

Forest Bridgewater Joint Powers Development District

Rice County, Minnesota
Wednesday, April 20, 2022
6:00 PM
Meeting minutes

1. Call the meeting to order

Glen called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

Members present: William Malecha, Charlie Peters, Ashley Anderson, Glen Castore

2. Approve the April 20, 2022 Agenda

The board reviewed the agenda.

Charlie made a motion to approve the agenda. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

3. Approve the March 16, 2022 meeting minutes

Ashley read the March 16, 2022 meeting minutes.

Charlie made a motion to approve the minutes. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

4. Claims/Treasurer's report.

There were no receipts or new invoices since the last meeting. Stantec will be invoicing the County for additional work done shortly. The County may or may not invoice the Development District.

5. Review of March 31 meeting with Rice County

Steve Schwanke with Inland Development and John Tuma, with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission joined the meeting with Rice County, along with Charlie and Glen. Inland Development noted that companies looking for 1,000,000 + square foot commercial properties are interested here because of large sites and freeway access. Steele Waseca has been contacted and are interested in the work of the Development District. Sara Folsted mentioned different infrastructure grant opportunities. The group discussed focusing on water and identifying a water tower site and are looking at 3 acres sites and building a test well.

6. Plan for constructing a water tower

Sara had just submitted a federal infrastructure grant for 4 million dollars, but the grant can only cover 80% of the project. Estimates for a water tower are approximately 5.5 million. It will be a few months before the County hears anything. Charlie is going to talk to a landowner about a potential site on the northwest corner of 46 and County Road 1.

Jerry has recommended a company out of Rochester, THEIN, for a test well to see what kind of water treatment might be necessary. Charlie will call them and inquire about who dug the last well in Lonsdale.

Stantec estimated \$50,000 for a test well. The group also discussed having to purchase the land.

7. Other

Charlie talked with Lonsdale City Administrator and the Mayor. They were interested in exploring partnering on sewer.

John Tuma recommended going to the State for infrastructure funds in the next bonding period.

Glen will talk to Jim Flaherty, who is the chair of the Rice County Republican Party, about next steps for lobbying for bonding.

There is someone interested in a project near the railroad tracks in Bridgewater Township. Even though Bridgewater does its own planning and zoning, they cannot change zoning – any zoning changes are required to go through the County.

The board will meet on May 18, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Forest Town Hall.

8. Adjourn

Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm. Charlie seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Ashley Anderson, Clerk, Forest Bridgewater Joint Powers Development District.