

October16(a)2017.min

**APPROVED (November 6, 2017)**  
**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.    October 16, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President John W Nelson. Managers John W Nelson, Roger Mischel, David Bakke, Bill Petersen, Brad Blawat, and Eric Johnson were present. Connie Kujawa, Tony Nordby, Kyle Schlomann, Danny Omdahl, Dillon Nelson, LeRoy Vonasek, Joel Praska, and Sheila Hoerner were also present. Manager Robert Kovar joined the meeting at approximately 8:53 a.m.

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

Rolland Miller joined the meeting at approximately 8:31 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Roger Mischel, seconded by Mr. Bill Petersen that the minutes of the October 2, 2017 meeting be approved, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Alex Wardwell joined the meeting at approximately 8:42 a.m.

The financial report was reviewed and filed for audit purposes.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat that the following bills be paid from the Administrative Funds that payroll checks numbered 6127 through 6134 inclusive for a total of \$12,110.70; that checks numbered 17629 through 17639 inclusive for a total of \$16,598.60; from the Project funds that checks numbered 2818 through 2832 inclusive, for a total of \$87,071.31; and from the Ditch Funds that checks numbered 3127 through and 3137 inclusive, including the service charge, for a total of \$188,818.25 be paid. Motion unanimously carried.

Alex Wardwell, Audubon Minnesota Restoration Specialist, reported on the cattail spraying performed on the Agassiz Valley Water Resource Management Project. She stated approximately 550 acres were sprayed for cattails and it appears to be a good kill. She stated one of the goals of the Audubon Minnesota is to maximize wildlife and to achieve this goal they prefer to maintain 50% open water to 50% vegetation.

Alex Wardwell left the meeting at approximately 9:18 a.m.

The following permits were unanimously approved:

1. Permit (17-106) to Dexter Gonsorowski to install (2) side water inlets with 18" culverts with flapgates, SW4, Section 11, Viking Township. (Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded Mr. Brad Blawat)
2. Permit (17-107) to Dexter Gonsorowski to install (2) side water inlets with 18" culverts and flapgates, NW4, Section 34, Marsh Grove Township. (Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded Mr. Eric Johnson)
3. Permit (17-109) to Robert O Gjerdingen to install a crossing with a 112" span x 75" rise CSPA, SW4, Section 1, Spruce Valley Township. (Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded Mr. Bill Petersen)

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4. Permit (17-110) to Nathan Peterson & Nathan Potucek to install 320 ac drain tile; ¼" coefficient; 100' spacing, 10 HP (1100 GPM) VFD pump; SW4, Section 33 Alma Township and NW4 Section 4 McCrea Township, with WD conditions. (Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded Mr. Eric Johnson).

Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel to approve the permit (17-108) of Eugene Larson to install (2) side water inlets with 24" culverts and flapgates, NW4 & SW4 of Section 11, Viking Township. Chairman Nelson called the question and the motion died since the culvert sizing does not meet the culvert sizing criteria of the District. Nays (Petersen, Kovar, Blawat, Johnson, Mischel) Yah (Bakke).

5. Permit (17-108) to Eugene Larson to install (2) side water inlets with 18" culverts and flapgates, NW4 & SW4, Section 11, Viking Township, provided the Marshall County SWCD Engineer and the landowner approve. (Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded Mr. Eric Johnson).

The following permit was Administratively approved and reviewed:

6. Permit (17-104) to Marshall County Highway Department to remove a 72" and 48" farm driveway culverts and install 112" x 75" CSPA, same grade; NW SW, Section 30, New Maine Township.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat that ditch fund check #3138, in the amount of \$55,055.45, be issued to Zavoral Construction, for pay request #1, on the repair of Judicial Ditch #29, Main. Motion unanimously carried.

Tony Nordby reported the works performed by Spruce Valley Corporation on Judicial Ditch #29, Lateral 1 and Lateral 2 have been completed.

Tony Nordby reported that change order #1 be issued Gladen Construction for the repair of Judicial Ditch #75. He stated the wet conditions required additional work to dry and re-pack the road sub-base along Section 1 of Northland and Section 36 of Sandsville Townships and a crossing was removed. The amount of the change order is for \$4,494.00.

