

October 2, 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. October 2, 2023

The Meeting was called to order by President Bill Petersen, Managers Bill Petersen, Eric Johnson, Robert Kovar and Joey McGregor were present. Kyle Schlomann, Danny Omdahl, Tyler Larson, Katrina Haugen, Jim Duckstad, Van Hapka, Bob Weslowski, Tim Mortensen, Robert Osowski, John Kowalski, Tony Nordby, were also present. Dillon Nelson attended virtually.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Eric Johnson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Eric Johnson, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor to approve the Meeting Minutes from the September 18, 2023 Board of Managers Meeting as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Gunnar Bowman, Jeff Hane (virtual), and Christian Erickson (virtual) joined the Meeting at approximately 8:35 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Eric Johnson to approve the Minutes of the September 25, 2023 Special Meeting as corrected. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Eric Johnson to authorize Mr. Bill Petersen to sign the final Payment Requests to Higher Ground and Quality Spray Foam/Anderson Excavating. Pay checks #3441-3447 from Project funds in the amount of \$261,616.64. Motion unanimously carried.

Jeff Hane joined the meeting at approximately 8:40 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor to continue with the current officers in their current positions as follows:

President- Bill Petersen
Vice-President- Robert Kovar
Secretary- Brad Blawat
Treasurer- Keith Szczepanski
Asst Sec/Trea- Eric Johnson

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor to continue with the current committee appointments as follows:

Newfolden- Brad Blawat & Bill Petersen
Swift Coulee- Eric Johnson & Joey McGregor
Nelson Slough- Bill Petersen & Keith Szczepanski
Lilac Ridge- Brad Blawat & Eric Johnson
Personnel Committee- Joey McGregor & Robert Kovar
RRWMB- Bill Petersen & Lein Schiller (Alt)
Permit/Drainage Policy- Joey McGregor, Robert Kovar & Brad Blawat
MAWD- Bill Petersen, Lein Schiller & Keith Szczepanski (alt)
1W1P- Joey McGregor & Bill Petersen (alt)
Budget- Bill Petersen & Keith Szczepanski

Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVED

Fork Township Supervisors Robert Osowski and John Kowalski asked for assistance in repairing a failed 18" culvert and to replace it with a larger size, in the NW1/4 of section 26. The culvert is the road authority's responsibility. Operations Manager Danny Omdahl discussed his recommendation for the culvert to be increased to a 36".

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Eric Johnson to Permit up to a 36" culvert with District staff setting the elevation and provide no financial assistance. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Eric Johnson to table the following permit and ask the applicant to contact the SWCD staff about preventing erosion to the Mortensen property as a way to work with Tim Mortensen on his concerns.

Permit (23-103) Tim Mortenson and Van Hapka to remove a failed 18" crossing culvert on the quarterline between the SW4 and SE4 of Section 13 Comstock Township and to install an 18" x 60' culvert at the same location and to grade in the vicinity along the North 250th St NW Ditch.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Eric Johnson, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor to extend the following permit for 1 year in order to obtain physical documentation that the amended design is working as required by the permit conditions:

Permit (22-009T) WJS Nelson to install 313 acres of field drain tile in the S2 of Section 9 Higdem Township with 1/4" drainage coefficient; 50' tile spacings; 15-hp (1472 GPM) VFD pump to outlet to the Higdem Subordinate Service Ditch through a sealed discharge pipe through 200th St NE, to install a ditch monitor that is set to disable the pump when water levels reach a trigger point elevation as established by the MSTRWD (Trigger point shall be set to 809.3')

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to approve the following permit with the permittee required to notify the landowners to the East.

Permit (23-097) Christian Erickson to install 225 acres of field drain tile with 1/8" drainage coefficient; 40' spacing; a 10-HP (700 GPM) VFP pump in the NE corner of the NE4 outletting into the South CSAH #19 ditch.

Motion unanimously carried.

The following permit was Administratively reviewed and approved.

Permit (23-106) MN DOT (A) to remove an existing 18" CMP and replace it with a new 18" CAS in the West US Hwy #59 ditch, at Sta 2562+46 in the SW4 of Section 32 Arveson Township. (B) to remove an existing 24" CMP and install a new 18" CAS in the West US Hwy #59 ditch at Sta 2557+49 on the Kittson/Marshall County line between SW4 32 Arveson Twp & NW4 Section 8 Lincoln Township.

Tony Nordby with Houston Engineering discussed the responses to the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and the Negative Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Declaration for Swift Coulee.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor to authorize President Bill Petersen, and Asst. Secretary Eric Johnson to sign the Negative EIS Declaration. Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVED

The Board reviewed a Petition from Jarod Peterson to Add Lands to the Benefited Area of WD #4 that was received on September 18, 2023.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Eric Johnson to set a Public Hearing for a Petition to Add Lands to the Benefited Area of WD #4 for Monday, December 4, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the District Office. Motion unanimously carried.

Operations Manager Omdahl provided an update on raising the spoil along CD #44 and the potential need for an easement with the landowner, who is agreeable with the work and is willing to sign an easement, if needed.

Administrative Assistant Haugen provided a worksheet with Project Fund balances through December 31, 2022, for the Board to review. The Board agreed to review the information and discuss it at a future meeting.

There was a brief discussion on a memo provided by Attorney Jeff Hane on what the Watershed District's options are regarding sluffing of the Snake River's banks in Warren.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Eric Johnson to adjourn the Meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:53 a.m.

Katrina Haugen
Recording Secretary

Eric Johnson
Asst. Sec/Treasurer