

April 22, 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. **April 22, 2024**

The Meeting was called to order by President Bill Petersen, Managers Bill Petersen, Brad Blawat, Keith Szczepanski, Robert Kovar, Joey McGregor and Lein Schiller were present. Mori Maher, Kyle Schlomann, Katrina Haugen, Danny Omdahl, Dean Danielski, Gunnar Bowman, Lyle Braff, Ben Kleinwachter, Doni Loeslie, Don Loeslie, Keaton Laymon, David Nelson, Russell Miller, Zachary Beaudry and Kevin Klipping were also present. Kaitlyn Bjornson and Wayne Pietruszewski were in attendance virtually.

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

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor to approve the Meeting Minutes from the April 1, 2024 Board of Managers Meeting as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Jared Sands and Tony Nordby joined the meeting at approximately 8:32 a.m.

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

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to auto pay Auto Owner's invoices as they come in to take advantage of the paid in full discounted rates. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Lein Schiller, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to pay the following check; Payroll check #7095-7104 in the amount of \$20,411.25; from Administrative funds check #19920-19937 in the amount of \$31,626.57 including ACH withdrawals and service fees; from Project Funds Checks #3503-3511 in the amount of \$441,368.35; and from Ditch funds checks #3688-3692 in the amount of \$54,524.16. Motion unanimously carried.

Guest Kevin Klipping asked for update on District assisting him in pursuing a buyout for his property along the Red River and the Ag Levee south of Oslo. Mr. Klipping was under the assumption that the MSTRWD was going to start a buyout application to submit to the Red River Watershed Management Board, RRWMB.

Administrator Maher stated that in 2021 there was a verbal discussion about the buy out process between him and a relative of Mr. Klipping through which Maher stated that buy out of such property is out of the Watershed District Scope of work, but will try to help if there is any avenue. However, there has been no formal request received at the office.

President Petersen stated that the Watershed District doesn't have funding or budget build up for property buyouts. He also mentioned that Mr. Klipping's request for a buyout was discussed at the April 16, 2024 RRWMB meeting. At this time they do not have funding for a buyout. He agreed for the District to become a Local Government Unit to submit an application on Mr. Klipping's behalf if that is what Mr. Klipping is looking for. The RRWMB recommendation is for Mr. Klipping to contact County Emergency Management on what steps need to be taken to assist him. It was the consensus of the Board that District staff assist Mr. Klipping in finding the appropriate program to apply to and filling out the application to get the process started.

Kevin Klipping left at approximately 8:54 a.m. Neil Johnson joined the meeting at approximately 8:59 a.m.

Guest Christian Erickson was to address the Board regarding poor drainage and denied permits because of downstream landowners not maintaining a natural waterway on their property. He couldn't attend the meeting, instead sent a note via email to Danny Omdahl that was shared with the Board.

Keaton Laymon and Danny Omdahl spoke regarding the drainage issues. The downstream landowners

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don't want to maintain their drainage, and is the apparent reason they don't want the tiled water going through their property. Mr. Erickson is asking for the Board to use section "Surface Drainage and Flood Mitigation" from the 2021 Amended Rules, to Order the landowner to perform maintenance of removing the vegetation and sediment that is limiting the water's ability to drain properly.

Mr. Laymon said he and Christian offered to clean the N-S 210th Ave NW ditch on the neighbor's land, at no charge, so water wouldn't have to drain through the apparently blocked waterway but were refused. The Board asked Attorney Bjornson to research the District's options on this matter. Ms. Bjornson will report results back to the District Administrator.

Keaton Laymon left the meeting at approximately 9:12 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to deny the following After the Fact Permits due to insufficient spillways in critical areas to protect the road.

Permit (23-119) NELD Johnson Farms to modify the JD #16 spoil shape and location in the NE4 Sec 32, the NW4 Sec 33 Warrenton & NE4 Sec 36 Vega to meet the NRCS approved alternate Practices.

