems would lack adequate operation and maintenance programs and require additional funding for failing infrastructure. Without this type of on-site assistance many small systems may not meet the technical, managerial or financial capacity to comply with the Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water Acts.

On February 2, 2021 representatives from the Minnesota Rural Water Association will be in Washington, D.C. to tell your story. This is YOUR Association. Small systems need to be heard.
Please E-mail (mrwa@mrwa.com) today.

**QUALITY ON TAP – OUR COMMITMENT – OUR PROFESSION
HELP US HELP YOU!!**

CBT REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 2020

Due to Veterans Day being on our regular meeting date, the Regular Meeting of the Coleraine, Bovey, and Taconite Joint Wastewater Commission was held on Tuesday, November 10th, 2020 at 4:10 P.M. in the Taconite Community Center Gym.

Members present: Chairperson Odden, M. Troumbly, Tok, Casey, and J. Troumbly. Absent: Trboyevich, Bertram, Pollard, and Savich. Also attending: Operator Dezelske.

Moved by Casey and supported by J. Troumbly to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting held October 14th, 2020 as read by Tok. Ayes: All. Nays: None Motion carried.

Moved by Tok and supported by J. Troumbly to approve claims 1063 – 1085 in the amount of \$10,534.79, and also approve the October 2020 Financial Statement with total available funds of \$74,758.79 and file for audit as read by Chairperson Odden. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: All Nays: None Motion carried.

Assistant Plant Operator Dezelske presented the plant's October monthly report. Dezelske reported for October that they clean #2 clarifier to prepare for repairs the welding repairs that were completed on Oct. 6th. Rebuilt CL injector pump, completed 1st Quarter SOUR test for class B and passed. Ran last fecal coliform test for the year. Pumped manholes and serviced forcemain in preparation for winter. Oct. 31 was the last day of chlorine and sulfur dioxide feed disinfection. With 31 days of data October wastewater flows for Coleraine 51.95%, Bovey 37.32%, and Taconite 10.73.

Chair Odden received an email request from plant operator Brist requesting 80 hours pay under the Families first Corona virus response act.

Moved by Tok and supported by J. Troumbly that due to CDS guidelines that employee Chuck Brist must quarantine for 14 days. During this quarantine the commission will provide 80 hours of regular pay under the Families 1st Corona Virus Response Act. Ayes: All Nays: None carried

Moved by J. Troumbly supported by Casey to adjourn 4:28 p.m. carried

Kevin Odden, Chairperson

Bob Tok, Secretary

**GREEWAY
JOINT REC
ASSOCIATION**

BOARD MEETING

**Nov. 16, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

**At The
ARENA**

GREEWAY JOINT RECREATION ASSOCIATION

Oct. 19, 2020

Barb Gibeau- Secretary

Meeting called to order by President Delich at 7:00.

George Delich
Casey Venema
Dwight Kessler
Barb Gibeau
Dan Strand
Bob Lawson
Dan Andrews
Pat Guyer
Eric Troumbly

Coleraine - President
Lawrence Lake Twp.- Vice President
Trout Lake Twp. - Treasurer
LaPrairie-Secretary
Calumet
Bovey
Marble
Director
Asst. Director

Others: Mike Barle, Brian Ekholm

Motion made by Venema second by Lawson to accept the minutes from the Sept. 21 meeting. Motion carried.

As of Sept. 30 there was \$89,400.92 in the account. Disbursements were \$36,772.53. Receipts were \$9,172.26. Outstanding checks were \$2,999.49.

Motion made by Strand second by Venema to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Mike Barle came to the board and said he would like to see more history of the building displayed at the arena. He said he would like to have a bronze plaque made with a write up and the list of people that made the building a reality.

Motion made by Kessler second by Andrews to allow Barle to go ahead with the plaque. Discussion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Third reading of changing the by-laws Article III Section III. Drop the sentence President and Vice-President shall serve no more than two(2) consecutive terms of the same office. Change to President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary have no limit on the number of consecutive terms they can serve in the same office.

Calumet-No

Trout Lake Twp.-No

LaPrairie-No

Bovey-No

Coleraine-No

Lawrence Lake Twp.-No

Marble-No

Motion failed.

Discussed the person elected to represent Nashwauk Township resides in Nashwauk school district. We want someone from Greenway school district on the board. Brian Ekholm would be a good choice. Grand Rapids sends a council member or city employee.

New Business:

Director Report:

First week of skating in the books. Mites and Minis start this week. So far, the rink is pretty quiet. Good start to the season. Ice preparation went well.

Figure skating numbers were at 84 at last check. This is down from a little over a hundred last year.

Hockey registration numbers were at 123 the last Pat checked with Traci. Only one team at the Bantam level but everything else is on par or slightly up.

Coaches list for the season as follows:

Bantams- Garrett Orhn, Mark Gibeau, Ken Hasbargen

Peewees- Al Troumbly, Nick Mandich, Jim Gibeau, Josh Woodley

Squirts- Aaron Mikulich, Kevin Thorson, Dustin Hammer, Brian Gangl

Mites- Tim Reid, Andy Sertich, Steve Sertich, Tyler Nielsen

Mini Mites- Mike Forconi, Tanner Hanson, Travis Tammi, Jamie Guyer, Derek Sundquist and Marco Peluso

Motion made by Venema second by Kessler to hire the coaches listed. Motion carried.

Pat asked the board about protocol for workers due to Covid-19. A worker had a sore throat got tested and was off for 3 days. The test came back negative and the employee came back to work. The board also discussed masks being worn in the arena and ejecting the parents if they are out of line. We just want to keep the arena going. Also stated was board members wearing masks to set an example.

Pat said a movie group contacted him and they want to shoot at the arena for 1 day.

Adjourn 7:50

Barb Gibeau/Secretary

Networking Opportunities Team Meeting

Networking to improve efficiency, maintain service levels and save money
while preserving our individual community identities

October 28, 2020

The next meeting will be December 9, 2020 at the Timberlake Lodge, 11-1, lunch included.

Present: Peggy Clayton (Harris), Lilah Crowe (Historical Society), Bri Anderson (Coleraine), Greg Tuttle (Cohasset), Burl Ives (Itasca County), and Mary Jo Wimmer, Coordinator.

Lucas Thompson, Itasca County Jail Administrator, and Vic Williams, Itasca County Sherriff, addressed the group regarding the new county jail.

Open Market Coleraine

- Purchasing technology equipment city-wide with CARES grant monies
- Have restructured their budget to be more accurate
- Developing a capital improvement plan

Harris Township

- Conducting interviews for a township clerk
- Finalized CARES act purchases
- Road projects are complete
- Looking for rink attendants
- Switching from Century Link to Media Com
- Stony Point has been annexed by Harris Township

Historical Society

- Developing a history mapping project with an IRRRB grant
- Has received a Mississippi River interpretive site designation

Itasca County

- Currently at expenses of \$67M for the new jail
- Will receive \$200,000 back from unspent CARES funds. These are proposed to pay for Itasca County school districts to provide hot spots for students without internet access. Decision will be made in mid-December

Cohasset

- The bike trail is at a stand-still as there are barriers from Itasca County and the DNR
- The marina/hotel is getting development money
- Discussing if campgrounds/resorts should be allowed in Cohasset

Mary Jo Wimmer, Trillium Leadership Development, mjwimmer80@gmail.com