

Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District  
Board of Managers Meeting  
October 7th, 2008  
174 Lake Ave  
Spicer, MN 56288

Present: G. Behm, J. Flanders, R. Hodapp, R. Zenner, R. Schaefer of the Board; C. Anderson-Administrator; V.G. Henjum-Technician; S. Jacobson-Staff; A. Ripple-Attorney, T. Bonde-Technical Advisor; C. Meehan-Wenck; H. & S. Meints-Diamond Lake; B. Nelson; T. Holden; J.& D. Ruter; W. Holmberg, T. Johnson, J. Peterson-Nest Lake; J. Koehler and K. Klasen-Belgrade .

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman R. Hodapp at 7:00 pm.
2. A motion to approve the agenda was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm. The motion passed.
3. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the September minutes after R. Schaefer pointed out 4 changes. The motion passed. See revised minutes.
4. Treasurers Report was presented by C. Anderson. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the Treasurers Report subject to audit. The motion passed.
5. The October bills to pay was presented by C. Anderson and reviewed by the Board. A motion to approve the October bills to pay was made by R. Zenner and seconded by R. Schaefer. The motion passed.
6. Diamond Lake Wastewater Committee update was provided by C. Anderson and H. Meints. The Diamond Lake property owners will receive a letter, noting compliance or noncompliance of their septic system. There will be a brief period for questions by property owners. Each property owner will receive a ballot and a vote will be tabulated.
7. Diamond Lake BMP update provided by C. Anderson. The Harrison township board met on September 16<sup>th</sup>. The Board revisited the Ricklefs situation and unanimously overruled their earlier decision. The Ricklefs attorney requested that C. Anderson draft an agreement for all parties. A. Ripple reviewed this request and advised against further involvement. The WD recommended that the attorney and the Township Board resolve the matter privately. Per the recommendation of the Harrison Township Board, the road right away of the Ricklefs property has been partially cleared (removal of stones and an ornamental tree).
8. Diamond Lake Carp Barrier update-In attempting to contact the Technical Committee to discuss the merits of this project, C. Anderson noted the WD has 2 Technical Committees that were established for certain grants only, and not for general Watershed

District use. The Diamond Lake TMDL has a Technical Committee, as does the Clean Water Legacy Act grant. C. Anderson offered to establish a general Technical Advisory Committee for general Watershed District direction, but the Board did not request this action. C. Anderson stated that the fish barrier project does have merit. He noted that the Comprehensive Plan does call for invasive aquatic species management in Chapter 4 page 6. B. Gilbertson earlier reported that there are no guarantees for this type of project. H. Meints stated that the carp barrier, discussed here today is of a new design by the DNR. The effectiveness of this design has yet not been determined. Estimated project cost is \$30,000. C. Anderson contacted Ducks Unlimited, who reported no available funds. C. Anderson suggested that Diamond Lake Association contact the Kandiyohi County to request financial assistance to cost share. C. Anderson suggested that the WD offer a statement of support of the project. T. Bonde suggested that the DNR and Fisheries manage and pay for the project. A. Ripple stated that the Board would need to hold a public hearing prior to committing to allocating public funds, as the money would not come from grants. T. Bonde stated that he looked over the elevation change of the lakes in question; he felt the installed structure may not work. He further suggested that the DNR provide the cleaning and maintenance. R. Hodapp suggested that a financial commitment by the DNR responsible for cleaning would make the project more realistic, as several Board members expressed concern over designating volunteers for the maintenance/cleaning. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by J. Flanders to provide support for the Diamond Lake Carp Barrier Project for up to \$6,500 with the stipulation that the DNR take responsibility for maintenance of the structure. The motion passed. A public hearing will need to be scheduled. C. Anderson and H. Meints will meet with B. Gilbertson to discuss minor and major maintenance responsibilities to ensure that the Watershed District not be responsible for maintenance.

9. Nest Lake Association Request-J. Peterson spoke on behalf of The Nest Lake Association, and thanked the WD for their assistance in the Lake Management Plan. See handout "Nest Lake Improvement Association Recommendations". J. Peterson and others from Nest Lake Association met with the Sauk River Watershed District to learn more about their weed harvester program. A weed harvester machine was located for sale in West Virginia for \$35,000. Nest Lake is on the verge of becoming an impaired lake and seeks assistance with their Curly Pondweed problem. For example, Willow Bay Resort moved 18 tons of weeds and other resorts also report the removal of large amounts every summer. R. Zenner noted, "Purchasing the cutter is the small item, how do you plan on financing the rest of the cost?" B. Nelson "stated the Nest Lake Association is hoping that the WD will contribute to the start up cost and hopefully take over the project". R. Zenner noted concern over committing to a \$50,000 per year maintenance project. B. Nelson stated, "That Sauk Rapids WD has been treating one lake for over 20 years, now the cost is a much smaller amount. Initially the WD would cut 100% of the lake for approximately 3-4 years and then became more selective each year, focusing on the problem areas."