Permit (23-121) Stacy Loeslie to modify the JD #16 spoil shape and location in the NW4 Sec 32 Warrenton Twp to meet the NRCS Approved Alternate Practices.

Motion carried, with Mr. Jared Sands abstaining.

Don Loeslie, Doni Loeslie, Russell Miller, David Nelson, Wayne Pietruszewski (virtual), and Zach Beaudry left the meeting at approximately 10:11 a.m.

Neil Johnson left the meeting at approximately 10:15 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Jared Sands to approve the following permit:

Permit (24-016) Johnson Family Farms to install 149 acres of drain tile, with a ¼" D.C in the Main, having a ¼" and 1/8" Drainage Coefficient in the laterals; with 20' 40' and 80' spacing using a 7.5 HP (700 GPM) pump to outlet into JD #20 Br. B via an 8" PVC into 15" DW riser through spoil bank in the NE4 of Section 10 Vega Township.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to approve the following Permit:

Permit (24-018) Nelson Park Township to remove an existing 24" CL culvert under 220th Ave NW on the S.L of 24 Nelson Park and 19 Lincoln Township. The culvert is 700' south of JD #19. To install a new 24" culvert diagonally NW into JD #19 in the NE4 of Section 24 Nelson Park with the elevation to be determined by Watershed District staff.

Motion unanimously carried.

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

Permit (24-023) Hoff Farms to install 77 acres of field drain tile in the W2 NE4 of Section 21 Oak Park Twp with 40' spacing; ¼" Drainage Coefficient; 3-hp (361 GPM) pump in an existing pump tank from Permit (16-085).

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Motion unanimously carried.

Gunnar Bowman left the meeting at approximately 10:20 a.m.

The following Administratively approved Permits were reviewed:

Permit (24-017) Jacob Anderson to install a new field crossing in the south 250th St NW ditch, with a culvert TBD (staff stated an 18"), in the NE NW of Section 23 McCrea Twp.

Permit (24-019) Harlan Boman remove a failing 24" field crossing culvert and replace it with a 24' culvert at the same location and grade in the south 250th ditch, in the NW4 of Section 24 Vega Township.

Permit (24-020) Anderson farms to install 5- 18" flapgates and 2- 24" flapgates on culverts permitted by Permit 23-092, outletting into SD #90 Lateral 5 in the E2 NW4 and E2 NE4 of Section 3 Lincoln Twp.

Permit 24-022 Aaron Stoltman to install a new field access crossing in the West CSAH #33 ditch in the NE SE Section 24 Middle River with an 18" x 60' CSP.

Ben Kleinwachter and Lyle Braff asked for an update on Nelson Slough and why there has been no communication. Administrator Maher and Tony Nordby stated that there is very little progress as the O&M plan and JPA that was reviewed by the Joint Ditch Authority, JDA, and townships has been with the DNR for their review for almost 8 month now.

Dillon Nelson from HDR Engineering asked for the Board to approve and sign the Proposal for "The City of Newfolden Flood Prevention Project" Phase I LOMR submittal and Phase II Impoundment Construction Services that was provided to the Board for review at the April 1, 2024, meeting.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to accept the Proposal for the City of Newfolden Flood Prevention Project Phase 1 LOMR submittal and Phase II Impoundment Construction Services and authorize President Bill Petersen to sign it. Motion unanimously carried.

Ben Kleinwachter and Lyle Braff left the meeting at approximately 10:25 a.m.

Administrator Maher shared the latest drawing for the District office renovation and addition. Maher was asked to get a cost estimate to include the optional room that was in the drawing.

Administrative Assistant Haugen asked for the Board to authorize the contract renewal from Cintas for the rug service.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Lein Schiller to renew the contract with Cintas. Motion unanimously carried.

The following meeting was announced:

1. MSTRWD Regular Board of Managers meeting Monday, May 6, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. at the District Office in Warren, MN.

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

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The Meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:24 a.m.

Katrina Haugen
Recording Secretary

Brad Blawat
Secretary