

**MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING**

Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

MFCRWD Office, 189 County Road NE, Spicer, MN

Present: R. Hodapp; J. Flanders; B. Wing; R. Schaefer-Board; Absent-G. Behm; M. Johnson-Administrator; J. Morales & D. Erickson-Technicians; ACGC YES Team: M. Dahl & G. Lokken; H. & S. Meints; A. Blick & C. Koch-Nest Lake and D. Hanson-SWCD

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by R. Hodapp.
2. The District Mission Statement “We exist for the protection and preservation of water quality in the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed” was read by R. Hodapp.
3. A motion was made by J. Flanders, seconded by B. Wing to approve the agenda. The motion passed 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

(The consent agenda is considered as one item of business. It consists of routine administrative items or items not requiring discussion. Items can be removed from the consent agenda at the request of a Board member).

4. Approve the minutes of the March 7 meeting
5. Treasurer’s Report
6. Permit #17-02
7. West’s Letter – No Mow

A motion made by J. Flanders, seconded by B. Wing to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 4-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Administrator’s Report:
 - a. ACGC – YES! Team Project of the Year Award-J. Morales introduced and explained the winning 2016 Project of the Year. Friday April 28th is the dedication date on site. The Board congratulated the ACGC Team and hoped to see them enter another project next year.
 - b. Review Calendar/District Activities – M. Johnson - reviewed calendar of events. See calendar.
 - c. Review of Project Status
 1. Diamond Lake TMDL Implementation, Hubbard, Schultz, and Wheeler - Implementation Activity CIP #13-02 M. Johnson stated that this is a good time to document the shallow lake area success prior to project implementation. Wenck Engineering could perform a fly over (4 times = \$4800 bid) with a drone or we could purchase our own drone for under \$3000. This would allow us to document the before, during and after of the project. D. Erickson stated the cost could range from \$1500 - \$3000 from the DJI Company. The hobby grade would allow for video and photos. This could be used for the building of a 3D modeling of Meeker County Ditch #47. B. Wing asked what the range of the drone; D. Erickson stated 5 kilometers and about 11 minutes of time. A second battery was discussed to increase the flying time. J. Morales stated the drone would be good for vegetative questions. M. Johnson did check with J. Kolb and the FAA regulations. Our insurance does cover drones. Drones would require a specific permit. General funds could cover the cost with reimbursement coming from the Hubbard, Schultz, Wheeler, Capitol Improvement Project fund. A motion made by R. Schaefer,

seconded by J. Flanders to approve up to \$1500 for the drone and a backup battery for purchase. The motion passed 4-0.

2. North Fork One Watershed One Plan- M. Johnson reported a main concern continues to be about governance. B. Wing had suggested a MOU at the last meeting; however, the group was not in agreement. The C.R.O.W. seems to be the lead choice for the governance of the organization for 1W1P. M. Johnson will not be attending and R. Hodapp will attend.
3. Accelerated Implementation Grant (AIG) presentation has been scheduled with the Spicer City Council. J. Morales stated L. Valiant invited the group to make the presentation of potential projects within the City of Spicer. AIG will be utilized with the map which indicated all local projects that could be done. If projects could be incorporated for design implementation would be good for water quality.
4. Nest Lake- Several people called our WD inquiring about an error on their tax statement. This error occurred on approximately 800 residents. An increase in tax was recorded rather than a decrease in tax due. The tax statement also made it look like the increase was for the MFCRWD. The statement should have reported a reduction in taxes for the Nest Lake Aquatic Plant Management Project and Diamond Lake Aquatic Plant Management. Discussion took place and R. Imdieke was asked if the County Assessor could label the two items more clearly. The County is aware of the issue and is working on a solution. The Diamond Lake Aquatic Plant Management project assessed amount is \$20,000, down from \$28,000. See the Capital Improvement Project for Diamond and Nest Lake Projects for further information. The Nest Lake Association will notify their members about the misprint. C. Koch stated he would like more information from the Nest Lake Board. R. Schaefer offered to contact the Nest Lake board member and ask them to contact C. Koch and others.

d. Administrative matters

1. New Meeker County Board Manager-M. Johnson reported that Barbara Loch, Meeker County Auditor/Treasurer has placed the appointment on the April 18th County Commissioner's Agenda. will appoint a new manager. Mike Huberty, Meeker County Commissioner has been working to fill the Meeker County appointment. J. Flanders stated he would continue to attend WD meetings until his replacement is available. The Board thanked him for his extended service.
2. George Lake Application for Program Funds – An application requesting \$1420 for a lake survey by the George Lake Association was submitted to the WD. The cost to the WD would be \$710. A motion made by R. Schaefer, seconded by B. Wing to approve a Curly Leaf Pondweed expenditure up to \$710 for the survey passed 4-0. H. Meints asked why should a Lake Association pay if the DNR does survey for free. The DNR does perform surveys at no charge; but CLPW must be treated early and the timing cannot be guaranteed by the DNR.
3. Office and Finance Manager Position Hire – Kala Kaehler-.M. Johnson hired Kala Kaehler who currently works at the DNR. K. Kaehler will also work with our accountant to improve our accounting system.
4. Nest Lake Assessment –M. Johnson was asked to send a letter for the back tax due on this project. MN DOT staff called the WD and said their attorney will call our attorney. J. Kolb stated he would take the call and report back to the WD.
5. MAWD – Day at the Capitol- M. Johnson presented the MN Statues Chapter 103D WD Statue Language Correction Project Tax Levy. Our efforts were unsuccessful this year but we will try again next year. The bill is in discussion with our local legislators.

6. Meeker County Ditch Project-M. Johnson reported that on April 20th a meeting will occur with J. Kolb and T. Ostendorf, Board Conservationist with BWSR. We will discuss information about CD #47 and potential projects; projects that could be grant funded rather than property owner funded. J. Morales stated the Meeker County ditch inspector is interested in doing more projects. The ditch needs current rules being enforced such as animal use of use of river and adding buffers.
7. Annual Open House – The May 2nd date has been changed to July 11, due to schedule conflicts. The Open House will start at 5:00 pm and the Board meeting at 6:30 pm.
8. Minnesota Association of Watershed District Summer Tour -Each WD will have 2 delegates and 1 alternate for voting on: proxy elimination, bylaw changes, dues restructuring. More information will be sent to each Administrator and Manager.
9. Legal Counsel Report (*J. Kolb*) -*none*
10. Public Access Forum-*none*.
11. A motion was made by J. Flanders, seconded by B. Wing to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was ended at 7:44 pm.

Submitted by,

Ruth Schaefer
Secretary