October 19, 2026 (a)

APPROVED (As corrected 11-2-26)
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE MIDDLE-SNAKE-TAMARAC RIVERS WATERSHED DISTRICT HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE IN WARREN

8:30 a.m. **October 19, 2026**

The Meeting was called to order by President Bill Petersen, Managers Bill Petersen, Brad Blawat, Lein Schiller, Joey McGregor, Robert Kovar Jared Sands and Keith Szczepanski were present. Mori Maher, Kyle Schlomann, Tyler Larson, Robert Adam, and Katrina Haugen were also present. Jeff Hane, Cole Johnston, and Michael Miller were in attendance using Microsoft Teams.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Keith Szczepanski to approve the agenda as amended to add Klipping Deed Restriction as Item #4 under Managers. Motion unanimously carried

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat, to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2026, meeting as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

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

The Corrected August Treasurers Report was reviewed and filed for the Auditor

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

Pay Request #4 for Spruce Valley Corporation was presented for approval in the amount of $730,224.^32.

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to accept Pay Request #4 from Spruce Valley and authorize Mr. Bill Petersen to sign it. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Lein Schiller to pay the following checks: Payroll Checks 7471-7483 in the amount of $24,314.06; From Administrative Funds checks 20418-20427 in the amount of $25,785.66 including ACH withdrawals; From Project funds checks 3823-3831 in the amount of $817,334.21; Debit card transactions in the amount of $3,500.69; From Ditch funds checks 3883-3886 in the amount of $57,591.36. Motion unanimously carried

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Jared Sands to approve the following permit with up to a 24" culvert or equivalent:

> Permit 26-038 Joey McGregor to install 2 new field crossings with 24" culverts in the NW4 of Section 34 Sandsville Township.

Motion carried with Mr. Joey McGregor abstaining

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to approve the following permit with the contractor coordination with District staff to install the lift station out of the JD #75 RoW and include the gap design.

> Permit 26-043 Damon Stroble to amend drain tile permit 20-095, to remove the in-place 15" dual wall, gravity outlet into the branch of JD #75 (~Sta 111+00) and to install a new lift station with a 15-hp (1226 gpm) VFD pump near the same location in the SW4 NE4 of Section 10 Tabor Township.

Motion unanimously carried.

Dillon Nelson joined the meeting at approximately 8:54 a.m.

APPROVED

Motion by Mr. Joey McGregor, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to table the following permit to collect further information and design:

> Permit 26-044 Adam Lockstad requesting that the district install a new side inlet culvert through the North spoil bank of the Newfolden Flood Prevention Project inlet channel (~Sta 337+07) and to grade a new field ditch in the SW SE of Section 27 New Main Township to drain water to the new culvert.

Motion unanimously carried.

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

> Permit 26-045 Cedar Township 1) to remove an existing, plugged and failed 15" CMP centerline culvert through 180th Ave NE, on the section line common to the SE NE of Section 20 and the SW NW of Section 21 Cedar Township. 2) To install a new 18" culvert through an existing dry crossing on the East side of 180th Ave NE in the vicinity of the tailed township road centerline culvert in the SW NW of section 21 cedar Township.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Jared Sands, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar to approve the following permit:

> Permit 26-046 Stroble Farms to install 159 acres of field pattern tile in the SW4 of Section 2 Vega Township with a ¼" drainage coefficient; 40' tile spacings; a 7.5-hp (750 gpm) VFD pump to outlet to the East roadside ditch along 410th ave NW.

Motion unanimously carried.

The following Administratively Approved Permits were reviewed:

> Permit 26-039 Joey McGregor to install a new field crossing with 24" culvert off CSAH #14 in the SE4 of Section 5 Comstock Township.
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> Permit 26-040 Joey McGregor to install a new field crossing with 24" culvert off 170th St NW in the N2 NW4 of Section 36 Sandsville Township.
>
> Permit 26-041 Chris Rux to install a new field access crossing with a 18" culvert in the township road ditch along the South side of 280th ST NW, in the NW4 of Section 5 Excel Townships.
>
> Permit 26-042 Phillip Steffan to extend an existing crossing and 18" culvert in the NE4 of Section 29 in Vega Township along 430th Ave NW
>
> Permit 26-047 Joel Osowski to remove an existing 18" field crossing culvert and replace it with a longer 18" culvert at the same elevation off 230th St NW in the NW4 of Section 35 Oak Park Township
>
> Permit 26-049 Zutz Farms to install a new crossing with a 24" culvert in the North highway ditch alongside Marshall CSAH #4 in the SW4 SE4 of Section 3 Foldahl Township.

