

April20(a)2020.min

APPROVED (May 4, 2020, as corrected)
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE
MIDDLE-SNAKE-TAMARAC RIVERS WATERSHED DISTRICT
HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL
DUE TO STATE WIDE "STAY-AT-HOME" COVID-19 ORDER
8:30 A.M. April 20, 2020

Chairman, Mr. John W Nelson, called for a roll call of Managers. Managers Bill Petersen, David Bakke, Robert Kovar, Brad Blawat, Roger Mischel and John W Nelson acknowledged their presence. Others attending the conference call were: Tony Nordby, Joel Praska, Tyler Larson, Kyle Schlomann, Connie Kujawa, Jeremy Misselhorn, Dillon Nelson, Nate Dalager and Rolland Miller. Chairman Nelson stated a quorum of the Board is participating and called the meeting to order.

Motion by Mr. Roger Mischel, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat that the agenda be approved, as presented. Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes, and by unanimous vote the Board approved the agenda. Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, with no nay votes.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar the minutes of the April 6, 2020 be approved, as presented. Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes, and by unanimous vote the Board approved the April 6, 2020 Board meeting minutes. Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, with no nay votes.

The financial report was reviewed and filed for audit purposes.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel the following bills be paid: from the Administrative Funds; payroll checks #6462-6471 inclusive for a total of \$16,433.53; checks #18579-18604 inclusive, including the service charge, safe deposit box rent and ACH withdrawal, for a total of \$17,667.61; from the Project Funds: checks numbered 3098-3104 inclusive for a total of \$79,246.23; and from Ditch Funds: checks #3353-3357 inclusive and including the service charge, for a total \$69,384.28. Motion unanimously carried. Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes, and by unanimous vote the Board approved the April 20, 2020 payment of bills. Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, with no nay votes.

Philip Vanyo discussed the flooding issue in Section 4/5 of Northland Township. He stated his farmyard is inundated by water and voiced his concerns with the bridge at section corner 4/5 Northland Township and 32/33 Sandsville Township, stating it is low compared to the upstream and downstream bridges. He also stated Sandsville Township has created a sand berm on the township road to prevent waters from overtopping. Engineer, Tony Nordby gave a review of the hydraulics performed in 2019 on the capacity of Judicial Ditch #75 and the bridge.

Danny Omdahl joined the meeting at approximately 8:50 a.m.

A discussion was held whether something changed to the ditch bottom of Judicial Ditch #75 and what upstream factors could be contributing to the speed of water. Engineer Nordby suggested a review of the JD #75/CD #7 split and see if that split is still relevant today. He also mentioned if the ditch bottom is undercut, the increase of flow would be minimal especially once the ditch

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banks have overflowed. A discussion was held concerning the expired ring dike program. Technician Omdahl said that the Vanyo farmyard was surveyed in 2000 for construction of a ringdike, but that the landowners did not proceed with one. The Board informed Mr. Vanyo that the current Legislative Bill has a funding request for a ring dike program and the Board will look further into options to address the flooding issue.

Philip Vanyo terminated his participation in the conference call at approximately 9:10 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat the following permit be approved:

1. Permit (20-014) to Tony Vansickle to install 150 acres drain tile; ¼" coefficient; 40' spacing; 10 hp (705 GPM) VFD pump; pump location in NW4 of section 35, Middle River Township; NW4, Section 35, Middle River Township.

Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes, and by unanimous vote the Board approved Permit (20-014). Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, with no nay votes.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel the following permit be DENIED, since a new permit application (20-022) has been submitted, changing the outlet.

2. Permit (20-020) of Tony Vansickle to install 180 acres drain tile; ¼" & 3/8" coefficient; 40' & 80' spacing; 15 hp (1,278 GPM) VFD pump; 8" outlet pipe into existing centerline culvert under CR #160; E2 NW4, & NE4, Section 11, Warrenton Township.

Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes and by unanimous vote the Permit (20-020) was DENIED. Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, with no nays.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. David Bakke the following permit be approved with the condition, no pumping can take place until the lands are accepted by Marshall County, into the benefited area of County Ditch #3:

3. Permit (20-022) of Tony Vansickle to install 180 acres drain tile; ¼" & 3/8" coefficient; 40' & 80' spacing; 15 hp (1,278 GPM) VFD pump; outletting into the South ditch of CR #106; E2 NW4, & NE4, Section 11, Warrenton Township.

Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes and by unanimous vote, Permit (20-022) was approved. Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, with no nays.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar, the following permit be DENIED. The Board directed Administrator Praska to inform the applicant of the NRCS side water inlet cost share program and have a discussion on the disturbed grass strip on Polk County Ditch #44:

4. Permit (20-024) Steve Goodwin to repair erosion and washed-out areas along the East spoil bank fill in a low area along PCD #44, Branch 1; W2, Section 29, Angus Township.

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Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes and by unanimous vote the Permit (20-024) was DENIED. Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, with no nays.

The following permits were Administratively approved and reviewed:

5. Permit (20-023) to McCrea Township to replace a 24" RCP centerline culvert with a 24" CSP; under 280th Ave NW, ~ 1700' North of CR #35; section line 23/24, McCrea Township.
6. Permit (20-025) to McCrea Township to replace a 24" centerline culvert with a 24" CSP; under 300th Ave NW; ~1600' North of CSAH #3, section line 15/16, McCrea Township.

