

March 4, 2024 (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. March 4, 2024

The Meeting was called to order by President Bill Petersen, Managers Bill Petersen, Brad Blawat, Keith Szczepanski, Robert Kovar, Joey McGregor, Jared Sands and Lein Schiller were present. Tyler Larson, Kyle Schlomann, Katrina Haugen, Danny Omdahl, Earl McGregor, Jim Duckstad, Tony Nordby, Robert and Karen Mager, Kurt and Adam Aakre, and Gunnar Bowman were also present. Jeff Hane and Dillon Nelson were in attendance virtually.

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

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to approve the Meeting Minutes from the February 20, 2024 Board of Managers Meeting as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to pay from Project funds check #3494-3495 totaling \$22,570.00. Motion unanimously carried.

Engineering Technician Kyle Schlomann updated the Board on the following After the Fact permit that was received from Damon Stroble. No action was requested from the Board at this time.

Permit (24-005) Damon Stroble (After the Fact Permit) to construct a berm on the edge of the field west of an existing centerline culvert near the quarter line on the East line of Section 18 Angus Township.

Kaitlyn Bjornson joined the meeting at approximately 8:37 a.m. (virtual)

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to approve the following permit:

Permit (24-006) Russell Grandstrand to install 58 acres of field pattern drain tile in the S2 SE4 Section 14 Augsburg Township, with a 3/8" drainage coefficient; 100' tile spacings; to share an existing Gravity Outlet with Permit 19-015 Evan Grandstrand.

Motion unanimously carried.

The Board of Managers suggested that Kurt and Adam Aakre visit with Darren Carlson at the Marshall County SWCD regarding their concerns that were brought up regarding Mr. Grandstrand's Permit and the ditch and culvert of 430th St NW in Section 15 of Augsburg Township.

Kurt and Adam Aakre left the meeting at approximately 9:08 a.m.

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

Permit (24-007) Jamie Nelson to install 54 acres of field pattern drain tile in portions of Section 27 Viking Township, east of JD #14, with 1/4" drainage coefficient; 85' tile spacing; gravity outlet into JD 14 Main.

Motion unanimously carried.

Gunnar Bowman left the meeting at approximately 9:10 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Lein Schiller to deny the following permit due to unknown effects to the SW 1/4 of Section 16 specifically the Chris Broz yard, and the board feels that there are alternative drainage solutions that should be explored through the permit process.

APPROVED

Permit (24-008) Robert Mager to remove an existing field entrance culvert and to replace it with a dry crossing near the half mile line in the East 430th Ave NW road ditch, in the NW4 of Section 16 Vega Township.

Motion unanimously carried.

Robert and Karen Mager left the meeting at approximately 9:50 a.m.

Manager Bill Petersen discussed a potential solution on SD #3 to address bank sluffing with drain tile. Discussion was held on potentially doing some soil boring. It was the consensus of the Board that Engineer Tony Nordby design a solution on a ½ mile test area using drain tile/French drain approach. Nordby and District staff will select a location for this test spot.

Manager Joey McGregor inquired on how the SD #3 Redetermination of Benefits was progressing and when a final product would be available for review. McGregor asked for information to be presented at the next Board meeting on March 18, 2024.

Joey and Earl McGregor left the meeting at approximately 9:56 a.m.

Operations Manager Danny Omdahl discussed the condition and needs of JD #1 and WD #2. There will be a meeting on March 7, 2024 to address concerns on JD #1. The main concern on WD #2 is the need for brushwacking that will take place this spring/summer.

Joey McGregor joined the meeting at approximately 10:01 a.m. (virtual)

Dillon Nelson, from HDR Engineering, discussed the City of Newfolden Flood Prevention Project bids. They were audited and the bonds were verified. Davidson Construction was provided with a Notice of Award for the project. Sometime after Davidson returns the Notice of Award, a Notice to proceed will be issued.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to approve the cost estimate from Red Lake Electric Cooperative to relocate utility lines for the City of Newfolden Flood Prevention Project totaling \$11,661.00. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Jared Sands to approve the cost estimate from Wikstrom Telephone Company to relocate lines for the City of Newfolden Flood Prevention Project totaling \$58,401.35. Motion unanimously carried.

Engineering Technician Tyler Larson discussed recognition for participants in the rainfall recording program that the Watershed District has that have been reporting for an extended amount of time. Larson provided a list of 6 participants who have been reporting for 26-48 years.

Nate Dalager joined the meeting at approximately 10:40 a.m.
Dillon Nelson left the meeting at approximately 10:40 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Lein Schiller to purchase plaques, and gift cards for participants in the rainfall reporting program with 26-48 years of service as well as publish a thank you from the District in local newspapers. Motion unanimously carried.

Attorney Jeff Hane and Kaitlyn Bjornson provided an update on the lawsuit against the District that was appealed subsequent to the Court's decision.

APPROVED

Manager Bill Petersen provided a petition for assistance he received from the Middle River Sportsman's Club asking for the District's assistance in applying for Grant funding for the Middle River Enhancement Project.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to authorize District staff to assist the Middle River Sportsman's Club in applying for funds for the Middle River Enhancement Project not to exceed \$2,500 in staff time. Motion unanimously carried.

Danny Omdahl stated the City of Warren is willing to let the District use their meeting room for Board Meetings, if the Board desired to use a different meeting location as opposed to an addition to the District Office. He will obtain an hourly rate quote from the City.

The following meetings were announced:

1. Legislative Breakfast March 6 – 8th in St. Paul, MN.
2. JD #1 / JD #75 Landowners meeting March 7, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Alvarado Community Center.
3. MSTRWD Board of Managers Meeting Monday, March 18, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. at the District Office in Warren, MN.
4. FDRWG 25th Annual Joint Conference March 19-20, 2024 in Moorhead, MN.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Jared Sands to adjourn the Meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:11 a.m.

Katrina Haugen
Recording Secretary

Brad Blawat
Secretary