Motion by Mr. Keith Szczepanski, seconded by Mr. Jared Sands to authorize Mr. Bill Petersen and Mr. Brad Blawat to sign the viewers Oath for the Redetermination of Benefits on CD #43, CD# 44, JD #75 and JD #25-2.

Motion unanimously carried.

APPROVED

Engineering Technician Tyler Larson provided information on side water inlet culverts along JD #1 that need attention. Larson asked the Board about authorizing the replacement for several failed culverts in Sections 19, 20 and 24 Sandsville Township. Larson stated that the culverts were installed as part of a 1967 repair project, and since that time it appears drainage patterns have changed enough that some culverts are now oversized. Larson speculated that a couple culverts could be replaced with smaller culverts and others could be eliminated entirely. Following discussion, it was consensus of the Board to have staff work with the landowners on determining which culverts are necessary and to report back with a replacement plan at a future meeting

Engineering Technician Kyle Schlomann discussed culverts on JD #21 that appear to be above the intended designed grade that the ditch was cleaned according to the 1960 road plan. As the culverts were placed after March 25, 1947 by the drainage authority they are the responsibility of the drainage system. The board asked staff to gather more information on the recommended culvert sizes for the drainage area and provide that information before any action is taken.

A Recommendation letter from H2Overviewers was provided to the board with recommendations on what systems in the district could benefit from a Redetermination of Benefits. Administrator Maher also presented additional information on the current financial needs in relation to the amount of Levy funds that can be collected. The Board managers will review ditches that are most familiar with the staff to vet the H2Overwiers' list further.

Motion by Mr. Jared Sands, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor to order Redetermination of Benefits on JD #1 with the following findings:

1) The benefits or damages of record determined in a drainage proceeding do not reflect reasonable present-day land values
2) There appears to be inequities within the current benefited areas

Motion unanimously carried.

Jared Sands left the meeting at approximately 10:20 a.m.

Tony Nordby of Houston Engineering and Administrator Maher provided an update on the construction of Nelson slough in addition to a financial update.

Administrator Maher is continuing to meet with landowners for Swift Coulee Phase II. Due to the ongoing harvest, some landowners have requested to meet after it has wrapped up.

Administrator Maher and Dillon Nelson from HDR Engineering provided the final Letter of Map Revision for the Newfolden Flood Prevention Project removing the City of Newfolden from FEMA's Flood plane.

Administrator Maher stated that he would be attending a DNR / LSOHC meeting in Sauk Rapids regarding Stream Restoration process Improvement next week.

The Advisory Committee invitee list was provided to the board. It was the consensus of the board to have staff send letters out to everyone listed.

Administrative Assistant Katrina Haugen provided information about an alternate rug service in Argyle that the District could use. Currently the district is using Cintas for ~$160 per month, the quote Haugen received from Northland Mat Co was ~$40 per month.

APPROVED

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Lein Schiller to start using Northland Mat Co for rug services for the District Office. Motion unanimously carried.

Technician Larson provided the board with a resolution from Boxville Township regarding the road that they are looking to pave along the Diversion Ditch. Larson reached out to NRCS and the Districts Attorney Jeff Hane. Both parties were ok with the contract language and works as long as the road stayed at the same elevation.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor to authorize Mr. Bill Petersen and Mr. Brad Blawat to sign the resolution. Motion unanimously carried.

Administrator Maher provided a Deed Restriction document for the board to review and sign for the former Klipping property that is required to close out the project in the FEMA portal.

Motion by Mr. Keith Szczepanski, seconded by Mr. Joey McGregor to authorize Mr. Bill Petersen and Mr. Brad Blawat to sign the Deed Restriction on the former Klipping Property. Motion unanimously carried.

Attorney Jeff Hane from Brink Lawyers introduced Cole Johnston as a new addition to their law firm.

Discussion was held regarding staff attendance at BWSR Academy October 20-22 at Craguns Resort and the MN Watershed annual conference at Gull Lake December 1-4.

The following meetings were announced:

1. RRWMB Regular Meeting Tuesday, October 20, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in Ada MN
2. MSTRWD Board of Managers Meeting Monday, November 2, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. at the District Office in Warren, MN.

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

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Katrina Haugen
Recording Secretary

Brad Blawat
Secretary