The meeting was called to order by Vice President John W Nelson. Managers Tom Neibauer, John W Nelson, David Bakke, Roger Mischel and Robert Kovar were present. Managers Ben Kleinwachter and Jim Jubie were not present. Danny Omdahl, Connie Kujawa, Tony Nordby, Bryan Murphy, Gary Babinski and Debbie Rynda were also present.

Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. Tom Neibauer that the agenda be approved, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Tom Neibauer, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel that the minutes of the January 4, 2016 meeting be approved, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

James Bergman, Cary Osowski and Jeff Hane joined the meeting at approximately 9:05 a.m.

The financial report was reviewed and filed for audit purposes.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Tom Neibauer that the following bills be paid; from the Administrative Funds: that payroll checks numbered 5902 through 5913 inclusive for a total of $15,891.71; that checks numbered 16863 through 16895 inclusive, including the service charge for a total of $12,508.21; from the Project funds that checks numbered 2584 through 2592 inclusive, for a total of $37,524.45; from the RRWMB funds that check numbered 172 for a total of $9,821.46; and from the Ditch Funds that checks numbered 2933 through 2943 inclusive, for a total of $70,417.13 be paid. Motion unanimously carried.

James Bergman, representing the Border Township Associative Group (BTAG), gave a presentation on the goals of the BTAG group, the economic losses the City of Oslo endures during flood events, and some possible solutions to alleviate the flooding and transportation problems due to restrictive channel openings.

James Bergman, Cary Osowski and Gary Babinski left the meeting at approximately 9:50 a.m.

A discussion was held concerning the bill received from Sandsville Township for 100 yards of road gravel placed on one mile of road along Judicial Ditch #1 from the resloping of the road side of the ditch in 2015. The reimbursement request is $1,252.00.

Motion by Mr. Roger Mischel, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar that the District expend Judicial Ditch #1 ditch funds to pay the expenses incurred by Sandsville Township for graveling the road, in the amount of $1,252.00. Motion unanimously carried. Staff was directed to monitor the gravel situation during the spring of 2016.

Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel that the District pay in full, the assessment on the Red Lake Watershed District Ditch #15 Project #175, from the Angus Oslo #1 project fund, in the amount of $730.11. Motion unanimously carried.
It was the consensus of the Board, that the Swift Coulee Informational meeting be scheduled for February 18, 2016, at 1:00 p.m., at the Bremer Bank, in Warren, Minnesota.

Administrator Omdahl reported the Lower Red-Tamarac WRAPS contract has been extended.

The matter of choosing a facilitator to head the Project Work Teams for the Judicial Ditch #19 and Judicial Ditch #14 projects was discussed. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to retain Tony Nordby of Houston Engineering as the facilitator on the Judicial Ditch #19 and Judicial Ditch #14 project work teams.

Administrator Omdahl reported a data practice request has been received from Jim Stengrim and the requested documents have been furnished.

The District’s 2015 year ending financial reports were distributed and reviewed.

Connie Kujawa reported the ad for the Administrator position is currently in publication.

A discussion was held concerning the formation of a Personnel committee to review the applications received for the Technician positions and the Administrator position. It was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Ben Kleinwachter, Mr. Roger Mischel and Mr. Robert Kovar be appointed to the Personnel Committee, with Mr. John W Nelson as an alternate. The committee scheduled a meeting to be held at 3:00 p.m., February 1, 2016, at the District office.

It was announced the Red River Watershed Board meeting is being held, today, January 19, 2016, at the East Grand Forks City Chamber Council Office.

It was announced the Internal Revenue Service has set the 2016 mileage rate at $.54 as the reimbursable amount for conducting works of the District. The Board, by unanimous consent, approved the rate.

Administrator Omdahl reported that the National Audubon is discussing donating 40 acres of property to the District, with details forthcoming. The Board will address this matter once they see what the National Audubon is proposing.

Motion by Mr. Roger Mischel, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar that the designated depositories of the District will be the Bremer Bank of Warren, the Frandsen Bank of Warren, and others, as determined by the Treasurer of the Board. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. Tom Neibauer that the Warren Sheaf and the Middle River Honker be designated the official newspapers of the District; and that official publications may be made in any or all of the following newspapers, as required by statute: Warren Sheaf, Stephen Messenger, Crookston Times, Thief River Times, Kittson County Enterprise, Roseau Times and the Middle River Honker. Motion unanimously carried.
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APPROVED (February 1, 2016)

Motion by Mr. Roger Mischel, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar that the District retain the legal services of Brink, Sobolik, Severson, Malm et al, as the legal counsel for the District. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Tom Neibauer, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel that Houston Engineering be designated the Engineering firm for the District. Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence from Rinke-Noonan concerning a Drainage and Wetland Conference, scheduled for February 11, 2016 was distributed.

The next regular meetings of the Board of Managers are scheduled to be held on February 1, 2016, at 4:00 p.m., and February 16, 2016, at 4:00 PM, at the District office.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:43 a.m.

Connie Kujawa
Recording Secretary

David Bakke
Secretary