The meeting was called to order by President Roger Hille. Managers Alvin Nybladh, Ben Kleinwachter, John W Nelson, Roger Hille and David Bakke were present. Managers Doug Sorenson and Marvin Hedlund were not present. Nick Drees, Connie Kujawa, Danny Omdahl, Ron Adrian and Wallace Diedrich were also present.

Wallace Diedrich taped the meeting with one recorder.

By unanimous consent the agenda was accepted, as amended, with the addition of permit (12-007) Pennington County and discussion regarding tiling.

Motion by Mr. Ben Kleinwachter, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson that the minutes of the March 5, 2012 meeting be approved, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

The financial report was reviewed and filed for audit purposes.

Motion by Mr. Alvin Nybladh, seconded by Mr. Ben Kleinwachter that the following bills be paid; from the Administrative Funds: that payroll checks numbered 5296 through 5312 inclusive for a total of $15,683.77 and checks numbered 15285 through 15317 inclusive, and including the service charge for a total of $31,911.43; from the Project Funds checks numbered 2075 through 2082 inclusive for a total of $20,047.71; and from the Ditch Funds checks numbered 2526 through 2528 inclusive, and including the printing charge, for a total of $7,066.71 be paid. Motion unanimously carried.

There were no individuals present who wished to address the Board during the open forum.

By unanimous consent, the Board approved the following permits:

1. Permit (12-007) Pennington County to reconstruct CSAH #31; and remove and replace (2) 18” culverts on Judicial Ditch #14, Branch E, as specified in the road plan, in section 14 and 15 of Norden Township. (Motion Ben, seconded by David)

Jon Hapka and one other individual joined the meeting at approximately 4:26 p.m.

Robin Johnson and other individuals joined the meeting at approximately 4:32 p.m.

2. Permit (12-010) to Gowan Farms to install 153 acres of field drain tile and to install a 7.5 HP VFD (1,100) GPM pump in the SW corner of the field; and install an 18” culvert through the Marshall CD #41 spoil bank, in the SW4, of Section 32 of Warrenton Township, and in accordance with District policy. (Motion John, seconded by Alvin)
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APPROVED (April 2, 2012 as corrected)

3. Permit (12-011) to Polk County Highway Department to remove (2) 84” concrete pipes and install (1) 14’ x 7’ concrete box culvert in the SE4 of Section 24 of Tabor Township. (Motion Ben, seconded by David)

4. Permit (12-012) to the Farmers Elevator of Alvarado to install (2) crossings with 57” x 83” CSPA or 54” x 88” RCPA in each crossing, on the North side of MN Trunk Highway #1, in the SW4 of Section 32 of Vega Township, contingent upon Minnesota DOT approval. (Motion Ben, seconded by John)

5. Permit (12-013) to Peter Hapka to install 128 acres of field drain tile with a 5 HP (675) GMP VFD pump, on the West line of the quarter and 3 gravity outlets, North side of the Helgeland Coulee in the SW4 of Section 5, McCrea Strip Township, and in accordance with District policy. (Motion John, seconded by David)

6. Permit (12-014) to Van Hapka to install 124 acres of field drain tile with 2 gravity outlets into Marshall County Ditch #10 in the NE4 of Section 28, of Alma Township, contingent upon other agency approval, and in accordance with District policy. (Motion John, seconded by Ben)

Duane Kovar, Don Loeslie and others joined the meeting at approximately 4:51 p.m.

7. Permit (12-015) to Jerry Kruger to install 100 acres of field drain tile with a 5 HP (675) GPM VFD pump in the NW corner of the field, outletting into the south ditch of Marshall CSAH #19, in the NE4 of Section 27 of Alma Township, contingent upon Marshall County approval and in accordance with District policy. (Motion David, seconded by John)

7. Permit (12-016) to Jerry Kruger to install 60 acres of field drain tile with a gravity outlet into the Swift Coulee in the SE NE of Section 2 of McCrea Township, and in accordance with District policy. (Motion John, seconded by Alvin)

8. Permit (12-018) to Peter Hapka to install 310 acres of field drain tile with a 10 HP (1,390) GPM VFD pump in the NW corner of field; outletting into CSAH #67, in the E2 of Section 27, Brislet Township, and in accordance with District policy. (Motion Ben, seconded by John)

The following permits unanimously tabled:

9. Permit (12-017) of Peter Hapka to install 310 acres of field drain tile with a 10 HP (1,390) GMP pump, in the NW corner of the field, in the N2 of Section 21 of Brislet Township. This permit was tabled until the applicant and Brislet Township can determine a suitable outlet. (Motion Ben, seconded by John)

10. Permit (12-019) of Peter Hapka to install 127 acres of field drain tile with a 5 HP (675) GPM VFD pump, in the NW4 of Section 36 of Brislet Township, to outlet into the North road ditch in section 25. This permit was tabled until the North landowners are notified. (Motion John, seconded by David)
There were no guests scheduled for the meeting.

