

February 6, 2023 (a)

APPROVED
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE
MIDDLE-SNAKE-TAMARAC RIVERS WATERSHED DISTRICT
HELD VIRTUALLY USING MICROSOFT TEAMS AND AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE
8:30 a.m. **February 6, 2023**

The Meeting was called to order by President Bill Petersen, Managers Bill Petersen, Eric Johnson, Keith Szczepanski, Robert Kovar, Brad Blawat and Joey McGregor were present. Manager Lein Schiller was absent. Mori Maher, Tyler Larson, Kyle Schломann, Danny Omdahl, Katrina Haugen, Keaton Laymon, Mike Rosendahl, Jim Duckstad, Rolland Miller, and Tony Nordby were also present.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to approve the Agenda with the addition of WD #5 and #6 discussion. Motion unanimously carried

Manager Brad Blawat joined the meeting at approximately 8:32 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2023 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Christian Erickson and Gunnar Bowman joined the meeting at approximately 8:34 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Joey W. McGregor to pay the following bills from Administrative Funds; check #19553-19554 in the amount of \$8859.09. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to deny the following permit as the permit, the applicant stated he would like to withdraw the permit based on information that was received by NRCS.

Permit (22-126) Mike Rosendahl to install 3-36" or TBD centerline culverts through 210th St NW, in the NW4 of Section 12 Boxville Twp. to drain highwater from Watershed Ditch #4 into the Warren Diversion ditch. Watershed District to determine size and elevations of new culvert.

Motion unanimously carried.

Mike Rosendahl left the meeting at approximately 8:42 a.m.
Nate Dalager joined the meeting at approximately 8:42 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Eric Johnson, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to table the following permit contingent on Mr. Hamrick obtaining a signature from Curtis Reitmeier.

Permit 23-003 Lowell Hamrick to remove (3)-18" and (1)-15" crossing culverts on North side of CSAH #67 in E2 SE4 of section 24 Brislet Twp and SW4 Section 19 Helgeland Twp and install a new 24" culvert at each crossing location.

Motion unanimously carried.

Jeff Hane joined the meeting at approximately 8:56 a.m. (virtual)

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to table the following permit extension request, direct staff to work with Christian Erickson to locate and obtain the required infrastructure needed to complete the control structure and authorize Administrator Maher to approve the extension with a time limit based on when infrastructure is available.

Permit 21-051 Christian Erickson to install 140 acres of field drain tile with ¼" drainage coefficient; 80' tile spacings; gravity outlet into North Marshall CSAH #2 Ditch in the SE4 of Section 36 Comstock Twp.

APPROVED

Motion carried with Managers McGregor and Johnson abstaining.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to deny the following permit due to Permit 21-051 not being in compliance.

Permit (23-004) Christian Erickson to install 145 acres of field drain tile in the NW4 of Section 5 Viking strip with ¼" drainage coefficient; 75' tile spacings; gravity outlet to the South Marshall CSAH#2 ditch in the NE4 of Section 6 Viking Strip.

Motion carried with Managers McGregor and Johnson abstaining.

Tyler Vanderlinden joined the meeting at approximately 9:14 a.m. (Virtual)

Nate Dalager was in attendance to provide an update and presentation on the study HDR engineering was directed to do for JD #1/JD #75 drainage issues relating to a request that was presented to the Board of Managers at their May 2, 2022 Board Meeting. A landowner meeting to present the information to landowners will be held on Monday, February 13, 2023 at the Alvarado Community Center.

Gunnar Bowman left the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m.

District Technician Omdahl provided a JD #75 update from the last meeting regarding the possible reslope in the NE4 of Section 2 Tabor Twp. Omdahl contacted the landowner who was in favor of the possibility of resloping. The Board directed him to continue the conversation.

Omdahl was contacted by the landowner in the NW4 of Section 5 Northland Township regarding a JD #75 culvert installation that was missed from the 2012 Repair. It was the consensus of the Board to have staff inspect the culvert to determine how to resolve the matter.

