

MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

December 15, 2005 at 7:50 pm

Bell Tower Plaza

118 Lake Ave. N.

Spicer MN, 56288

PRESENT: Gordy Behm, Joe Flanders, Robert Hodapp, Robert Zenner and Ruth Schaefer of the board; Kurt Deter- Rinke-Noonan Law Firm, Ann Latham-Adm. Assistant and Tom Bonde of Spicer.

A special meeting was held today for the purpose of interviewing agencies interested in developing the Watershed Comprehensive Plan. The meeting was opened at 5:00 pm by Chairman R. Hodapp and adjourned at 7:30 pm. Presentations were made by:

1. Barr Engineering-Karen Chandler, Henry Runke and Steven Klein;
2. Emmons & Olivier Resources-Brett Emmons, Jay Michels and Jennifer Olson;
3. Mid-Minnesota Development Commission (MMDC) - Matt Johnson; and
4. Wenck Associates-Chris Meehan, Norm Wenck and Kenton Torve.

Each group provided a 20-30 minute presentation and answered questions for 5-10 minutes. Materials and maps were provided for the audience for review, see attached. This special meeting and the regular meeting was attended by the names listed above.

The regular meeting was opened by Chairman R. Hodapp at 7:50 pm.

Old Business:

1. Agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Zenner. The motion passed.

2. Minutes. A motion to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2005 meeting was made by R. Zenner and seconded by J. Flanders. The motion passed.

3. Treasurers Report was provided by G. Behm. See attached report.

G. Behm reported that Kandiyohi County is the only county, thus far, to pay the tax levy due to the Watershed District. The Board discussed the amounts due by each of the respective counties. R. Hodapp asked A. Latham to contact each county to determine what specific paperwork they require for payment of taxes raised for the Watershed District.

G. Behm presented information from S. Modderman, Kandiyohi County Auditor on the graduated levels of taxes paid within the county. Farm lands, commercial and residential all pay a different rate. This rate changes as values increase. G. Behm was asked by members of the board to obtain more specific information and present it the board at the next meeting.

Westberg, Eischens & Van Buren, is the only firm contacted so far that is able to perform the accounting services for a "nonprofit organization". Discussion took place on other options available in the area and it was decided that G. Behm will contact more accounting firms.

Mileage reimbursement rate is \$.44 as of 1-1-2006.

A motion was made by R. Schaefer and seconded by R. Zenner to approve the treasurer's report (subject to audit) as stated. The motion passed.

4. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by J. Flanders to approve the December bills to pay. The motion passed. See attachment.

New Business:

1. Watershed District Comprehensive Plan- A general review of each of the presenting agencies took place. The need for further review and consideration of each group was discussed. B. Hodapp asked A. Latham to send a notice to each presenter thanking them for their time and materials; each group should be informed that no decision will be made prior to the January meeting.

2. Office update by A. Latham-see attachment.

1. Audit proposal-see above notes in Treasurers report.

2. Drainage book-Kurt Deter identified the reference book on Drainage Law which will be ordered for the Watershed District office.

3. Request for "Public Drainage Ditch Buffer Strip Study"-Currently no county has turned over their ditches to the Watershed District, so a letter explaining this will be sent by A. Latham.

4. Request for donation to the Gary Westby Internship.-After discussion it was decided that A. Latham would send a letter stating that the Watershed District is not in a position to make a donation at this time.

5. Citizens Advisory Committee- Add: Mike Taylor-USDA and remove Preston Mattke of Ducks Unlimited.

6. Records of regular meetings will be signed by the secretary. The office will maintain a paper and electronic copy of all important information. A. Latham needs information from May, June and July. This will be emailed to her by R. Schaefer or other board members.

7. A mission statement will need to be developed by the Watershed District. Copies will be collected for further review and a decision will be made at a later time.

8. Carp situation in district lakes, see notes from A. Latham.

9. MPCA Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program. Discussed inspection and enforcement issues within the construction business. No action taken on this issue.

10. MECA Erosion Control and Stormwater Management Conference is in St. Cloud in 2006. See brochure.

11. MLA-wetland tax exemption-information available through County Assessor's office.

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3. Monitoring Grant- R. Schaefer

The Rivers council of Minnesota informed R. Schaefer that the grant application for the Citizens Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Programs has been approved. We applied for the training session in January 2006 however that session was filled and we are approved for the September dates. R. Schaefer will notify the volunteers of the date change and hopefully all will still be able to attend the later training session. See attached letter from Rivers Council of Minnesota.

4. Middle Fork Crow River Partnership Meeting- G. Behm and R. Schaefer attended a meeting with. Broman on 12-10-05. Minutes of the meeting were provided, see attachment. Jill Nelson of Spicer coordinated the monitoring last year and will be contacted for further information. A meeting will be scheduled in January with J. Nelson and S. Wright-DNR to review the previous water monitoring plan. The board will be updated at the January meeting

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 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ruth Schaefer