

APPROVED (May 6, 2013)
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE
MIDDLE- SNAKE-TAMARAC RIVERS WATERSHED DISTRICT
HELD AT 453 NORTH MCKINLEY STREET, WARREN, MN
4:00 P.M. APRIL 15, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Ben Kleinwachter. Managers Doug Sorenson, Marvin Hedlund, John W Nelson, Alvin Nybladh, David Bakke and Ben Kleinwachter were present. Manager Roger Hille was not present. Nick Drees, Ron Adrian, Danny Omdahl, Connie Kujawa, Rolland Miller, Heidi Hughes, Wallace Diedrich, Jeff Hane and Tony Nordby were also present.

Wallace Diedrich recorded the meeting with one recorder.

By unanimous consent the agenda was accepted, as presented.

Motion by Mr. Marvin Hedlund, seconded by Mr. Doug Sorenson that the minutes of the April 1, 2013 meeting be approved, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

The financial report was reviewed and filed for audit purposes.

Motion by Mr. Alvin Nybladh, seconded by Mr. Marvin Hedlund that the following bills be paid: from the Administrative funds: that payroll checks numbered 5477 thru 5487 inclusive for a total of \$14,633.14; that checks numbered 15719-15749 inclusive, including the service charge and safe deposit box rent for a total of \$20,600.63; from the Project funds that checks numbered 2243 through 2252 and check 2253 inclusive for a total of \$42,465.50; and from the Ditch funds that checks numbered 2636 through 2637 inclusive, for a total of \$11,222.74. Motion unanimously carried.

The following permits were unanimously approved:

1. Permit (13-007) Henry Weiland (to install 2 Wetland Reserve Program field drain plugs, SE SW, Sec 20, Numedal Twp) (Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson)
2. Permit (13-008) MN DOT (to install culvert liners in 2-48", 2-36" & 6-24" centerline culverts, MN Trunk Hwy #59, with the permit to expire in 4 yrs. (Motion Mr. John W Nelson, seconded by Mr. Alvin Nybladh)

Communications were reviewed concerning the Great Northern Transmission open houses scheduled; the MN Department of Agriculture concerning BMP practices; and from FEMA concerning a Resilience Meeting for Polk County, scheduled for April 30th, 2013 in Crookston, Minnesota.

Motion by Mr. Marvin Hedlund, seconded by Mr. David Bakke that the following Finding of Fact and Order regarding the Redetermination of Benefits of Judicial Ditch #14 be adopted:

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WHEREAS, the Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District, acting as Drainage Authority for Judicial Ditch #14, has been informed that the original benefits or damages determined in Judicial Ditch #14 do not reflect reasonable present day land values and/or the benefitted or damaged areas has changed; and

WHEREAS, after review by the Board of Managers and staff, the Middle-Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District Board of Managers makes the following Findings of Fact and Order:

1. That the original benefits and damages determined in the Judicial Ditch #14 proceedings do not reflect reasonable present day land values.
2. That the benefitted or damaged areas have changed since the original determination.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that a Redetermination of Benefits is to be completed on Judicial Ditch #14, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103E.351. That further Roger Beiswenger, Jerry Bennett, and Rodney Langass are appointed viewers and are requested to prepare a Viewer's Report concerning the Redetermination of Benefits on Judicial Ditch #14, and Ronald J Adrian is appointed as consulting Engineer to provide technical information as required or requested by the Viewers. Motion unanimously carried.

Nick Drees reported that a verbal commitment, with conditions, has been received from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources regarding the works proposed on the Agassiz Valley Water Resources Management Project outlet; and that he has contacted the landowner regarding the District purchasing land for the right of way. John W Nelson and Marvin Hedlund will participate in future meetings with the landowner.

Motion by Mr. Doug Sorenson, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson that the Acting Chairman be authorized to sign the Fee For Service Exchange Agreement with the Agassiz Audubon Sanctuary. Motion unanimously carried.

Heidi Hughes reported on some tours scheduled for the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project; that Bill Blackburn will be conducting the second year bird count for approximately 6 weeks; and that she is attempting to secure native grass seed for the mitigated area of the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project.

Mr. Roger Hille joined the meeting at approximately 5:00 p.m.; Heidi Hughes left the meeting at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Nate Dalager reported that the outlet structures on the Brandt/Angus Coulee Project do not have gear mechanisms in place and that some seeding of the impoundment embankment did not take and will need to be reseeded.

Motion by Mr. Doug Sorenson, seconded by Mr. David Bakke that the District enter into the WRP agreement with the NRCS for the lands in Section 19 of Brandt Township. Motion unanimously carried.

Nick Drees reported:

1. The next Tamarac Project Work Team meeting will be held in Strandquist;

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2. A public meeting for the Grand Marais Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection plan (WRAP) will be held on April 18, 2013, at Cabela's in East Grand Forks

3. That the MPCA has started collecting data on the Snake River Watershed Restoration And Protection Project (WRAP).

Motion by Mr. John W Nelson, seconded by Mr. Ben Kleinwachter that Nick Drees be authorized to sign the grant agreement, with the International Water Institute, to acquire water quality data at selected locations within the District. Motion unanimously carried.

It was announced that the Red River Watershed Management Board meeting will be held on April 16, 2013, at the City Offices in Warren, Minnesota, and the tour of the District projects has been cancelled.

Motion by Mr. Doug Sorenson, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Phased Retirement Option of Nick Drees and the District, contingent upon his retirement application being finalized by PERA. Motion unanimously approved.

Motion by Mr. Roger Hille, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson that Danny Omdahl be appointed the Co-Administrator of the District with the same signatory authorization as the District Administrator and that he be listed as an authorized signatory on the District's bank accounts. Motion unanimously carried.

Doug Sorenson was directed to gather additional information regarding upgrading the District's computer equipment.

Motion by Mr. Roger Hille, seconded by Mr. Alvin Nybladh that Houston Engineering be authorized to maintain the District's website. Motion unanimously carried.

Tony Nordby of Houston Engineering reported on different GPS systems.

Motion by Mr. Roger Hille, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson that the District proceed with the purchase of a GPS system as presented by Houston Engineering. Motion unanimously carried.

Jeff Hane reported that Loren Zutz has appealed the District's Court Order of Judge Remick to the Minnesota Court of Appeals; and the Hearing on the Redetermination of Benefits of Judicial Ditch #25-1 is scheduled for April 23, 2013 at the Marshall County Courthouse.

The next regular meetings were scheduled for May 6, 2013 and May 20, 2013, at 4:00 p.m., at the District office.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 p.m.

Connie Kujawa
Recording Secretary

Marvin Hedlund
Secretary