Administrator Praska reported that due to the height of the road, on Judicial Ditch #75, Mark Judovsky does not have access to his property in the SW4 of Section 36 of Northland Township. He stated Mark Judovsky has plans to do some ditch work, in the vicinity of the proposed dry crossing and is willing to construct the dry crossing. Administrator Praska requested Mark Judovsky provide the District with an hourly rate and a certificate of insurance before he performs the installation of the crossing.

Administrator Praska reported that in May of 2017 the Board approved riprapping 5 culverts located on the west end of Judicial Ditch #75, however, the District staff have identified 4 additional culverts in the same area that are in need of riprap. He stated Zavoral Construction previously quoted \$80.00 per yard with fabric and have dropped their quote to \$75.00 per yard with fabric. Administrator Praska also stated that Zavoral Construction will defer payment for the work until the District receives funds to make payment.

Motion by Mr. Eric Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bill Petersen that Zavoral Construction be authorized to rip rap and install fabric on the 9 culverts, located on the West end of Judicial Ditch #75, at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.00 and Zavoral Construction be notified they are to use the material that is presently in the location of the culverts and to limit the amount of rip rap for each. Motion unanimously carried.

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Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel that the Chairman be authorized to execute Change Order #1 with Gladen Construction and ditch fund check #3139, in the amount of \$99,837.71 be issued to Gladen Construction for payment of pay request #2, on the repair of Judicial Ditch #75. Motion unanimously carried.

LeRoy Vonasek left the meeting at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Administrator Praska reported he received quotes for Viewing services on the determination and redetermination of benefits on Polk County Ditch #175 from Rick Battles, H2Overviewers and Rod Langaas. He also reported he received correspondence from Jim Stengrim stating he would be willing to offer his assistance on a consulting basis. The Board directed Administrator Praska to research and get more detailed information on the quotes received from Rick Battles, H2Overviewers and Rod Langaas and continue the search for additional viewers.

Darren Carlson, Marshall County SWCD, reported that Minnesota BWSR has reviewed the proposed work on outlet repair to the Watershed Ditch #7 Improvement and the installation of a side inlet pipe, in Section 6 of Oak Park Strip Township, and he has been notified that BWSR is removing the cost of the rip rap at the outlet pipe and the flap gate from the cost share agreement. He stated the original cost share agreement was in the amount of \$20,980.00 and with the removal of the rip rap at the outlet pipe and the flap gate the revised grant amount will be \$16,680.00. He stated SWCD portion of the proposed work will be \$12,510.00 (75%) and the District's cost under the grant agreement would be \$4,170.00 (25%). Administrator Praska stated the District would assume an additional cost of \$4,300.00 to cover the rip rap at the outlet pipe and the flap gate, bringing the District's total to \$8,470.00.

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Robert Kovar that the District seek cost share assistance from Tim Bushaw on the trap, and if Bushaw is not willing to cost share on the trap, the trap will not be installed; that Tim Bushaw provide the dirt; that Administrator Praska solicit two quotes for the repair of the Outlet on Watershed Ditch #7 Improvement and for the installation of the side inlet pipe; and that the Chairman be authorized to execute the cost share agreement with the Marshall County SWCD; and that the MSTRWD will be the contract holder. Motion unanimously carried.

Tony Nordby reported Gowan Construction dug a 50' trench on the south slope of Judicial Ditch #1, in the vicinity of the sloughing area in Section 17 of Higdeme Township. The purpose was to determine if there would be areas showing seepage. After viewing the trench for a few minutes, the trench started collapsing which solidifies that ground seepage is occurring. After discussion, it was determined a future repair needs a ground water seepage design feature.

Darren Carlson left the meeting at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Administrator Praska stated it is necessary to contact loggers, as previously requested by the Board, to see if there is interest in removing the trees in the upper ~1.5 miles of Judicial Ditch #28, in the NE NE of Section 11, Como Township. After discussion, the Board deferred this matter to the 2018 calendar year.

