

Forest Bridgewater Joint Powers Development District

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

1. Call the meeting to order

Glen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Members present: William Malecha, Charlie Peters, Ashley Anderson, Glen Castore, Andy Ebling, Deb Salaba

2. Approve the July 20, 2022 Agenda

The board reviewed the agenda.

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

3. Approve the June 15, 2022 meeting minutes

Ashley read the June 15, 2022 meeting minutes.

Charlie made a motion to approve the minute, with the correction. Bill seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

4. Claims/Treasurer's report.

a. Payment to Rice County

The board reviewed an invoice from Rice County for two thirds of the cost of the Stantec engineering study for the Development District for approval. *Andy makes a motion to approve the invoice for payment. Bill seconds the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.*

b. Balance

The Fransen Bank and Trust balance is currently \$35, 754.70. After the check for the engineering study posts their will be a little over \$8,000 in the account. There are no upcoming invoices expected. For future invoices, Deb will get printed checks from Reece prior to the meeting for approval and signature.

5. Cold Storage Facility

a. Status update

Glen met with Drew Greenburg, who is working with RLS, a company from New Jersey. RLS would own and operate the plant. RLS is deciding between an automated plant with fewer employees or a more labor-intensive plant, which would employ more people, but cost less to build. The railroad is the selling point of potential plant location.

b. Plan for infrastructure

Glen discussed utilities with Drew. They would budget 10% of the cost of the project for infrastructure for utilities and are looking for the money to come from someplace else. Charlie and Glen met with Steele Waseca and Great River Energy. Steele Waseca has low interest loans. The District Likely needs about \$50,000 to get a study done. The line between Steele and Excel districts runs right through the potential property zone. Charlie is going to talk to John Tuma, on the Utilities Board to find the process to move districts so the project is in the Steele Waseca District. Steele Waseca is a conduit for rural development loans for new development.

The whole corridor along I35 is Steele Waseca. There would be grant funding or low interest loans available for quick charging stations, should Kwik Trip be interested in a station within the Development District. The board will try to connect with a contact at Kwik Trip.

The board discussed engineering firms for upcoming utility engineering projects. If the board has an engineering study ready to go with specific information about the proposed utility system, industry might be more interested in the area.

Glen will write up an RFP for engineering funds for a study. Glen and Charlie will pursue engineering ideas.

6. Other

Charlie will continue conversations with Randy Malecha about property for a test well. Glen will call THEIN in Rochester about building a test well.

On October 18, Charlie and Glen have a meeting with the County and Drew Greenberg. They will start to look at what the County can do to support the project.

There are no known projects happening on I35 currently.

7. Adjourn

Glen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm. Bill seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.

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