

Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District

Board of Managers Meeting

April 5th, 2011

174 Lake Avenue North

Spicer, MN 56288

Present: J. Flanders, G. Behm, R. Hodapp, B. Wing and R. Schaefer of the Board; C. Anderson-Administrator; S. Jacobson, V. Glieden-Henjum-Technicians; J. Kolb-Legal Counsel; T. Fischer-BWSR; T. Schaefer-Kandiyohi SWCD.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman R. Hodapp at 7:05 p.m.
2. District Mission Statement “We exist for the protection and preservation of water quality in the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed” was read by the Chairman.
3. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the agenda as stated. The motion passed.
- 4-8. Consent Agenda: March minutes, Treasurer’s Report, April bills to pay, Permit 11-01 Koosman on Green Lake, and Permit 11-02 Kleinsasser on Green Lake.

A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.

9. Administrator’s Report:

- a. Review of the calendar
- b. Review of Project Status

1. Belgrade Stormwater project update-In light of the motion passed at the March Board meeting to approve an additional \$10K contribution to the project, a formal amendment was proposed to contract S-1-10 to amend the contract amount and the completion date. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve a cost share not to exceed \$181,500 or 35% (whichever is less). The motion passed 5-0. CROW Joint Powers Board has also approved a contribution towards this project. Funds are available for this project until 12-31-2011.

2. Schultz/Hubbard/Wheeler Chain of Lakes Feasibility Study update-The main agencies involved with this project met to discuss the project and concept that will be studied to determine feasibility. The meeting was attended by E. Jenzen-DNR, L. Engelby & J. Bredberg-Kandiyohi County and J. Kavanagh-Ducks Unlimited. The concept is that constructed structures will reverse the flow of water and allow a drawdown of the water level in the chain of lakes. The drawdown water will flow into County Ditch #28. Lower lake levels would promote invasive plant die off and winter kills of invasive bottom feeding fish, and promote the establishment of rooted, native, aquatic vegetation. A new fish barrier will limit (not completely prevent) the return of the carp into the chain of lakes. Overall carp numbers should be reduced. The meeting was held with the officials who regulate ditches and wetlands to determine if there are any “show-stoppers” that would make the feasibility

study a futile effort. Following the meeting, it was determined by all that the feasibility study should move forward.

3. Diamond Lake TMDL update- C. Anderson participated in a conference call with the EPA who requested changes to be made to the final report, which is pending. The document should go out for public notice shortly.

4. Nest Lake Petition update-A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by J. Flanders to approve two additional appraisers (Merle Beekman and Clifford Emmert) to work with Ron Riquist. The motion passed 5-0.

5. MWRPP Project update-The CROW Joint Powers Board will be taking the lead on this Project which is a regional TMDL process. Project partners met in March to discuss strategies for the civic engagement portion of the project.

6. "STREAM" Education Program update-V. Glieden-Henjum and S. Jacobson worked with the ACGC 4th graders on erosion control with the "Just Passing Through" educational module. Sessions with NL-S 5th graders are scheduled for later in April.

c. Administrative matters-

1. Q1 Actual Expenditures-see handout.

2. Future office needs-The County Road 8 land across from the DNR is still for sale – no action taken.

3. Potential future for BWSR grants process-C. Anderson attended a meeting with other county and WD representatives, along with J. Hrubes and others from BWSR, to learn of a new format being considered which is based on Washington state grant process. If it moves forward, the new process would require the WD to work closely with the SWCDs in the area to plan activities on a biennial scale.

4. Fisher Lake Wetland Restoration project discussion. G. Behm and WD staff met with S. Erickson of the U.S Fish & Wildlife Services and J. Miller-DNR Wildlife. This wetland restoration project is in Colfax Township and has been discussed for several years. The potential project involves 6 property owners and over 270 acres. Five of the six property owners are in favor of the project thus far. District staff will work with G. Behm to schedule a time to meet with the property owners to determine local buy-in.

5. S. Jacobson's personnel evaluation was conducted in a closed meeting at 6:45 pm. A favorable evaluation was performed.

6. An extra check was requested for Houston Engineering (\$9,542.25). A motion was made by R. Schaefer and seconded by G. Behm to approve a check for \$9,542.25. The motion passed 5-0.

d. Follow-up on March administrative matters

1. Health insurance- (Resolution 2011-01)-A motion made by B. Wing and seconded by J. Flanders to sign the proposed resolution that officially allows the WD to enact the cafeteria plan previously approved by the Board; the plan was effective March 1st, 2011. The motion passed 5-0.

2. Agricultural BMP incentives-See form. District staff will work with G. Behm and J. Flanders to determine any potentially needed changes.

3. Equipment purchase request-Continuous flow monitors (Doppler units) placed out in the field last year were problematic due to the lack of materials in the water that did not allow the units to collect readings. New pressure transducers would be used in the conservation drainage project to help calculate flow volumes. The Global Water Transducers would cost \$930 each, not including tax or shipping. The WD staff is requesting two transducers. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by B. Wing to approve up to \$2,500 for 2 Global Water Transducer. The motion passed 5-0.

4. Board Term Expiration of G. Behm. The Kandiyohi County Commissioners have followed the steps required by statutes, and have reappointed Mr. Behm for another term.

5. MFCRWD Marketing/Outreach efforts update: The annual report has been sent out to government officials and agencies throughout the District; C. Anderson has met with D. Fuchs-Stearns County SWCD; Met with D. Peterson and requested a meeting with H. Madsen (Kandiyohi County Commissioners). Staff technicians attended the Agricultural show in Willmar the first day, and the Administrator and Manager J. Flanders attended the second day. District Technicians and also gave a presentation about the Watershed District to the Darkhouse and Angling Association.

a. District Promotion Items- C. Anderson presented various items for staff and the Board to review as possible promotion items for Earth Day and the Open House. A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by J. Flanders to approve the purchase of 250 grocery totes. The motion passed 5-0.

b. Annual Report Distribution Options-See form for printing and mailing options of the 2010 Annual Report. Options were reviewed by the Board and a motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by R. Schaefer to approve Option #1 – a bulk mailing to all residents. The motion passed 5-0.

6. MAWD Legislative Reception and Day at the Capitol summary-C. Anderson met with P. Anderson (Starbuck), B. Vogel (Willmar), J. Gimse (Willmar), and B. Ingebrigtsen (Alexandria).

10. Legal Counsel Report-No comments.

11. Public Access Forum-Open House was originally scheduled to take place in June. However, several Board members will be absent. The Board decided to move the Open House to May. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by B. Wing to reschedule the Open House to May 4th 5-6:30 pm. The motion passed 5-0.

12. Adjourn- A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by B. Wing to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0 and the meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Submitted by,
Ruth Schaefer
Secretary