Correspondence from the Grand Forks Herald regarding an article about the Agassiz Audubon Sanctuary Kestrel Bird Boxes and from the Minnesota Viewers Association regarding their Annual Meeting were distributed.

Nick Drees announced that a data practice request has been received from PO Box 131, Warren, Minnesota.

Nick Drees gave a brief history of the 1985 Judicial Ditch #20 Repair and the establishment of a grass strip. Mr. Roger Hille entertained questions from the public. After discussion, it was agreed the District would set some stakes at random locales for the grass strip; that they will contact the Farm Service Agency regarding the farm program and that they would address this matter further at the April 2 and April 16, 2012 regular board meetings.

Don Loeslie, Harlan Boman, Jesse Russ, Kipp Loeslie, Stuart Nordling, Rolland Miller, Ken L Johnson, Allyn Roley, Robin Johnson, David Nelson, Earl McGregor, Dale Loeslie, Bruce Ranstrom and Brent Miller left the meeting at approximately 6:10 p.m.

Duane Kovar and Sylvester Novak discussed the resloping of Judicial Ditch #75 in section 5 Northland Township. Mr. John W Nelson and Mr. Marvin Hedlund were directed to meet with Sylvester Novak and discuss compensation for the resloping project.

Duane Kovar and Sylvester Novak left the meeting at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Ben Kleinwachter, seconded by Mr. Alvin Nybladh that the District reslope and clean Branch E of Judicial Ditch #14, for approximately 2 ½ miles from Pennington CSAH #14 to the outlet of Br E. Motion unanimously carried.

Heidi Hughes of the Agassiz Audubon Sanctuary updated the Board on the installation of the Kestrel bird boxes, funding for various projects and media coverage regarding the Sanctuary and the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project. She also requested permission to allow the Boy Scouts to build a walking bridge over a ditch to access viewing of the augmentation pool on the south side of Agassiz Project, which was approved by the Board.

A discussion was also had concerning allowing vehicles to travel on the berm of the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project. The Board stated they would contact the District’s legal council regarding liability issues.

Heidi Hughes left the meeting at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Ben Kleinwachter, seconded by Mr. David Bakke that Nick Drees be authorized to sign the amended grant agreement extension for the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project, with the MN Dept of Natural Resources. Motion unanimously carried.
Nick Drees reported on the Brandt/Angus Project and stated that work is continuing on securing the remaining land agreements; that the WRP areas have been identified; and that a pre-construction meeting with Zavoral Construction is scheduled for March 22, 2012.

Nick Drees reported that a hearing was held, in Thief River Falls, for the Project 60 Cut Channel.

Nick Drees announced that the Red River Watershed Management Board meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2012, at the Wild Rice Watershed District, in Ada, Minnesota, at 9:30 a.m. The News and Views were distributed.

It was the consensus of the Board to place an ad in the Warren Sheaf regarding tiling, permits, and the installation and removal of culverts within the District.

The Managers that attended the Legislative Breakfast held on March 7th and 8th, 2012 in St. Paul, Minnesota, gave a brief recap of the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Alvin Nybladh, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson that the District advertise for equipment rental proposals for the 2012 construction season. Motion unanimously carried.

Nick Drees reported that the trial regarding the open meeting lawsuit, filed by Jim Stengrim, against the Board of Managers, was held Monday the 12th and Tuesday the 13th at the Polk County Courthouse, in Crookston, Minnesota.

A discussion was held concerning tiling and how to handle surface water associated with tiling practices.

Motion by Mr. Alvin Nybladh, seconded by Mr. John W Nelson that the Administrator be authorized to trade in the District’s (2) 4-wheeler’s and trailer, currently owned, and purchase (2) new 4-wheeler’s and a trailer, and if there is no value on the trade-ins, that he attempt to sell them at the Sheriff’s auction or at public auction. Motion unanimously carried.

It was announced that Brady-Martz and Associates will conducting the 2011 audit of the District’s finances on April 23, 2012.

Nick Drees distributed a Board of Water and Soil Resources brochure regarding Redetermination of Benefits that was presented at the Red River Basin FDR Conference held March 13 and March 14 in Fargo, North Dakota. He also reported the RRB FDR Committee is in the process of hiring an executive director.

Ron Adrian was directed to check into the cost of recording the grass strips established along the ditches under the jurisdiction of the District.

Nick Drees reported that a hearing would need to be held if the Board wished to amend the Rules and Regulations of the District and that the Red River Retention Authority will be opening an office in West Fargo, North Dakota.
The next regular meetings of the Board are scheduled to be held on April 2, 2012 and April 16, 2012, at 4:00 p.m., at the District office.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:54 p.m.

Connie Kujawa  David Bakke
Recording Secretary  Assistant Secretary/Treasurer