A. Ripple stated the Petition Process would be required for this Project. 25% of the property owners would need to sign a petition and bring the petition to the Board. All property owners would be assessed part of the cost. An Engineering firm would need to come in and assess benefit for property owners on Nest Lake and downstream. The 1<sup>st</sup> step

is up to the property owners, 2<sup>nd</sup> step is a Public Hearing, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> step is the Second Public Hearing. Labor costs would be billed back to property owners.

C. Anderson asked about the crew's hourly wage; to which J. Peterson stated was an estimate only. R. Zenner asked about the number of members of the Nest Lake Association. Nest Lake Association currently has 80 members and the Lake has approximately 204 parcels, which would contribute to the Project. C. Anderson warned the group that this type of a Project is a time consuming task. D. Ruter stated that "this a good project for the WD to contribute to". J. Ruter asked, "What is the next step?" C. Anderson stated he would email information about the petition process to her.

10. Rules Update- A. Ripple, & C. Meehan presented the revised Rules to the Board. Changes made to the document were discussed and the stakeholders will now receive the revised version. A revised copy will also be sent to those who provided comments during this process. C. Anderson will announce a Public Hearing for the Rules. BWSR has already commented on the revised version and T. Fischer-BSWR will attend the Public Hearing. Changes may need to be made after public comments.

11. Administrators Report:

11.a. Review of calendar-see calendar

11.b. Review of Project Status

11.b.1. County Road 10 update-An informational meeting was held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> with 9 Lake Avenue property owners, J. Michels-EOR, C. Anderson, and B. Hodapp attended. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss high priority BMP projects identified by J. Michels -EOR and the WD. Easement acquisition for the BMP was discussed in general with many details yet to be determined. The group was receptive to the BMP projects. Typically, the property owner would be responsible for 25% of the project cost; the WD hopes to cover this portion with a collaborative effort including the City, Kandiyohi County and the GLPOA. The need for the cost of maintenance to also be shared by the WD and the City was discussed to ensure long term (> 10 years) benefit. The WD is still trying to contact two property owners. The feasibility study estimated project cost at over \$200,000. Therefore, the WD will review and fund appropriate projects on a first come first served basis. A. Ripple stated that there are options available for funding a large project as this with General Fund Assessments.

11.b.2. Diamond Lake TMDL Project Update-Lake monitoring only as there is no flow in the streams, no change from last month.

11.b.3. 319 Grant-No official word as of yet.

11.b.4. Minnesota Waters Lakes & Streams Conservation Partnership

Grant-V. Henjum and C. Anderson wrote and submitted a Conservation Partnership grant to Minnesota Waters for a shoreland restoration project to be carried out with the WD and the City of Spicer. The grant is to restore 400 linear feet of shoreline in Lions Park in Spicer. The goal is to install native plants with educational signs for the public. The overall cost of the project is \$30,000 and the majority of the cost would be covered by the City and the Beautification Committee funds. V. Henjum stressed to the group the need to collaborate with other groups to bring the costs down.

11.b.5 BMP-Spillseth stormwater project on Green Lake is still in progress.

