

MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT  
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010  
174 Lake Avenue North  
Spicer, MN 56288

A closed meeting was held at 6:30-7:00 pm for the performance evaluation of the C. Anderson-Administrator. The meeting was attended by all Board of Managers and C. Anderson.

Present: J. Flanders, G. Behm, R. Hodapp, B. Wing, and R. Schaefer of the Board; C. Anderson-Administrator, S. Jacobson, and V. Glieden Henjum-staff; A. Ripple-Attorney; T. Fischer-BWSR; J. Peterson, J. & N. Johnson-Nest Lake; S. VanBuren and K. Akerson-Westberg-Eischens-Accounting Firm.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman R. Hodapp at 7:00 pm.
2. The Mission Statement was read by the Chairman.
3. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the agenda. The motion passed.
4. A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by J. Flanders to approve the consent agenda items #4-Minutes of 2-9-10 meeting; #5-Treasurers Report; #6- March bills to pay; #7-Permit #10-03 Rice property. The motion passed.
8. District Annual Audit Results were presented by S. VanBuren and K, Akerson. See annual report document and letter to the Board of Directors dated 2-22-10. The audit was presented and all questions were answered. A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by J. Flanders to accept the audit. The motion passed. T. Fischer will send a copy of the audit and annual report to BWSR as required by state regulations.
9. Nest Lake Petition update: Resolution #10-01, "Acceptance of Petition from Nest Lake Improvement Association" was reviewed by the Board and read by C. Anderson and agreed upon by J. Peterson of the Nest Lake Board. The Resolution officially designated the project "CIP 10-01 Nest Lake Curly Leaf Pondweed Management Program". The Board reviewed a letter dated 2-18-10 from C. Meehan-Project Manager of Wenck Associates. This letter stated the proposal for Nest Lake treatment option for Curly Leaf Pondweed. A. Ripple stated that the bid for the Engineers Report could be accepted by the Board without the public bidding process due to the lower dollar value. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by B. Wing to accept the Wenck Associates bid and officially designate Wenck Associates as the engineer to conduct the Engineers Report for Nest Lake. The motion passed. A motion was made by R. Schaefer and seconded by B. Wing to accept Resolution 2010-01 "Acceptance of Petition from Nest Lake Improvement Association". A meeting will be scheduled with the DNR, Wenck Associates, and the Nest Lake Board to discuss harvesting of the Curly Leaf Pondweed in the shallower areas of the lake. The goal is to decrease the invasive plants to enable the reestablishment of native vegetation. A presentation to the Nest Lake Board and a Public hearing will follow.

10. Aquatic Invasive Species update was presented by R. Schaefer. The AIS Committee has met with Kandiyohi County Commissioners (R. Falk, D. Peterson) and representatives from county wide lake associations in an attempt to develop a county wide AIS prevention program. The Committees goals are to: 1. Public Awareness Campaign program, 2. Increase the number of hours of boat inspections and train more inspectors, 3. contact legislative staff and request a pilot project in Kandiyohi County to monitor and regulate the lake accesses. Both County Commissioners agreed with the goals and stated they would support the goals. R. Falk offered to speak to the Sheriffs Department on training more deputies in boat inspections and the law. He also stated that the County would work as the financial agent and would accept donations, grant funds and other money for this project. A grant request was also presented to the County Commissioners, which will be presented to the Water Task Force meeting (March 16<sup>th</sup>). That request is \$17,500 for County Sheriffs Department boat inspection training, Public Awareness Campaign and Watercraft Inspection program for county lakes with emphasis placed on infested waters.

J. Peterson expressed concern about a last minute request for \$250 from lake associations by the Committee. R. Schaefer stated that the Committee needed to inform the County Commissioners prior to the County Board meeting the number of lake associations interested in Watercraft Inspection program. The Committee needed to show that match funds were available. The Committee also wants the Kandiyohi County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA) to elect a new Board and begin regular meetings in the spring, which should improve communication.

11. Administrator's Report:

11.a. Review of the Calendar: March 25<sup>th</sup> the Citizens Advisory Committee will meet.