Administrator Praska discussed some options to address the flooding issues at section corner 4/5 of Northland Township and 32/33 of Sandsville Township. This could be to lower the spoil or raise the road and spoil on Judicial Ditch #75. The Board stated there are several concerns that will need to be looked at and options will also need to be determined to alleviate the water issues.

Technician Omdahl reported erosion has occurred on the downstream end of Judicial Ditch #25-2, in the SW SW of section 1 and the NW SW of section 12 of Angus Township, and to repair the area, fabric and rip rap would need to be installed. The Board directed Technician Omdahl to discuss the installation of a side inlet pipe with the landowner and the District staff survey the area to determine a plan.

Administrator Praska reported Houston Engineering looked at the functionality of Judicial Ditch #1, in section 19 of Sandsville Township and has determined the existing bridge size, at MN Trunk Highway #220, serves the designed function when the ditch was constructed, however the bridges upstream and downstream have since been up-sized. Administrator Praska stated he has had conversations with the Minnesota Department of Transportation in regards to the bridge and the Minnesota Department of Transportation is not considering replacing it. MN DOT has stated they would assist the District with the permitting process should the District wish to pursue replacing the bridge or some other option. Administrator Praska also stated MN DOT could potentially financially fund a portion of the cost to replace the bridge, on a pro-rated basis based on the remaining service life of the bridge. This matter will be addressed on a future agenda.

Administrator Praska reported he discussed, with Steve Nelson, the additional right-of-way that would be needed to repair the slough along Judicial Ditch #1 south slope, in section 20 of Higdrem Township. He stated Mr. Nelson has concerns that since some of the right-of-way would be encroaching on his drain tile there could be future maintenance issues and is requesting the District pay for future expenses in the event the tile layout would need to be changed. In addition, Mr. Nelson received an estimate from Misselhorn Tiling, in the amount of \$21,606.00 to move the tile from the proposed easement area. After discussion, the Board directed Engineer Nordby, to re-draw the proposed plans using a 3:1 slope on the backslope and once the new plan is completed, Administrator Praska is directed to convey the figures to Mr. Nelson.

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Administrator Praska reported the District, previously approved, \$1,250.00 per acre, to the landowners in section 33 and 34 of New Maine Township, for the footprint of the proposed Newfolden Project. He stated Norman Lindemoen has counteroffered and is requesting \$1,500.00 per acre. Administrator Praska stated if the Board agrees to the counteroffer, the \$1,500.00 per acre price would be extended to David Lokstad, Gerald and Barry Nelson, and the Strange Family. The Board reviewed and discussed current land sales in the area and determined it was a fair counteroffer.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel the District offer \$1,500.00 per acre to Norman Lindemoen, David Lokstad, Gerald and Barry Nelson and the Strange Family for easements in section 33 and 34 of New Maine Township, for the Newfolden Project, rescinding the previous amount of \$1,250.00 per acre. Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes and by unanimous vote, \$1,500.00 per acre, was approved. Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, with no nays.

Engineer, Tony Nordby, reported the comment period on the Judicial Ditch #19 Draft Alternative Screening Document expired March 11, 2020 and no comments were received. He stated he contacted the Army Corps of Engineers to see if they reviewed the draft screening document and the Army Corps would like the concurrent points broke out into 2 and 3 points. He also reported he contacted Terracon from Grand Forks to get an estimate of cost to perform soil borings along the Nelson Slough dike. Terracon determined the cost to be \$19,000.00.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. David Bakke that Engineer Tony Nordby, on behalf of the District, be authorized to enter into a contract with Terracon of Grand Forks, North Dakota, to perform soil borings along the Nelson Slough, at a cost of \$19,000.00. Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes and by unanimous vote, the motion passed, with Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, and no nays.

Engineer, Nordby, also reported Houston Engineering will begin surveying the Nelson Slough this week and they have started on addressing wetland delineation. Technician Omdahl stated the District staff can perform the survey work. The Board agreed District staff perform the survey.

Administrator Praska reported he solicited for quotes from 14 contractors for the works on State Ditch #3 to replace the failed inlet culverts along Section 34 of Parker Township and Section 4 of Bloomer Township. He stated he received 5 sealed quotes and he will open them at this time. The following quotes were received:

Misselhorn Tiling	\$21,858.04
Anderson Excavating	\$23,902.88
Lunke Inc.	\$20,764.04
Kraulik Excavating	\$30,100.00
Gowan Construction	\$36,106.00

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Bill Petersen, that the District award the side inlet repair project on State Ditch #3, in section 34 of Parker Township and Section 4 of Bloomer Township, to the lower bidder, based upon the audited quote, and said low bidder provides the required Certificates of Insurance; and the Chairman be authorized to execute the contract.

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Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes and by unanimous vote, the motion passed, with Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, and no nays.

Manager, Mr. Roger Mischel, stated the Red River Watershed Management Board meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2020 and will be held via electronic means.

Chairman Nelson stated, due to Covid-19 pandemic, the following meetings may be held via conference call, due to Governor Walz's stay-at home order:

The following meetings were announced:

May 4, 2020-Regular Meeting-8:30 a.m., District Office
May 18, 2020-Regular Meeting-8:30 a.m., District Office

Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar the meeting be adjourned. Chairman Nelson called for a roll call of votes, and by unanimous vote the Board approved the adjournment. Managers Nelson, Petersen, Mischel, Kovar, Blawat and Bakke voted yea, with no nay votes.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:26 a.m.

Connie Kujawa
Recording Secretary

Roger Mischel
Secretary