

APPROVED (October 19, 2020)
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE
MIDDLE-SNAKE-TAMARAC RIVERS WATERSHED DISTRICT
HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE
8:30 A.M. October 5, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President John W Nelson. Managers Bill Petersen, Brad Blawat, David Bakke, John W Nelson and Roger Mischel were present. Manager Robert Kovar was not present. Tony Nordby, Joel Praska, Kyle Schlomann, Danny Omdahl, Tyler Larson, Connie Kujawa, Todd Maruska, Gunnar Bowman and Jim Duckstad were also present.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel the agenda be accepted, as amended, with the addition of Judicial Ditch #25-1, Lateral 1 and Permit (20-123) Tim Osowski. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Roger Mischel, seconded by Mr. David Bakke the minutes of the September 21, 2020 meeting be approved, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat the special meeting minutes of September 28, 2020 be approved, as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. David Bakke, the following permit be Tabled until a signature is obtained from the landowner in SE4 of Section 10, Helgeland Township:

- 1) Permit (20-111) of Larry Rud to install 450 acres of field drain tile in the N2 of Sec 14 & NE4 of Sec 13 Helgeland Twp with 1/4" drainage coefficient; 80' spacing; 10 hp (1390 GPM) VFD pump that will outlet to the East ditch of 230th Ave NW and a gravity outlet into the South ditch of 200th St NW in the NE4 NW4 of Section 14 Helgeland Twp. Motion unanimously carried.

Dillon Nelson joined the meeting at approximately 8:43 a.m.

The following permits were unanimously approved:

- 2) Permit (20-113) to TKDA Engineering on behalf of the BNSR RR to replace an existing 84' 6-span timber bridge with a new 84" 3-span concrete bridge crossing an unnamed coulee, SW NW, Section 4, Angus Township. (Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded Mr. Roger Mischel).
- 3) Permit (20-117) to Michael Gasper to install 147 acres drain tile; 3/8" coefficient; 30' & 40' spacings; 10 hp (1025 gpm) VFD pump outletting to WD #6; The tile outlet must have a minimum 3" air gap between the pump's outlet pipe and the horizontal pipe through the spoil bank of Watershed Ditch #6. The top of the underground spoil pipe may be no higher than 6" above natural ground, this elevation to be determined by MSTRWD staff; NE, Section 24, Esther Township. (Motion by Mr. David Bakke, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat).
- 4) Permit (20-120) to Jon Nelson (WJS Farm) to install 148 acres drain tile; 50' spacing; 1/4" coefficient, 696 GPM equivalent gravity drain and a 15" steel pipe under the road

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draining southerly into Judicial Ditch 1; **NOTE:** Tile outlet must remain above the design grade of the ditch (806.3' 1988 NAVD); SW4, Section 18, Sandsville Township. (Motion by Mr. Roger Mischel, seconded Mr. Bill Petersen).

- 5) Permit (20-121) to Jon Nelson (WJS Farm) to install 129 acres drain tile; ¼" coefficient; 606 GPM equivalent gravity drain with 15" steel pipe & flapgate under spoilbank draining Northerly into Judicial Ditch #1; District staff to set elevation of outlet pipe; NE4, Section 21, Higdem Township. (Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded Mr. Brad Blawat).
- 6) Permit (20-123) to Tim Osowski to remove an easterly flowing 24" CSP ; to remove a Northerly flowing 30" CSP and flapgate and replace with a 42" CSP and flapgate; Section Line 4 Big Woods & 34 Fork Township. (Motion by Mr. John W Nelson, seconded Mr. Bill Petersen).

Motion by Mr. Brad Blawat, seconded by Mr. Bill Petersen the following permit be DENIED due to downstream landowners and township opposition:

- 7) Permit (20-114) Zach Beaudry to (1) regrade 800' of the East ditch of CSAH #3 in the NE4, Section 21; (2) to lower an 18" CL culvert under 240th Ave, ~ 170' SE of CSAH #3 intersection; (3) to lower 18" field crossing culvert in NW4, Section 21; (4) to regrade the East township road ditch of 240th Ave in NW4 of Section 22; all in Foldahl Township. Motion unanimously carried.

The following permits were Administratively Approved and reviewed:

- 8) Permit (20-115) to Dean Peterson to install a field approach with an 18" culvert on West side of 350th Ave NW, in the SE corner of NE4, Section 15, Farley Township.
- 9) Permit (20-116) to Dean Peterson to move an existing field crossing with 73" x 55" CSPA in Judicial Ditch #17, half mile West along the North line of Section 15, Farley Township, with the District staff setting the grade and elevation.
- 10) Permit (20-119) to Jared Sands to install a field crossing with an 18" culvert and flapgate on the East line of the NE4 NE4, Section 32, Vega Township.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat the following permit be TABLED until the neighbors derive a plan and the elevation of the levee is determined:

- 11) Permit (20-118) Duane Potucek to repair the levee on the South edge of the field and to install a 24" field drain culvert with a flap gate in an open field ditch on the East side of driveway in SE4, Section 6, Comstock Township. Motion unanimously carried.

Dean Danielski joined the meeting at approximately 9:38 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat the following permit be DENIED until the road be built up and set at correct elevation of 854.5 feet (88 datum) per MSTRWD permit (84-04) established in 1984; the field dike elevation is determined; a hydrologic/hydraulic study is performed on the area; and three breach areas are installed in the dike with the breached areas installed within 30 calendar days of today:

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- 12) Permit (20-124-ATF) DW Peterson Inc to construct a levee on the East side of the channelized coulee that runs along the West line of the N2 of Section 31; to install a 24" field drain culvert with a flap gate in the NW corner of NW4, Section 31, Brislet Township. Motion unanimously carried.

