

APPROVED (as corrected Dec 16, 2019)
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE
MIDDLE-SNAKE-TAMARAC RIVERS WATERSHED DISTRICT
HELD AT 453 NORTH MCKINLEY STREET, WARREN, MN
8:30 A.M. December 2, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President John W Nelson. Managers John W Nelson, Bill Petersen, Robert Kovar, David Bakke, Brad Blawat and Roger Mischel were present. Tony Nordby, Joel Praska, Tyler Larson, Kyle Schlomann, Jim Duckstad, Connie Kujawa and Rolland Miller were also present.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. David Bakke that the agenda be approved, as amended, to include Judicial Ditch #75. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar that the minutes of the November 18, 2019 meeting be approved, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. David Bakke, that Administrative Check #18456, payable to Cenex, in the amount of \$673.09 and Ditch Funds Check #3328 to MJUA, in the amount of \$250.00, be paid. Motion unanimously carried.

Administrator Praska reviewed with the Board, the pictures he had taken on the placement of the riprap on the side inlet culverts on Polk County Ditch #175. He stated he articulated to Jerry Pribula, of Pribula Engineering, the Board's concerns about the lack of riprap and its placement, and Jerry informed him that the riprap is within the standards set by the NRCS and any erosion issues will be taken care of in the spring before seeding and additional leveling will also be done in the spring.

Nate Dalager joined the meeting at approximately 8:40 a.m.

Administrator Praska reported he attended the board meeting of the Marshall County SWCD on November 20, 2019 to request funding assistance for the replacement of 3 side inlet culverts on State Ditch #3. He stated if the Marshall County SWCD approves the request to cost share on the replacement of the culverts, they could provide approximately \$17,000.00 in funding assistance. Administrator Praska stated the MC SWCD will make their determination at their December board meeting.

Administrator Praska reported Lunke Inc planned on removing the sediment in the plugged inlet culvert in the NW4 of Section 4 of Bloomer Township, the past week, however, due to the ground being too soft for the equipment, they postponed the work. He stated once the ground is frozen enough to support the equipment, Lunke Inc, will attempt to pressure wash out the sediment. Administrator Praska was directed to keep the landowner, Jeff Beaudry, informed of the progress.

Nate Dalager reported a response has been received from the Canadian Pacific Railroad regarding the meeting that was held in St. Paul, to discuss replacing the culverts or constructing a bridge under the CP railway, in the City of Newfalden. He stated the CPRR fully supports the construction of a bridge, however, they will not contribute financially. Nate, stated, the costs of design and construction would be the responsibility of the District. He also informed the Board,

APPROVED (as corrected December 16, 2019)

that the CPRR would take ownership and the responsibility of maintaining the bridge, if it is constructed. Nate stated based on a preliminary design the cost of a bridge would decrease the total estimated costs of the Newfolden Project. After discussion, the Board directed Nate Dalager and Administrator Praska to work on securing FDR funding, address right-of-way with the landowners on the North side of CR #30, in section 27, of New Maine Township and schedule a Project Team meeting. Nate was also directed to contact the District's legal counsel to draft purchase agreements for the properties in Section 33 of New Maine Township.

Technician Omdahl discussed the historical flooding situation along Judicial Ditch #75, in sections 4 and 5 of Northland Township. He stated, in his opinion, there appears to be several factors besides the low bridge on section line 5-4, that are causing the water overtopping issues. The ditch is shallower here than most of the ditch. The spoilbank height is limited. Also, the ditch's grade flattens from a 0.05% to a 0.025% in section 5. The Board directed Tony Nordby to review the hydraulics of the ditch, further East of Hwy #220, in the spring.

Administrator Praska reported that 4 impoundments are drawn down to a small trickle. A discussion was held on the position of the gates during the winter months. The staff was directed to close the gates to a few inches above the water level after they are drained down.

Tony Nordby stated a Project Team meeting on the Swift Coulee/CD #3 Project, is scheduled for December 10, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at the Bremer Bank in Warren, to discuss alternatives for an impoundment site.

Administrator Praska announced a meeting with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is scheduled for December 3, 2019, in Thief River Falls, to discuss additional alternatives on the operation and maintenance of the Nelson Slough.