Dillon Nelson reported the works on the Rick Confer Ring Dike have been completed and the costs will be forwarded to the Red River Watershed Management Board for cost share reimbursement.

A discussion was held concerning the request of Lloyd Kasprick to raise the south levee of the coulee in the NW4 of Section 27 of Angus Township. It was the consensus of the Board that the District would not expend project funds to raise the levee and that Lloyd Kasprick be

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advised to submit a permit to the Board requesting to raise the south levee and that he also be informed that the costs would be at his expense.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. David Bakke that Administrator Praska forward the proposed Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District Preliminary Draft Rule/Ordinance on the Buffer Law to the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources and request a preliminary review by the BWSR staff. Motion unanimously carried.

Administrator Praska reported that Gowan Construction has begun the works at the March Impoundment outlet to remove and replace the 36" culvert, repair the band, install 25' riprap with fabric underlay, and compact and seed the work area.

Connie Kujawa reported that she received confirmation from Naomi Goral, that the additional acceleration grant funds received from the Red River Watershed Management Board, in the amount of \$8,871.26 could be applied to one, or divided between, the Swift Coulee or the Newfolden/Middle River Project team expenses.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel that the additional acceleration grant funds, in the amount of \$8,871.26 be divided equally and applied to the Swift Coulee and Middle River Project team expenses. Motion unanimously carried.

Administrator Praska reported the Minnesota DNR has graveled some areas of the Pembina Ridge Trail; have removed some beavers and are piling rock to build up areas of the trail that have sunk in the Florian Water Management Area. He also reported that Rep. Dan Fabian, Chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee has suggested the District draft a letter of support to the DNR requesting the DNR spend funds to improve the outlet flow of the WMA and assist in creating a scheme for managing water coming into the area or the District offer funding assistance to the DNR to assist in the efforts. The Board directed Administrator Praska to draft a letter of support to Rep. Dan Fabian.

Administrator Praska reported the new computer has been received and is installed in his office and the AutoCad 3D software has been installed on the computer for use by the Engineer Technicians.

Administrator Praska said he met with Tyler Larson and Mr. Larson has accepted the District's offer of employment as an Engineer Technician. A discussion was held concerning the starting salary of Tyler Larson, which was approved at the October 2, 2017 meeting.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Eric Johnson that Tyler Larson's salary be set at \$33,000.00 per year. Motion unanimously carried.

Administrator Praska reported that Sheila Hoerner and Heidi Hughes, of the Agassiz Audubon, are requesting permission to apply for a grant with the Northwest Minnesota Foundation for signage and a composting toilet. Administrator Praska stated the grant would be a 1:3 match, which would be for every dollar spent the District would have to match \$3.00. Sheila and Heidi estimate the signage to cost approximately \$8,000.00 and a compost toilet with installation would be approximately \$40,000.00. The Board took no action.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Bill Petersen that Connie Kujawa be directed to publish and mail notices of the 2017 Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for November 20, 2017, at 1:30 p.m., at the Bremer Bank in Warren. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Robert Kovar, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel that Mr. John W Nelson be appointed the District's delegate to the Minnesota Association of Watershed District, replacing

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Ben Kleinwachter and Mr. Bill Petersen be appointed the alternate, replacing Mr. Brad Blawat.  
Motion unanimously carried.

Correspondence from the Red River Basin Commission concerning the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Red River Basin Land and Water International Summit Conference scheduled for January 23-25, 2018, in Winnipeg, Manitoba and from the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts regarding the 2017 MAWD Annual meeting, scheduled for November 30-December 2, 2017, in Alexandria, Minnesota was distributed.

It was announced the Red River Watershed Management Board meeting will be held October 17, 2017 at the Red Lake Watershed District, in Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

The following meetings were announced:

November 6, 2017-Regular Meeting, 8:30 a.m., District Office  
November 20, 2017-Regular Meeting, 8:30 a.m., District Office

By unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:17 p.m.

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Connie Kujawa  
Recording Secretary

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David Bakke  
Secretary