

APPROVED (as corrected December 16, 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. DECEMBER 2, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Hille. Managers Marvin Hedlund, Alvin Nybladh, Roger Hille, David Bakke, John W Nelson and Tom Neibauer were present. Manager Ben Kleinwachter was not present. Nick Drees, Connie Kujawa, Ron Sorvig, Heidi Hughes, Tony Nordby, Rolland Miller, Ron Adrian, Danny Omdahl and LeRoy Vonasek were also present.

By unanimous consent, the agenda was accepted, as presented.

Manager Ben Kleinwachter joined the meeting at approximately 4:04 p.m.

Motion by Mr. John W Nelson, seconded by Mr. David Bakke that the minutes of the November 18, 2013 meeting be approved, as corrected. Motion unanimously carried.

The following permits were unanimously approved:

1. Permit (13-117) to BNSF Railroad to remove a 26' two pier bridge (68.1 sq ft) and install a 25" 1 pier (48.8 sq ft) bridge over a natural waterway, SE NE, Section 6, Sinnott Township. (Motion Alvin Nybladh, seconded John W Nelson)
2. Permit (13-119) Vortex Drain Tiling to install 180 acres drain tile, 3/8" coefficient, 60 ft spacing, gravity outlet to CD #40, NE4 and E1/2 of NE4 NW4, Section 29, Holt Township. (Motion David Bakke, seconded Marvin Hedlund)

Correspondence from Marshall Polk Rural Water System reporting the approval of their Wellhead Protection Plan from the Minnesota Department of Health was distributed.

Heidi Hughes reported:

1. That there is approximately \$60,000 in the Birding Trail Account and of that amount \$3,000 has been spent;
2. She attended the Ducks Unlimited meeting;
3. She met with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and a controlled burn is being planned for the Spring of 2014;
4. Meetings are planned with the Crookston and East Grand Forks libraries to initiate a photography program;
5. The Tamarac Project Work Team is scheduled to meet on December 12, 2013, in Strandquist, Minnesota;
6. She attended the Warren Comprehensive Plan meeting;
7. That she attended a meeting conducted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regarding the Clean Water Act.
8. That she is doing the Public Relations works for the Red River Watershed Management Board.

Tony Nordby, of Houston Engineering, presented two options for repairing the sloughing issues along Judicial Ditch #20. He stated that to patch approximately 420' with geogrid, and regravell would cost approximately \$19,000, and to repair ¼ mile of ditch slope, gravel the road and obtain right-of-way would be approximately \$17,500.00.

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Nick Drees was directed to contact the Vega Township Board of Supervisors informing them that the District would fix ¼ mile of sloughing along Judicial Ditch #20, provided the township acquire the right of way, and if the township does not acquire the right of way, the District would spot patch approximately 420' feet of sloughing.

Ron Sorvig left the meeting at approximately 4:45 p.m.

Nick Drees reported:

1. Judicial Ditch #14-waiting for the Viewers Report on the Redetermination of Benefits
2. Judicial Ditch #16-the crossing has been repaired in the E2 NW4 of Section 35, Vega Township.

Nick Drees stated that the grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project is due to expire on December 31, 2013. He stated the landowner, Arlyn Stroble, is requesting \$80,000 for a perpetual easement that would allow the District access to the properties required to clean the outlet (South Branch of the Snake River) of the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project.

Chairman Roger Hille, called for a motion, to purchase a perpetual easement from Arlyn Stroble, in the amount of \$80,000.00. There being no motion, no action was taken.

Nick Drees reported:

1. Brandt/Angus-waiting for word from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources regarding farming the property in preparation for WRP;
2. Tamarac Project Work Team-meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2013, at Strandquist, Minnesota;
3. Agassiz Audubon-Ben Kleinwachter and Doug Sorenson are attending meetings with the Audubon concerning the assets of the Audubon. A spreadsheet depicting the costs and expenses could be available for the next regular meeting.

Tony Nordby, of Houston Engineering, gave a brief update on the progress of Project 60.

It was announced that the Red River Water Management Board meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2013, in Fertile. Ron Osowski will be recognized for his years of service on the Board.

Motion by Mr. Ben Kleinwachter, seconded by Mr. Tom Neibauer that the Managers Reimbursement be modified from \$15.00 to \$25.00 per hour, up to 3 hours, while conducting watershed business and any works over 3 hours be billed at the \$75.00 per day rate, with additional expenses not to exceed the State guidelines. Motion unanimously carried.

Nick Drees reported:

1. That the Advisory Committee meeting, held on November 18, 2013 was poorly attended;
2. That responses have been submitted to the Board of Soil and Water Resources regarding the Redistribution of Managers hearing held November 13, 2013;

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3. That discovery documents have been forwarded to the Law Firm representing the District, in the appeal of the Redetermination of Benefits of Judicial Ditch #25-1;
4. That employee evaluations will be completed by the next regular meeting.

A discussion was held concerning the meeting held in Oslo, Minnesota, on November 21, 2013, to address the flooding issues that plaque Oslo.

A discussion was held concerning the Drainage Database mapping system of Houston Engineering. It was the consensus of the Board to review this matter after the completion of the employee evaluations.

The next regular meetings were scheduled for December 16, 2013, and January 6, 2014, 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