Administrator Maher provided information to the Board regarding locations of two SD #3 repairs that are planned to be completed this year. Maher asked the Board if the bid should be sent out as one project to save on mobilization cost or if the Board would prefer to notice it for bids as two separate projects. Funding on SD #3 was also discussed. The Board of Water and Soil Resources allocated \$210,100 from A Stream Restoration Grant and, \$225,000 from One Watershed One Plan for SD #3. Technician Omdahl stated the south slope needs repair from the proposed areas west to the Snake River. There was a discussion on how to raise more money for SD #3 for repairs. Selling a bond was discussed, but nothing more will be done at this time due to the Redetermination of Benefits being in process.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to submit both repairs on SD #3 for bids as one project. Administrator Maher will work with Tony Nordby from Houston Engineering to set the bid documents and dates. Motion unanimously carried.

Dillon Nelson, with HDR Engineering, provided an update on CP Rail's new bridge construction in Newfolden.

Administrator Maher provided information on the purchase of wetland credits for the Newfolden Impoundment.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to authorize Mr. Bill Peterson to sign a non-binding agreement with the wetland banker that has the lowest cost per credit, John Erickson from Bemidji. Motion unanimously carried.

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The Joint Ditch Authority for Nelson Slough Project has not submitted comment or approved the Joint Powers agreement but it is scheduled to be discussed at the next Marshall County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2023.

Administrator Maher provided an update on the Swift Coulee Project, he has been working with Darren Carlson, from the Marshall County SWCD, to get landowners to fill out the Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) applications. One of the landowners who has expressed concerns about the Project design, did fill out a RIM application. Maher stated that there may be some left over funds from the One Watershed One Plan Planning Grant that may be able to be allocated to the Project's planning and design.

Quotes for the March Property repair are due February 17, 2023 and will be presented to the Board at the next Regular Board Meeting.

There has been no news from the MN DNR on the determination of the Rare Natural Community for the Lilac Ridge Project.

Discussion was held regarding interest to be charged to ditches with a deficit balance. The Board asked Attorney Jeff Hane to look at the MN Statute and provide an update at the next Regular Board Meeting on what should be charged, when the charges should be assessed and when interest rates should be set. Ditch balances were reviewed.

Administrator Maher asked the Board about providing input on possible improvement opportunities.

Administrative Assistant Haugen reviewed the 2022 Administrative and Project income and expenses. The Board was supplied with the reports and Haugen will answer any questions they may have at the next Regular Board Meeting.

The next One Watershed One Plan Policy Committee will be held on February 15, 2023, once the time and date have been set. Mrs. Haugen will let Mr. Joey McGregor know as he is the Watershed District's Delegate.

Attorney Jeff Hane provided an update on the Kalt, Safar, Zutz versus Watershed District and Christian Erickson lawsuit to appeal Mr. Erickson's Permit 21-051.

The restoration of the 2020 unpermitted ridge cut on Section 33 of Viking Twp was discussed. District staff staked the restoration area. After the fill was replaced, a survey was done and found to be satisfactory. The ridge will be checked again during the 2023 growing season to monitor for settling. The Board instructed Administrator Maher to send a letter to Kraig Melvie letting him know that the repair is sufficient, but will be resurveyed in the summer and Mr. Melvie will be responsible for any future repair.

Technician Omdahl discussed rip-rap placement at WD #5 and #6 centerline and field drainage culverts that the Board approved in 2021. He also discussed potential rock structures, repairing culvert erosion and a sluff in WD #5; he will work with contractors to get the work done in 2023.

Tyler Vanderlinden left the meeting at approximately 1:40 p.m. (virtual)
Christian Erickson, Keaton Laymon and Jim Duckstad left the meeting at approximately 1:40 p.m.

Discussion was held regarding the RRWMB and FDRWG Joint Conference scheduled for the same day as the February 21st Regular Board Meeting. Due to a lack of Managers able to attend the Board Meeting, the consensus of the Board was to move the meeting to the alternate date of February 27, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

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The following meetings were announced:

1. Drainage Conference February 8 & 9 in Alexandria, MN.
2. JD #75 Public Meeting Monday, February 13, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. in Alvarado, MN.
3. JD #1 Public Meeting Monday, February 13, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. in Alvarado, MN.
4. MSTRWD Regular Board of Managers meeting Monday, February 27, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. in Warren, MN at the District office.
5. RRWMB and FDRWG Annual Joint conference February 21 & 22 in Moorhead, MN.
6. MSTRWD Regular Board of Managers meeting Monday, March 6, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in Warren, MN.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:55 p.m.

Katrina Haugen
Recording Secretary

Brad Blawat
Assistant Secretary