11.b. Review of the Project Status

11. b.1. MPCA Integrated Watershed Management funding request was presented by C. Anderson. In an effort to conduct TMDL studies on the ever increasing number of impaired water bodies in an economically viable manner, the MPCA has implemented a new approach that divides the State into 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUC's). The purpose is to conduct TMDL studies on a regional basis, rather than the current model. The Middle Fork Crow River falls into the North Fork Crow River 8-digit HUC, which will be one of the first regional areas to complete the integrated watershed approach. As such, MPCA is working with the MFCRWD, CROW and NFCRWD. \$300,000 is available for the North Fork 8-digit HUC, including consulting costs. C. Anderson stated "...although some of the work our technicians would be performing would be out of our WD area it would be a very good learning experience for us, and our time would be reimbursed by the MPCA funds, of which the MFCRWD would be the fiscal agent if the plan is accepted." S. Jacobson stated that the project would involve 47 impaired water bodies, including both lakes and river reaches. The regional approach covers around 1000 square miles, necessitating the cooperative approach with the NFCRWD, CROW and Wenck. R. Hodapp asked, "How do you do a TMDL study for a 1000 square mile area?" C. Anderson stated that MPCA has discussed this scope of project with the EPA and Wenck and a plan was developed. G. Behm asked about the technician's reimbursement; C. Anderson stated \$40/hour would be the reimbursement rate. B. Wing asked the Administrator if he felt that the staff could handle the task. C. Anderson stated, "Yes, this would be good training for the technicians". A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the request by the MPCA for Integrated Watershed Management Funds. The motion passed.

11. b.2. Clean Water Partnership Grant final payment of \$7,600 will be issued during the month of March. The final report has been sent to the State.

11. b.3. Clean Water Partnership Continuation Grant has not yet been received. Previously the Board had a Resolution and Public Meeting for the acceptance of \$350,000 grant funds and \$150,000 in low interest loans. C. Anderson asked the Board if this could be signed as

soon as possible. A. Ripple suggested that the Public Meeting notice be placed now so the notice complies with the 2 week notice law.

11.c. Administrative Matters:

11. c.1. Annual Report-See 2009 Annual Report, which was created by the staff and reviewed by the Board. See Report.

11. c.2. Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) N. Johnson reported that the January 2010 meeting was well attended. Attendees requested more framework for the Committee in order to create a mission statement. The CAC will create “procedures” rather than “bylaws” and N. Johnson plans to have the procedures approved prior to the next meeting which is 3-25-10. A budget will be developed and include a free will offering for the meals. Mileage will not be paid to the volunteers. A. Ripple offered to review and comment on policy procedures with N. Johnson.

11. c.3. Board term expiration for B. Wing (completed R. Zenner’s term) and R. Schaefer. Each Board Member will need to contact their respective county and state their intention of renewal or retirement. Both Board Members expressed an interest in continuing to serve as Managers if approved by their respective county commissioners.

11. c.4. Personnel Review occurred tonight for C. Anderson prior to this meeting. The Board provided a positive review summary for the Administrator.

11. c.5. Upcoming personnel review is due in April for S. Jacobson and this will be scheduled after the April meeting. The Open House is scheduled prior to the meeting.

11. c.6. Houston Engineering contract amendment for the Diamond Lake TMDL study will cost the District up to an additional \$5,400. These funds will be taken out of the general fund if the amount exceeds the TMDL fund. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve up to \$5,400 to Houston Engineering. The motion passed.

11. c.7. Rinke Noonan donation for the Open House- A motion was made by R. Schaefer and seconded by G. Behm to accept the donation of \$400 from Rinke Noonan for the Open House fund. The motion passed. The Board and staff thanked A. Ripple and the firm for their donation.

11. d.1. Follow up on February administrative matters:

11. d.1. Watershed District 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House will take place 5:00 to 6:30 pm prior to the Board Meeting.

11. d.2. Follow up on League of Minnesota Cities liability insurance was given by C. Anderson. He stated that the specific wording of “covered” vs. “uncovered” liability was vague and the agent suggested that the WD call for specific information prior to a major project.

12. Legal Counsel-A. Ripple no further comments.

13. Public Access Forum-.R. Schaefer commented that the letter sent to the DNR Commissioner in December 2009 is now in a committee for review and hopefully some type of action. The letter expressed concern about the upcoming DNR permitted fishing tournaments that include lakes infested with zebra mussels and Green Lake.

14. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by B. Wing to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by R. Schaefer Secretary