APPROVED (as corrected March 5, 2012)
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.    FEBRUARY 21, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Hille. Managers Alvin Nybladh, John W Nelson, David Bakke, Roger Hille and Ben Kleinwachter were present. Managers Doug Sorenson and Marvin Hedlund were not present. Nick Drees, Connie Kujawa, Danny Omdahl, Jim Stengrim, Wallace Diedrich, Derek Gowan, Brian Jadeke, and Loren Zutz were also present.

Jim Stengrim taped the meeting with one recorder.

Loren Zutz taped the meeting with one recorder.

Motion by Mr. John W Nelson, seconded by Mr. Alvin Nybladh that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson that the minutes of the January 17, 2012 meeting be approved, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Tony Nordby joined the meeting at approximately 4:07 p.m.

The financial report was reviewed and filed for audit purposes.

Motion by Mr. Ben Kleinwachter, seconded by Mr. Alvin Nybladh that the following bills be paid; from the Administrative Funds: that payroll checks numbered 5284 through 5295 inclusive for a total of $14,793.35 and checks numbered 15249 through 15284 inclusive for a total of $27,462.51; from the Project Funds checks numbered 2066 through 2074 inclusive for a total of $27,512.51; and from the Ditch Funds checks numbered 2522 through 2525 inclusive for a total of $189,420.50 be paid. Motion unanimously carried.

Jim Stengrim addressed the Board during the open forum regarding the redetermination of benefits of Judicial Ditch #25-1. Jim Stengrim presented a document which he stated contained signatures of 25% of the benefited landowners along Judicial Ditch #25-1. The document contained seven items condemning the appointment of the Engineer, Legal Council, Viewers and the Board of Managers. The Board received the document and took it under advisement.

Loren Zutz stated he did not wish to be on the agenda and stated he had to leave the meeting. He requested that Mr. Roger Hille attend his recorder in his absence. Nick Drees stated that he would turn the recorder off, but would not take ownership of it.

Loren Zutz left the meeting at approximately 4:24 p.m.

Jim Stengrim left the meeting at approximately 4:27 p.m.
The following permits were unanimously approved:

1. Permit (12-005) to Gowan Farms to install ~133 acres of field drain tile in the SE4 of Section 3 and to install an underground metal casing to drain water South from Section 3 into the NE4 of Section 10; to install a sump pump in the NW corner of the NE4; to install ~38 acres field drain tile in the N2 N2 NE4; and install a 15” culvert under Watershed Ditch #7, all in Oak Park Township.  (Motion John, seconded Alvin)

2. Permit (12-006) to Enbridge Energy to install temporary pipeline supports to shore up a portion of line crossing the Tamarac River in the SE4, Section 16, Wanger Township.  (Motion Ben, seconded David)

Permit (12-004) City of Oslo was unanimously tabled until the townships and affected property owners can review the plans regarding the realignment and construction of the City of Oslo levee system.   (Motion John, seconded David)

The following permit was approved:

3. Permit (12-003) to the City of Warren to remove a timber/steel bridge on Minnesota Avenue and replace with (2) lines of 12’ x 16’ box culverts.   (Motion John, seconded Alvin with Ben voting no)

Wallace Diedrich left the meeting at approximately 4:36 p.m.

Heidi Hughes joined the meeting at approximately 4:50 p.m.

Heidi Hughes discussed upcoming events and plans she would like the Board to consider to better utilize the benefits of the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project and the Agassiz Audubon Sanctuary.   She also requested permission for the Northern Lights Boy Scouts to camp on the District property, in May. The Board informed Heidi Hughes that they will check with the District’s legal council on camping and liability issues.

Heidi Hughes left the meeting at approximately 5:42 p.m.

Randy Knott of HDR Engineering reported that a pre-bid meeting and tour was held with the planholders of the Brandt/Angus Project on February 16, 2012 and that the Brandt/Angus Project bid opening is scheduled for 1:00 p.m., February 28, 2012 at the District office.

Discussion was held on the number of acres to enter in the WRP program for the Brandt/Angus Flood Control Project.

Motion by Mr. Alvin Nybladh, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson that the District pay the 2012 dues to the Minnesota Viewers Association.  Motion unanimously carried.

The Red River Watershed Management Board News and Views were distributed.
Nick Drees reported that a data practice request has been received from PO Box 467, Park Rapids, MN, and is available to those who wished to review it.

Nick Drees reported that the viewers appointed for the Redetermination of Benefits of Judicial Ditch #25-1 will meet at the District Office, on February 28, 2012, to take their oaths and receive their instructions; and the document received from Jim Stengrim will be copied and distributed to each Manager for review.

Nick Drees reported that there were a couple of responses to the District’s letters mailed to the landowners along Judicial Ditch #20 informing them that the grass strip will be seeded in 2012; that the Office of the Legislative Auditor has issued their Review of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reimbursement of costs involving the Agassiz Valley Water Management Project in response to a Legislative inquiry.; that Jim Stengrim has attempted to appeal the Minnesota Court of Appeals ruling on the Stengrim/MSTRWD lawsuit to the Minnesota State Supreme Court; and briefly updated the Board on Project 60.

Brian Jadeke left the meeting at approximately 6:30 p.m.

It was announced that the Red River Watershed Management Board meeting was held February 21, 2012, at the Red Lake Watershed District, in Thief River Falls, Minnesota; that the 2012 MAWD Legislative Briefing is scheduled for March 7 and March 8, 2012, in St. Paul, Minnesota; and the Drainage Workshop sponsored by Rinke-Noonan is scheduled for February 23, 2012, in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Motion by Mr. John W Nelson, seconded by Mr. Ben Kleinwachter to accept the bid of John Copp for $70,308.00, for the land rental bid submitted for the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project and $56,448.00 for the March Impoundment, as outlined in the bid documents, for a two year term and that the District accept the bid of Joe Pierce $14,600.00 for the land rental bid submitted on the PL-566 Project, for a five year term. Motion unanimously carried.

Nick Drees reported that the District received a refund from the Northwest Service Center on behalf of the Health Insurance Pool of the District Employee’s.

Motion by Mr. Ben Kleinwachter, seconded by Mr. David Bakke that the Health Insurance refund be distributed based on the percentage of the premium paid by the District and the Employees. Motion unanimously carried.

The Rules and Regulations of the District were distributed and will be reviewed at the next regular meeting.

The insurance policies currently in effect for the District were distributed for review.

Mr. Roger Hille requested to address Recording of the District Meetings on the next regular meeting agenda.
The next regular meetings of the Board are scheduled for March 5, 2012 and March 19, 2012, at 4:00 p.m., at the District office.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Connie Kujawa
Recording Secretary  

David Bakke
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer