

MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

March 3rd, 2009
174 Lake Ave.
Spicer, MN 56288

Present: J. Flanders, R. Hodapp, G. Behm and R. Schaefer of the Board; C. Anderson-Administrator; V. Glieden-Henjum & S. Jacobson-Staff; A. Ripple-Legal; T. Bonde-Technical Advisor; M. & D. Lovold, C. Filley of Nest Lake; K. Akerson & S. Van Buren-Westberg-Eischens PLLP; J. Peterson of Nest Lake, T. Johnson; D. Hanson & R. Reimer-SWCD.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman R. Hodapp at 7:04 pm.
2. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the agenda. The motion passed.
3. February minutes were reviewed and T. Bonde pointed out an error in "7.b.5". The sentence should read, "T. Bonde stated that the DNR has been aerating the area at considerable expense to the County and the County Water Board." The minutes will be corrected. A motion was made G. Behm and seconded by J. Flanders to approve the minutes with the noted correction. The motion passed.
4. Treasurers Report was presented by C. Anderson. The Board reviewed the report and a motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the Treasurers Report subject to audit. The motion passed.
5. March bills to pay were reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the March bills. The motion passed.
 5. a. Administrator C. Anderson underwent an annual review with the above members of the Board. Positive comments were provided by the Board and also written comments by staff.
6. The 2008 Audit performed by Westberg Eischens PLLP was presented by S. Van Buren. See the 2008 report. Report is available for public viewing at the Watershed District office.
7. C. Koch cost share project update provided by R. Reimer-Kandiyohi SWCD. Shoreline restoration work was suspended in the fall of 2007 due to weather. Work resumed in the fall of 2008 and it became apparent to those involved that more work needed to be done than originally planned. S. Wright-DNR, agreed that 3 more rock veins and an additional 125 feet of shoreline needed work. This required 60-70 cubic yards (original estimate-51 cubic yards) to complete the project. The contractor did not send out bills until January 2009, although, work was completed in September of 2008. The late bill was discussed at the February Board meeting and action was tabled till the March meeting. R. Reimer stated, "The project is worthwhile and a large section of the bank was stabilized, which added \$4000.00 to the original estimate." The property owner is still responsible for paying all invoices prior to receiving reimbursement from the WD. C. Anderson stated that the CWLA funds could cover \$8650.00, the CWP funds cover \$1825.00, and the SWCD funds cover \$2500.00 (reducing the amount taken from the CWP funds from

(\$3250.00). R. Reimer stated, “The contractor is reputable and provides quality work”. The WD Board expressed concern about the lateness of the invoice and lack of information shared about the cost overruns. C. Anderson asked R. Reimer to contact the WD during projects so that the two organizations can work together. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to amend the C. Koch K-13-07 contract up to \$17,300.00. The motion passed.

8. Administrator’s Report:

8. a Review of Calendar

8.b Review of Project Status was presented by J. Ruter and C. Filley. A total of 93 signatures have been obtained thus far. The Petition team personally contacted each available resident and provided a FAQ’s informational sheets. See copy of the petition titled “Petition – State of Minnesota, MFCRWD in Re: Nest Lake Curly Leaf Pondweed Mechanical Harvesting Equipment”. A. Ripple stated the next step after the collection of signatures, would be to obtain an Engineering Report. G. Behm asked who decides on the Engineering group. A. Ripple stated that WD would need to request bids. It was noted that Wenck has provided this specific type of Engineering Report before for another WD. A. Ripple also suggested that the WD staff determine a timeline for the Engineering Report and cost. If the WD accepts the Petition at the next meeting then the RFP process could begin. The Board encouraged the Nest Lake group to continue to meet with as many people as possible, to inform the residents prior to the Public Meeting. C. Anderson asked when the Petitioners deposit is due. A. Ripple stated the deposit is due prior to any costs incurred by the WD. M. Lovold stated the Nest Lake Association would have the money available at the next WD meeting.

8.b.2 Green Lake Inlet Partnership update and resolution information was presented by C. Anderson. Senator S. Chaudhary agreed to sponsor the bill and Senator J. Gimse has offered support. The focus of the Bill would address stormwater problems associated with the inlets and the curtailment of Eurasian Milfoil. Clean Water Council and the G16 (BSWR, MAWD, County Associations, League of MN Cities...) has made recommendations to the State on how the funds should be dispersed. BWSR will remain neutral to projects promoted. This request is small financially compared to some of the project being proposed. Over the next weeks, the group will be called to attend a Q& A session and present the project to the Senate and House of Representatives in St Paul. Later a similar presentation will be made to the House and last the Finance Committee. D. Hanson stated that the SWCD recently presented information to the House, which has one group that will receive a list of projects. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Schaefer to support the Green Lake Inlet Partnership Resolution. The motion passed.

8.b.3 CWLA/CWP BMP promotion. WD staff is doing everything possible to get additional BMPs implemented before the expiration of the CWLA grant on June 30, 2009.

8.b.4 Middle Fork Crow River BMP-Stream stabilization project. Joyce Smith of Union Grove Township provided a cost breakdown on Project #M-1-09, which is Meeker County Ditch #47. Total estimated cost \$10,825 which includes: clearing, grubbing, excavation, fill, silt curtain and seeding. See photos taken by WD staff. A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by R. Schaefer to allow 75% of total estimated cost up to \$10,825.00 for M-1-09 ditch project contract. The motion passed with J. Flanders abstaining from the vote.

8.b.5 MN Waters Grant update for shoreline restoration project in Lions Park in Spicer. The kick off meeting was held on February 12th and was attended by all the partners. Future

meetings are planned to develop a design for the foot path and education sign development. The project timeline was submitted to MN Waters.

8.b.6 Cassman shoreline restoration on Nest Lake update-J. Michels reported to the WD that the design is almost complete. He expects RFP's to be going out shortly.

8.b.7 Belgrade Stormwater Project update- J. Michels reported to the WD that no news as of yet. He is still working on water quality treatment options. An estimated cost of the Project could be over \$400,000.

8.b.8 Diamond Lake Wastewater Committee update-Survey votes were counted at the WD office, noting that 84% of those residents contacted submitted votes. The ISTS option won by a significant margin. Unfortunately, this is not a viable option available for many residents on the Lake. Kandiyohi County Commissioner- D. Peterson stated the County Commissioners gave the residents/Committee until May 5th to have a viable solution. The DL Wastewater Committee wanted to go to the Township Board and see if there was any interest a subordinate water district. The County Commissioners want all septic work done around the lake to be completed within 18 months. Sewage options are also still being explored with the City of Kandiyohi.

8.c Administrative matters-

8.c.1 Update on Conway, Deuth& Schmiesing contract expenditures were reviewed with the Board. Concern was raised at the last Board meeting, to check if enough funds were budgeted for accounting services and the updated budget does that expenditures roughly match the proposal that had been submitted.

8.c.2 USGS gage cost share is up for renewal. The gage is located by County Road #2 and is relied heavily upon by the WD. The cost for renewal is \$7415.00, which is half of the total cost incurred by USGS. A motion was made by R. Schaefer and second by G, Behm to approve up to \$7415.00 for the renewal of the USGS gage for one year. The motion passed.

8.c.3 Sara Jacobson WD intern extension is due to expire at the on March 22. Previously the Board had budgeted for additional staff. C. Anderson suggested that a subcommittee be formed to explore employment options. R. Hodapp and R. Schaefer volunteered to serve on the committee. A motion was made by G. Behm and J. Flanders to approve R. Hodapp and R. Schaefer and C. Anderson to negotiate employment options. The motion passed. The Staff and Board have been pleased with the quality of work provided by S. Jacobson.

8.c.4 The 4th anniversary of the WD will occur this April and an open house will be planned to honor the event and inform the public on the many projects that have been implemented.

8.c.5 Office space limitations were discussed. New equipment needs to be purchased which will result in storage space shortage. Our current building does have unused and unfinished space available. The landlord quoted approximately \$800/month for additional space. The Board briefly discussed the option of purchasing space or continuing to rent. Our current 2 year lease is up for renewal in June 2009.

8.c.6 Administrators' Hours-C. Anderson updated a form used by the previous administrator break down of time. See form.

8.d Administrative Matters

8.d.1 Citizens Advisory Committee-C. Anderson stated that Greg Lecy has been selected to coordinate the Committees. The WD would invite the CAC to attend at least one Board meeting.

8.d. 2 Board term expirations will occur for R. Hodapp of Kandiyohi County and J.. Flanders of Meeker County. Meeker County has asked J. Flanders to serve for another term.

Kandiyohi County briefly expressed concern that they would be unable to meet the timelines required in 103D.311 prior to the expiration of the term - 103D.315 Watershed District law states that “a manager’s term continues until a successor is appointed and qualified”, so there is not cause for Kandiyohi County’s concerns with the timeline. Letters will be sent to Meeker and Kandiyohi County Commissioners stating the intent and willingness to serve by each J. Flanders and R. Hodapp.

9. Legal-No comments.

10. Public Access Forum- No public comments.

11. Adjourn-A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Submitted by,

Ruth Schaefer
Secretary

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