

MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

December 2nd, 2008

174 Lake Ave.

Spicer, MN 56288

A closed meeting was held prior to the Board of Manager meeting for the purpose of a performance evaluation on Vanessa Glieden Henjum. All Board members were present along with C. Anderson. The closed meeting was held from 6:45-7:00 pm.

Present: Joe Flanders, Gordy Behm, Robert Hodapp, Robert Zenner, and Ruth Schaefer of the Board; Chad Anderson-Administrator; Vanessa G. Henjum-Technician, S. Jacobson-Technician; Tom Bonde-Technical Advisor; Adam Ripple & John Kolb-Legal Counsel; Jay Michels-EOR, Harlan & Sherrie Meints-Diamond Lake, Doug Hanson-SWCD, Lorin Hatch-HDR and Kevin Dittbenner.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Chairman R. Hodapp.
2. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Zenner to approve the agenda. The motion passed.
3. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Schaefer to approve the November minutes. The motion passed.
4. Treasurers Report was provided by C. Anderson and reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Zenner to approve the Treasurers Report subject to audit. The motion passed.
5. December bills to pay were presented by C. Anderson and reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by G. Behm to approve the December bills. The motion passed.
6. Hydrogen Sulfide Management-A presentation was made by L. Hatch-HDR – Lorin was invited by C. Anderson to provide the presentation based on a request for help from the City of New London. The hydrogen sulfide problem was previously addressed by a Phase I study done by Steve McComas and others of Blue Water Science. This 2002 study was not fully completed (only a few samples taken). A slide presentation reviewed data of: fish kills noted in the 1930's, sediment measurements of 4-5 feet thick causing decay of organic matter, hydrogen sulfide concentrations that exceed the MN Department of Health air quality standards (30 micrograms is a safe standard and levels of 1000 micrograms have been measured). L. Hatch stated that snow cover on shallow lakes results in a reduction in dissolved oxygen. Sulfur is then released from sediment into the water columns. Sulfur accumulates in the Mill Pond area and is released into the air as the water flows over the dam: the out gassing of hydrogen sulfide occurs in the water and is quickly volatilized into the air, resulting in the "rotten egg" smell commonly found near the dam in late winter. The odor quickly disappears as the water moves out of the Mill Pond area. Sources of the sulphate are stream nutrient loading, aquatic plants and sediments. Potential corrective actions: 1.Dredging of an estimated 5.6 million cubic yards of sediment would be expensive. 2. Winter aeration by a powered source or unpowered sources such as boulders could be done. 3. Winter chemical treatment with iron sulfide. 4. Draw down water levels in the Mill Pond area. 5. Microbial treatment may achieve some improvement. 6. Water could be redirected to bypass the dam via a pipe (18" pipe goes from the Mill

Pond area to the Fish Hatchery area) – water would be treated in the pipe with iron chloride. or 7. Other options yet to be determined. L. Hatch suggested that the MRCRWD perform a more thorough study.

Our Comprehensive Plan Initiative #67 does address this concern. The Board discussed the possibility of completing the Blue Water Science diagnostic study and/ conduct a feasibility study. Discussion took place among the Board and T. Bonde on the technical aspects of a diagnostic study, WD role in this problem, and uncertainty of the City of New London’s role vs. the WD. C. Anderson will check with the Fisheries Department and the DNR about completing the diagnostic study. No other action was taken on this matter.

7. Rules Update was presented by C. Anderson and A. Ripple. See Administrative Rules and permit information.

8. Administrative Report:

8. a. Review calendar-

8. b. Review of project Status:

8. b.1. County Road 10 options were presented by C. Anderson, A. Ripple, and J.

Kolb. A. Ripple expressed concern over the draft of the petition, written by C. Anderson. A. Ripple stated, “General funds should provide benefit for all property owners of the WD”. Therefore, he asked J. Kolb to present

other options of funding available to the WD for the 3 BMP projects on county road 10. J .Kolb presented information on 3 types of funding available to the WD:

1.) Ad valorem tax-general benefit to the entire WD, 2.) Area Charge in accordance with MN Statute 103d and 103f. This allows for a stormwater charge used for a specific region to correct a burden/problem and 3.) Direct

assessment to all affected property owners. J. Kolb stated the process of direct assessment would add 1-2 months to the project time. Extra time would be needed for water monitoring. The WD does not have enough funds to cover all 3 BMP Projects at one time. C. Anderson stated that the GLPOA has offered some funds, however it is doubtful that the City of Spicer has any extra funds to offer. J. Michels stated that the WD has an opportunity to create a Lake Priority Plan and look at all of the inlets at one time. The Board agreed to legal counsel revising the petition in a way

that holds the City of Spicer involvement in this project and allows opportunity for the WD to implement BMP projects as needed.

8b.2. Diamond Lake TMDL Project update- A public meeting is scheduled for December 10th in Atwater.

8. b.3. Best Management Practices-Spillseth stormwater project on Green Lake has been completed.

8. b.4. Stormwater Education in Atwater is scheduled for March 2009 by J. Michels

8. c. Administrative Matters:

8. c.1. Belgrade stormwater update-C. Anderson stated that WSB Engineering is not in the WD preapproved Engineering group and therefore can not be contracted by the WD to conduct a feasibility study. J. Michels met with WSB and stated they would sell project information obtained thus far to EOR, in order for EOR to complete the feasibility study. J. Michels “estimated that \$2,500 would be needed to obtain previous assessments, site check information, surveying...” WSB Engineering will send information to EOR

for J. Michels to review and J. Michels will update the WD at a future meeting. J. Michels quoted an estimate of \$10,000 for a feasibility study. The largest cost would come from the soil borings likely necessary in a project like this one. He also stated that land may be available by the Public Works building, which may allow for pretreatment of water. Concern was raised that the City of Belgrade has never formally requested assistance by the WD. Provided that a letter is received; the WD Board felt this project was important in improving the water quality of Middle Fork Crow River. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by J. Flanders to approve EOR to perform a Feasibility Study of the City of Belgrade's stormwater management problem for up to \$10,000 after receipt of a letter from the City of Belgrade requesting the WD assistance in this matter. The motion passed.

8. c.2. Spillseth BMP-Contract has been completed and the WD will pay the property owners.

8. c.3. Flanders project is also done. Photos will be provided at the January Board meeting.

8. d. Follow up on November Administrative matters

8. d.1. Lake management plan-Nest Lake project presented by S. Jacobson. Another meeting is scheduled next week for the review of the plan done thus far. DNR and Fisheries information still needs to be added.

8. d.2. Parental Leave draft policy and personnel policy manual was reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded G. Behm to approve the policy with some minor changes made with benefits. The motion passed.

-- As required in the Administrator Guidelines and Benefits page provided in the offer letter to C. Anderson upon his hiring, C. Anderson informed the Board of a vacation that will exceed 5 days in length, from January 14-24, 2009. The Board had no problem with the vacation request.

9. Legal Counsel Report-no new information.

10. Public Access Forum-D. Hanson stated that he attended a meeting with John Jaske who emphasized the need for all organizations to partner with other organizations to maximize the dedicated funds once they are available. D. Hanson then requested that C. Anderson attend some of the SWCD meetings. Next meeting is Tuesday, January 20th at 11:00 a.m. He also warned about funding a BMP project at a 100% which could set an unwanted precedent.

11. Adjourn- A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Zennner to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Submitted by,
Ruth Schaefer
Secretary.