Technician Omdahl reported the outlet of the drain tile pump, in the NW4 of Section 22, Higdem Township, has caused erosion to the bank of Judicial Ditch #1. He stated the area is washed out approximately 5' deep and 4' wide. The Board directed the Staff to notify the landowner the area needs to be repaired at their expense or the District will repair the area and bill the landowner for the repair.

Gunnar Bowman left the meeting at approximately 9:45 a.m.

Administrator Praska reported Anderson Excavating has begun the sediment removal on Watershed Ditch #4, in section 11 and 12 of Boxville Township and Section 7 of McCrea Strip.

Tony Nordby, Engineer, reported a meeting was held with Wright Construction at the site of the slough repair on Judicial Ditch #75, in Section 1 of Northland Township. He stated concerns were raised as to whether the work should be done this fall since turf establishment is highly unlikely. He recommended the slough repair to proceed with dormant seeding and a change order will be issued to install a straw fiber blanket to cover bare soil areas adjacent to the rock structure where turbulent flows may occur to minimize erosion in the spring.

Todd Maruska left the meeting at approximately 10:07 a.m.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat the Chairman be authorized to execute the Final Payment, with Kraulik Excavating, in the amount of \$16,143.60, for the Erosion Repair on Polk County Ditch #43 Main and Lateral 1, in sections 8 and 9 of Angus Township. Motion unanimously carried.

Administrator Praska reported there are areas of sediment along 1 mile of Judicial Ditch #25-1, Lateral 1. He stated Anderson Excavating is available to perform the sediment removal if the Board approves.

Motion by Mr. Roger Mischel, seconded by Mr. David Bakke the District staff survey 1 mile of Judicial Ditch #25-1, Lateral 1 and Administrator Praska retain the services of Anderson Excavating to perform sediment removal, as determined by the survey. Motion unanimously carried.

Dillon Nelson, HDR Engineering, reported the site survey for the wetland delineation report on the Newfolden Project has been completed. He also reported the City of Newfolden has been notified by FEMA the new floodplain maps will become effective March 23, 2021. Administrator Praska reported conversations with the Lokstad's and Nelson's are ongoing.

Tony Nordby, Engineer, reported the JD #14 RCPP Project Team met on September 29, 2020 in Viking, Minnesota. He stated the alternatives were reviewed and alternative #11, Viking Strip Township, Site 5 with Drainage Improvement 2 was recommended as the preferred alternative. The alternative includes an impoundment site with channel stabilization at the Lilac Ridge that

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would allow the 60" culvert to be replaced with (3) 72" culverts and lowered by approximately 4-5 feet. He stated alternative #11 is the recommended alternative since it meets the Purpose and Need; the alternative can be altered during detail design to further reduce peak flow rates at the JD #14 outlet providing flood damage reduction benefits downstream; majority of flood pool inundation to wetlands are within the upper reaches of the impoundment; minimal fill/excavation wetland impacts and the affected landowners seem receptive to the alternative. Nordby stated the next steps are to submit the Identification of the Selected Alternative-Draft Concurrence Point #3; Comments will be received until October 13, 2020 and pending comments Concurrence Point #3 will be submitted to the USACE for approval; communication with landowners will continue; Field work will be performed for Wetland Delineation Report with Board approval; Soil Borings for Preliminary Geotechnical Recommendations and Field Survey and Preliminary Conceptual Design Report. He also stated the USACE have approved Concurrent Point #2.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel that Houston Engineering be authorized to proceed with the field work for the Wetland Delineation Report on Alternative #11 for the JD #14 RCPP project. Motion unanimously carried.

Tony Nordby reported District Technician Schlomann surveyed upstream and downstream of the Nelson Slough for the JD #19 RCPP Project and the data will be incorporated in the preliminary plan.

Administrator Praska reported Michelle Brekken has declined the Administrative Assistant position. The Board directed Administrator Praska verify the references of Katrina Haugen and report his findings to the Personnel Committee, and pending the outcome of the references, the Committee be authorized to direct Administrator Praska to offer Katrina Haugen the Administrative Assistant position.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Brad Blawat, Katrina Haugen be offered the Administrative Assistant position, pending the approval of the Personnel Committee, with the yearly salary set at \$38,000.00 with benefits, and employment to begin the week of October 19, 2020. Motion unanimously carried.

Administrator Praska reported the 2020 Advisory Committee meeting of the Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District is scheduled for November 16, 2020, at 1:30 p.m., at the Marshall County Courthouse. He stated the location has been changed from the Bremer Bank in Warren, due to the COVID restrictions.

The 2020 Advisory Committee members were reviewed by the Board. Manager Bakke requested Jerry Rux and Donnie Larson be added as members and Gerald Hanson be removed.

Manager Roger Mischel reported the Red River Watershed Management Board met on September 15, 2020. He stated the meeting was restricted to 9 people in attendance. He also reported the March conference has been canceled.

Administrator Praska submitted his letter of resignation, effective October 16, 2020.

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Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. Roger Mischel to accept the resignation letter of Joel Praska, Administrator, effective October 16, 2020. Motion unanimously carried.

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. David Bakke that Administrator Praska be directed to advertise for the Administrator position. Motion unanimously carried.

The following meetings were announced:

October 19, 2020-Regular Meeting, 8:30 a.m., District Office
November 2, 2020-Regular Meeting 8:30 a.m., District Office
November 16, 2020-Advisory Committee Meeting; 1:30 p.m., MC Courthouse

Motion by Mr. Bill Petersen, seconded by Mr. David Bakke the meeting be adjourned. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:17 a.m.

Connie Kujawa
Recording Secretary

Roger Mischel
Secretary