The draft 2020 Board meeting schedule was distributed and reviewed.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Bill Petersen the following, 2020 Board Meeting Schedule, be adopted as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

2020 Schedule of Regular Board Meetings			
Board of Managers			
Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District			
Regular Monthly Meetings	Time	Alternate Date	Time
January 6, 2020	8:30 a.m.	January 13, 2020	8:30 a.m.
January 21, 2020	8:30 a.m.	January 22, 2020	8:30 a.m.
February 3, 2020	8:30 a.m.	February 10, 2020	8:30 a.m.
February 18, 2020	8:30 a.m.	February 19, 2020	8:30 a.m.
March 2, 2020	8:30 a.m.	March 9, 2020	8:30 a.m.
March 16, 2020	8:30 a.m.	March 17, 2020	8:30 a.m.
April 6, 2020	8:30 a.m.	April 13, 2020	8:30 a.m.
April 20, 2020	8:30 a.m.	April 21, 2020	8:30 a.m.

APPROVED (as corrected December 16, 2019)

May 4, 2020	8:30 a.m.	May 11, 2020	8:30 a.m.
May 18, 2020	8:30 a.m.	May 19, 2020	8:30 a.m.
June 1, 2020	8:30 a.m.	June 8, 2020	8:30 a.m.
June 15, 2020	8:30 a.m.	June 16, 2020	8:30 a.m.
July 6, 2020	8:30 a.m.	July 13, 2020	8:30 a.m.
July 20, 2019	8:30 a.m.	July 21, 2020	8:30 a.m.
August 3, 2020	8:30 a.m.	August 10, 2020	8:30 a.m.
August 17, 2020	8:30 a.m.	August 18, 2020	8:30 a.m.
September 8, 2020	8:30 a.m.	September 14, 2020	8:30 a.m.
September 21, 2020	8:30 a.m.	September 22, 2020	8:30 a.m.
October 5, 2020	8:30 a.m.	October 13, 2020	8:30 a.m.
October 19, 2020	8:30 a.m.	October 20, 2020	8:30 a.m.
November 2, 2020	8:30 a.m.	November 9, 2020	8:30 a.m.
November 16, 2020	8:30 a.m.	November 17, 2020	8:30 a.m.
December 7, 2020	8:30 a.m.	December 14, 2020	8:30 a.m.
December 21, 2020	8:30 a.m.	December 22, 2020	8:30 a.m.
NOTE: The First Meetings of the Month may be cancelled if there is a lack			
of District business.			

Administrator Praska announced the Personnel Committee will be meeting with the District Staff, at 1:00 p.m., today, at the District office, to review employee compensation and benefits.

Correspondence from the Red River Basin Commission regarding the 37th Red River Land & Water International Summit Conference, scheduled for January 14-20, 2020 in Fargo, North Dakota and from the Red River Watershed Management Board regarding the 2nd Annual Drainage Conference, scheduled for January 27, 2020, was distributed.

The Board reviewed the proposed resolutions that will be presented at the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Annual Meeting, on December 6, 2019.

Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar, the following lands be advertised for rent, with the bids for the total amount and not on a per year basis, for a 3 year term, with the bids due February 27, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., at the District office, with the awarding of the bids to take place at the March 2, 2020, regular board meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

PL-566	Section 2, Boxville Twp	~23.7 Tillable ~8.49 Hayland
PL-566	Section 21, McCrea Twp Section 6, McCrea Strip Twp Section 1, Boxville Twp	~62.3 Hayland
OCSS (PL-566)	Section 15, Comstock Twp	~60 Hayland

APPROVED (as corrected December 16, 2019)

Brandt/Angus Imp	Section 18, 19, Brandt Twp	~38 Hayland
Agassiz Valley	Section 12, Brislet Twp	~70 Hayland

A letter, received from Jessica Olson, thanking the District for allowing her to set up beehives on the District property, was distributed.

Mr. Roger Mischel inquired if Administrator Praska has been in contact with John Rehder regarding the surveying of the line ditch in Section 6 of Tabor Township; inquired if the District staff used Personnel Time for Friday, November 27; and reported the Red River Watershed Management Board has expended all of the Ring Dike funding.

The following meetings were announced:

December 10, 2019-Swift Coulee PT Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Bremer Bank
December 16, 2019-Regular Meeting-8:30 a.m., District Office

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:10 a.m.

Connie Kujawa
Recording Secretary

Roger Mischel
Secretary