11.c. Administrative matters

11.c.1. Belgrade stormwater issue- J. Koehler, K. Klasen presented information on the proposed Belgrade stormwater project. See attached letter from C. Hausmann PE of WSB & Associates Inc. to T. Nichols of MN DOT-District 3 dated August 5, 2008. The letter states the need for funding for TH 71 and Highway 55 Stormwater Improvements. J. Koehler stated that the City of Belgrade is considering changing a drainage tile from an 18" pipe installed in the 1943 to a 42" pipe for 3000 feet of drainage. Approximately 182 acres drains into this highway junction area. K. Klasen presented photos from 2007 flooding after a 2" rain. The current drainage tile has holes rusted through the pipe and presents safety issues. The City of Belgrade has hired WSB & Associates to determine amount of drainage attributed to TH 71 and Hwy 55 (40%) and from the City of Belgrade (60%). R. Hodapp expressed concern about the proposed 42" pipe draining directly into a county ditch. K. Klasen stated that the 42" pipe may be downsized. MN DOT has committed to up to 40% of the cost and did ask what the effects of a 42" size pipe would be downstream. R. Hodapp stated that the problems created would most likely be the WD problem to deal with. R. Zenner asked if holding ponds would be a possibility. K. Klasen stated that ponds are a possibility but they would increase the cost of the project. The City of Belgrade is exploring all options but is mainly looking for a source of consistent funding in order to commit to this project. Ponds might be possible within the highway intersection triangle. C. Anderson pointed out the problems of erosion/ ditch degradation/ sediment of a 42" pipe for a WD. R. Zenner asked if the City had permission to use such a large size and J. Koehler, stated they did have permission. A previous consulting firm had suggested a 60" pipe. G. Behm asked if the county was assisting in the project, but J. Koehler stated no, as the project is all within the city limits. C. Meehan suggested assisting the City of Belgrade develop Stormwater Management so then the City can state they have a partner on board with the Watershed District. K. Klasen stated that he could provide drawings that are more detailed and stormwater management plans for the WD's review. R. Hodapp stated the WD can assist with the stormwater management plan, which would improve the water quality. The WD would like to know how the City plans on treating that water prior to ditch entry. The WD previous Administrator J. Klocker had previously met with the City to discuss water quality issues. C. Anderson suggested a review of the WD concerns and options available and updates the WD at a later point in time. This was agreed upon by all.

11.c.2. Erosion control Inspection/Installer class-C. Anderson pointed out that the WD staff is in need of a greater understanding of erosion control, due to the number of the BMP projects. He suggested staff attend a class at a future date. The Board agreed that further information should be obtained. No formal action taken.

11.c.3. City of New London Stormwater cost share amendment-The contract needs to be amended as the original contract expired September 30, 2008. A problem has been noted in the development of the raingarden – the watershed area appears to be smaller as-built than in initial plans. T. Guptill-City of New London will require run off from new homes to be directed to the raingarden. A site visit to the area noted pooling water in the infiltration basin. Project installation and plantings may have occurred on top of compacted soil. The contracting company stated that the top several inches of soil was

tilled, prior to planting, which may not have been enough. Native soils were used which may not allow for proper drainage, rather than a mix of soils designed for better drainage. Infiltration has to occur within 48 hours of a rain event in order to meet construction criteria. The infiltration basin may need to be excavated to remove compaction issues, and replaced with soils that may provide for better drainage. An update will be provided to the Board at the next meeting.

- 11.c.4. Completion of septic upgrade contract K-4-08: Korn project done and paid out.
- 11.c.5. Completion of septic upgrade contract K-2-08 for the Hoffman property needs a new contract number. New number is K-6-08.
- 11.d. Follow up on September Administrative matters:
  - 11.d.1. Cost share contract K-5-08 Spillseth project papers have been signed.
  - 11.d.2. Contract for S. Jacobson- 6 month contract signed for employment till March 22, 2008.
  - 11.d.3. "Adopt the Crow" project update-V. Henjum spent 2 days with the NL-S students of T. Tebben' class. The class project went well.
  - 11.d.4. "Clean up the Crow"-G. West and family from New London attended along with B. Lord of Belgrade.
  - 11.d.5. Draft Public Data Request Policy-A policy was created by C. Anderson to address how the WD staff would handle public data information requested by the public. The Board is asked to review the policy and comment on it at the next meeting.
  - 11.d.6. Update on Belgrade storm drain stenciling-Eagle Scout project-V. Henjum stated the project is done. GPS coordinates of all stormwater outlets have been marked.
  - 11.d.7. Lake Management Plan for Nest Lake-S. Jacobson has been working with the Lake Association and the draft has been completed. Revisions will begin after a meeting at the WD office with S. Wright-DNR and 3 people from Nest Lake. R. Hodapp asked what makes the Lake Management Plan an official Plan. C. Anderson stated that the Plan becomes official when the Nest Lake Association Board approves the Plan and forwards the Plan onto the DNR.
  - 11.d.8. Board Meeting change: Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> due to elections and the meeting will start at 6:30 for the Public Hearing.

12. Legal Counsel Report: A. Ripple-No new information.

13. Public Access Forum-No public comments

14. Adjourn-A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Zenner to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 pm.

Submitted by,

Ruth Schaefer  
Secretary

