

May 15, 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
9:05 a.m. **May 15, 2023**

The Meeting was called to order by President Bill Petersen, Managers Bill Petersen, Robert Kovar, Brad Blawat, and Keith Szczepanski were present. Mori Maher, Tyler Larson, Kyle Schломann, Danny Omdahl, Katrina Haugen, and Tony Nordby were also in attendance. Jeff Hane, and Nate Dalager attended virtually.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to approve the Agenda, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to approve the Minutes of the May 1, 2023, Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and filed for the auditor.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to pay the following bills: Payroll 6961-6969 & 6975 in the amount of \$19,498.07; from Administrative funds check #19641-19664 inclusive of an ACH withdrawal and service charge in the amount of \$42,306.49; from Project funds check #3397-3403 in the amount of \$49,796.96; from Ditch funds check #3592-3598 in the amount of \$23,930.78. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to table the following Permit for more information and a staff recommendation:

Permit (23-013) Randy Nelson to regrade the East 120th Ave NW ditch in the SW4 of Section 26 New Maine Township to drain water south, and to install a culvert (Size and Elevation TBD) through 120th Ave Approach to Marshall CSAH #30.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat, to table the following Permit for the applicant and affected parties to come to an amicable solution for the relief of flood water:

Permit (23-018) Doug Schindele to reinstall a 24" CL, under 340th Ave NW ~533' North of the ½ ML on Section line 36-31 Sinnott-Augsburg Townships. Said culvert was removed by Permit (18-118 to Augsburg Township and to remove the 24" culvert under approach to CSAH #5 to reuse prior location.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to approve the following permit.

Permit (23-023) Ed St Germain to install a flapgate on the N.S. of a 30" CSP, under Cty Rd #106 in the SW4 of Section 1 Warrenton Township.

Motion unanimously carried

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to approve the following permit.

Permit (23-026) Ed Honek to install approximately 230' of drain tile along the West edge of the yard in the NE4 NE4 of Section 14 Northland Township with a gravity outlet to WD #5.

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Motion unanimously carried.

The following Permit was Administratively approved and reviewed:

Permit (23-027) Ernest Johnson to install a new crossing with an 18" culvert in the W 120th Ave NE ditch in the NE NE of section 6 Holt Township.

Engineer Tony Nordby stated a JD# 75 repair pre-construction meeting was held with Houston, MSTRWD staff, Gladen Construction, and a representative from the Kongsvinger Church. Construction is scheduled to start by the end of May contingent on continued favorable weather. They will be starting at CSAH #22, moving downstream to the Red River.

Administrator Maher provided an update on the Newfolden Project. Construction on the CP Railroad bridge is scheduled to resume on May 15, 2023 and should be completed June 8, 2023. Maher is planning a ribbon cutting ceremony and asked that the Board keep June 5-8th open on their calendars for the event. HDR is completing the plans for the Impoundment and will be providing them to Watershed staff for review.

Tony Nordby provided an update on the Swift Coulee project.

Attorney Jeff Hane suggested the Board set a public hearing date to establish the Swift Coulee as a project.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to set a public hearing date of June 20, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the District Office in Warren, MN to establish the Swift Coulee as a project. Motion unanimously carried.

Nate Dalager from HDR Engineering stated that they are almost finished and ready to present information on the JD #1/JD #75 potential project.

Administrator Maher asked the Board to form a Finance Committee for planning long term budgeting of the District's funds, and to compare the progress on a quarterly basis.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat that the President and Treasurer of the time (Bill Petersen and Keith Szczepanski at this time) serve on this committee with the Vice President (Mr. Robert Kovar at this time) as the Alternate.

Motion unanimously carried.

Administrator Maher provided information to the Board on land values for purchasing permanent RoW for the SD #3 repair project on three bases: sale price of 2022 (County records), RIM rates of 2023, and EMV of 2023. During the discussion, it was mentioned land valuations may not reflect recent sales price. It was the consensus of the board to use a combination of the Estimated Market Value and the RIM rates to determine purchase prices for permanent easement moving forward.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to pay \$5,000 per acre for the permanent easement on SD #3. Motion unanimously carried.

Potential office upgrades were discussed. Administrative Assistant Haugen asked the Board for direction on what they would like to see for new chairs. There was discussion on finding someone that would allow the District to sample chairs. The Board would like to see options in the \$200-\$700 price range.

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Administrator Maher updated the Board on an application that is being created in the Red River Basin (MN side) by the RRWMB to LSOHC for RIM program. There will be an MOU between BWSR and RRWMB with BWSR being the fiscal agent. This application, if successfully funded, will ease up phase 2 and 3 of Swift Coulee project and will open the opportunity for similar projects in the Red River Valley.

Administrator Maher mentioned the upcoming summer tour in Albert Lea in June 20-21.

Communication from Marshall County Emergency Management was provided to the Board.

Administrative Assistant Haugen stated that she would be out of the office from May 22, 2023-June 1, 2023, but will be working remotely from home as needed and working on training.

Technician Kyle Schlomann stated the new Desktop computer, furnished by Garden Valley Technologies, will arrive next week.

The following meetings were announced:

1. RRWMB Regular Meeting Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in Ada, MN
2. Preliminary Damage Assessment Meeting Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at the Marshall County Courthouse in meeting Room 1
3. MSTRWD Regular Board of Managers Meeting Monday, June 5, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in Warren, MN.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to adjourn the Meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:49 a.m.

Katrina Haugen
Recording Secretary

Brad Blawat
Assistant Secretary