

March 17, 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. March 17, 2025**

The Meeting was called to order by President Bill Petersen, Managers Bill Petersen, Robert Kovar, Brad Blawat, Lein Schiller, Keith Szczepanski, Jared Sands and Joey McGregor were present. Mori Maher, Kyle Schlomann, Tyler Larson Katrina Haugen, Jim Duckstad, Jeremy Misselhorn, Gunnar Bowman, Tony Nordby and Jeff Hane were also in attendance.

Motion by Mr. Lein Schiller, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar, to approve the agenda with the addition of Redetermination of Benefits as item #1 under other. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to approve the Minutes of the March 3, 2025, Meeting as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

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

Motion by Mr. Lein Schiller, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to pay the following bills: Payroll checks #7246-7255 in the amount of \$21,448.53; from Administrative funds checks #20077-20090 in the amount of \$24,569.41 including ACH Withdrawals; From Project funds checks #3614-3627 in the amount of \$1,004,310.98, From RRWMB funds check #231 in the amount of \$483.34; and from Ditch funds check #3767-3768 in the amount of \$5,563.22. Motion unanimously carried.

Jeremy Misselhorn was in attendance to discuss the 6" gap and the Right of Way conditions for the District's drain tile Permits. A concern Mr. Misselhorn raised regarding permit 24-082. Misselhorn asked if the Right of Way information could be on the Permits so it's easier for contractors to determine when doing installations. Misselhorn asked if he could be included in the ongoing internal Rules' discussion.

Dillon Nelson joined the Meeting at approximately 8:42 a.m., (virtual).

The following Permit was Administratively approved:

Permit 25-006 Tony Pulkrabek to remove an existing, failed 24" RCP field crossing culvert on the West line of the SW4 of Section 17 Angus Township and to install a new 24" crossing culvert at the same location and elevation.

Discussion was held on the WD #8 landowner meeting that will be held at 3:00 p.m. in Alvarado at the Community center this afternoon. There was a discussion on landowner options, in case they are not in favor of the information that will be presented this afternoon.

The Regular Board Meeting was recessed at 9:31 a.m. to review and accept bids for the Swift Coulee Channel Restoration Project.

The Final Hearing for the Swift Coulee Channel Restoration Project was reconvened at 9:32 a.m. Board President Bill Petersen opened the Swift Coulee Channel Restoration Project Hearing.

The following bids were received for the Swift Coulee Channel Restoration Project:

Engineer's Estimate	\$3,033,953.00
MNL	\$2,990,926.25
Midwest Amphibious	\$4,345,869.73
R.J Zavoral & Sons	\$2,696,976.00

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Gladen Construction	\$2,234,228.50
Davidson Construction	\$2,972,652.75

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to approve the bid submitted by Gladen Construction pending the Watershed District's attorney verifying the Contractor's Bond and authorizing Administrator Maher to issue Notice to Proceed and enter into a contract with Gladen Construction. Motion unanimously carried.

The Final Hearing was recessed at 9:42 a.m., for Phase 2 of the Swift Coulee Channel Restoration Project.

The Regular Board Meeting was reconvened at 9:43 a.m.

The following bids were received regarding multiple rental lands that the District has available:

<b>AGV</b>	
115 Acres of Dike and Ditch Hay Land Comstock Strip, McCrea Strip, Brislet and Helgeland Twp	
Tony Hamrick	\$7,475
David Erlenmeyer	\$6,400

<b>PL-566</b>	
44 Acres Farm Land Section 14 Comstock Township	
Nathan Wozniak	\$31,500
Seth McGregor	\$30,800
Bob Wesolowski	\$29,550

<b>PL-566</b>	
26.8 Acres Hay Land Section 1 Boxville Township	
David Erlenmeyer	\$5,360
Tony Hamrick	\$2,500

<b>March Property</b>
133.5 Acres Farm Land Section 11 & 14 Sandsville Township

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John Copp	\$127,492.50
Nathan Wozniak	\$113,000.00
Colin McGregor	\$100,125.50
Christopher Miller	\$90,000

<b>Brandt Angus Coulee</b>	
90 Acres of Farm Land Section 19 Brandt Twp	
John Copp	\$81,451
Josh Krueger	\$80,550
Jeff Steer	\$60,875
Colin McGregor	\$58,950

Motion by Mr. Jared Sands, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to accept the highest bid for each of the properties. Motion unanimously carried.

Tyler Larson provided some information on low spots in the levy on the North side of the March property. The District's farmland renter has expressed concerns as well. There was also discussion on the spoil bank height of SD #5.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to repair the low spots of the spoilbank levee on the north side of the March property using March Property funds. Motion unanimously carried.

A discussion was held regarding what could be done regarding SD #5 as it does not have a Benefited Area and it is not collecting Ditch levy funds.

Administrator Maher provided information on Phase 2 of Swift Coulee. In 2023, the Board of Managers agreed to split the Project into 3 Phases. Maher is asking if he can combine Phase 2 and 3 into one final Phase.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski, to proceed with a 2-Phase approach for the Swift coulee Channel Restoration Project instead of the previous 3-Phase approach. Motion unanimously carried.

Administrator Maher provided information on a concept level of an on-channel impoundment project on Swift Coulee at Section 3 McCrea and a potential funding source through BWSR's Water Quality and Storage Program. Maher also informed the Board of a grant application to cover the construction cost of Swift Coulee Phase 2 (without potential impoundment) that it will be submitted to LCCMR later this month. Construction of Phase 2 is planned to start in 2027 contingent on funding approval.

Administrator Maher provided information regarding easements that will be required for the Nelson Slough Project.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Lein Schiller to authorize Administrator Maher to proceed with flowage easements using the summer inundation acres with a starting base line of 85% of estimated market value and approve 10% earnest money payment. Motion unanimously carried.

Administrative Assistant Haugen provided an update on the temporary office move to Alvarado; Brady Martz presenting the 2024 audit; and the pre-construction meeting to be held March 27, 2025.

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Administrator Maher and Dillon Nelson from HDR Engineering provided information on the LOMR process and an additional Change Order for the Newfolden Project for additional riprap.

Motion by Mr. Lein Schiller, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor, to authorize Administrator Maher to sign the Change Order for the additional riprap. Motion unanimously carried.

A discussion was held regarding Redetermination of Benefits and how often they are done and what benefit there would be of doing it more often.

The following meetings were announced:

1. RRWMB 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Conference Tuesday, March 18, 2025 in Moorhead, MN.
2. MSTRWD Regular Board of Managers Meeting Monday, April 7, 2025 at 8:30 a.m., at 190 Marshall Street in Alvarado, MN.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat to adjourn the Meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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Katrina Haugen  
Recording Secretary

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Brad Blawat  
Secretary