

February 18, 2025 (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 18, 2025**

The Meeting was called to order by Secretary Brad Blawat, Managers Brad Blawat, Lein Schiller, Keith Szczepanski, Jared Sands and Joey McGregor were present. Danny Omdahl, Kyle Schlomann, Tyler Larson Katrina Haugen, and Tony Nordby were also in attendance. Kaitlyn Bjornson was in attendance virtual.

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

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Lein Schiller to approve the Minutes of the February 18, 2025 Meeting as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

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

Dillon Nelson joined the meeting at approximately 8:37 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Jared Sands to pay the following bills: Payroll 7230-7245 in the amount of \$32,980.84; from Administrative Funds checks #20060-20076 in the amount of \$31,628.16 including ACH withdrawals and service fees; from Project Funds checks #3603-3612 in the amount of \$182,409.29; from RRWMB funds check # 230 in the amount of \$30,386.90; From Ditch Funds check # 3765 in the amount of \$1,667.56. Motion unanimously carried

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

Permit 25-004 Tracy Anderson to install 3 additional laterals to an existing subsurface drain tile system (19-002) in the N2 NW4 of Section 10 McCrea Township, not to drain additional acres or change the original design drainage coefficient.

Motion unanimously carried.

Engineer Technician Schlomann presented a draft proposal for the Benefits and Benefited Area of WD #8, prepared in consultation with Houston Engineering. There was further discussion on potential Damages for grass strip establishment, the upstream channel reach that has been filled-in, access for inspection and maintenance, the existing culvert scheme, and how to proceed.

Dillon Nelson left the meeting at approximately 9:22 a.m. (Virtual)

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski, for the Staff to hold an information meeting with the affected landowners within the proposed WD #8 Benefited Area on Monday March 17, 2025, the time TBD.

Motion unanimously carried.

Engineer Tony Nordby presented his grade review and analysis on the Main Branch of JD #14, between the confluence with Branch E and the Lilac Ridge Road. There was further discussion over Houston Engineering's proposed channel bottom grade for future maintenance and whether the proposed grade would qualify as an improvement. The Board tabled the matter pending legal review from Attorney Jeff Hane and further hydraulic analysis from Houston Engineering.

APPROVED

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Jared Sands to authorize Secretary Brad Blawat to sign the Purchase agreement with Agassiz Wild Rice LLC for wetland credits for the Swift Coulee Channel Restoration Project. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Lein Schiller to authorize President Bill Petersen, and Secretary Brad Blawat to sign the Easement with the Fulk's family for permanent and temporary easements on with Swift Coulee Channel Restoration Project. Motion unanimously carried.

There was discussion on updating the 2005 Data Retention schedule and adding Electronic Means as a storage medium to as many document classifications as possible.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to update the Data Retention schedule and submit it for approval to the State Records Disposition Panel. Motion unanimously carried.

There was discussion of 3 possible, temporary office locations available for lease while the office undergoes construction for the renovation and addition project. Among the options, 2 locations were in Warren, one location was in Alvarado.

Motion by Mr. Jared Sands, seconded by Mr. Lein Schiller to accept a rental proposal from InVision Ag for 1,208 sq ft of space for \$1,350 per month during office renovations. Motion unanimously carried.

Jared Sands left the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Tony Nordby reported that Step 3 of Nelson Slough was presented to the Red River Watershed Management Board during their last meeting and was accepted.

Kaitlyn Bjornson of Brink Lawyers provided an update on the Zutz Et al. vs Erickson & MSTRWD lawsuit.

Administrative Assistant Haugen reported that the 2024 Audit by Brady Martz the week of Feb 24<sup>th</sup>.

The Staff provided an update of their ongoing review of the District's Rules for the purpose of amending them.

The following meetings were announced:

1. MSTRWD Regular Board of Managers Meeting Monday, March 3, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. at the District Office in Warren, MN.
2. RRWMB Legislative meeting Tuesday, February 18, 2025 9:00 a.m. in St. Paul MN.
3. MSTRWD Regular Board of Managers meeting Monday, March 17, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. at the District Office in Warren, MN.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to adjourn the meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

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Katrina Haugen  
Recording Secretary

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Brad Blawat  
Secretary