

MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING
May 17th, 2007 – 7:00pm
Dethlefs Center,
Spicer, MN 56288

Present: Gordy Behm, Joe Flanders, Robert Hodapp, Robert Zenner and Ruth Schaefer of the Board; Julie Klocker-Administrator; Tom Bonde-Technical Advisor; Maggie Leach-MPCA; Tom Fischer-BWSR; Diane Sander-CROW; Harlan Meintz, Dale Owen, and Tim Teschendorf of Diamond Lake; Ron Schnieder- Spicer City council,

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman R. Hodapp at 7:00 pm.
2. A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by R. Zenner to approve the agenda. The motion passed.
3. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by G. Behm to approve the April 19, 2006 minutes. The motion passed.
4. A motion was made by R. Schaefer and seconded by R. Zenner to approve the Treasurers Report subject to audit. The motion passed. See attached Treasurers Report.
5. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by G. Behm to approve the May bills to pay. The motion passed. See attached list.
6. Diamond Lake TMDL Study update. J. Klocker presented on overview of the TMDL study process. The handout titled “Background on: Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)” was reviewed. Diamond Lake is impaired for excess nutrients and currently is “listed” as an impaired lake. Once a lake/stream is “listed” as impaired it triggers a TMDL study. Diamond Lake has no obvious point source pollution, mainly nonpoint source pollutants. The TMDL study could be funded, through the Clean Water Legacy grant. TMDL studies need to be concluded prior to the requisition of funds. Studies usually take 3 years to complete. An example of the process would be:
 - MFCRWD Board develops a work plan, which would be submitted to Maggie Leach-MPCA for review and comments.
 - Phase I-data gathering, diagnostic information, chemistries, CVMP to determine if the lake/stream is truly impaired;
 - Phase II-additional monitoring data and modeling of this information is performed;
 - Phase III-calculates the waste load added to the lake for each item of concern listed, public meetings would be held and a draft sent to the MPCA for their comment. The next part is the implementation period.

The WD is in need of more data, such as dissolved O₂, which we could obtain. The sediment release data would be obtained through an engineering firm. Data would be analysis by an engineering firm.

The TMDL study project is listed in our Comprehensive Plan and work could begin sooner than the 2015 timeframe designated by the State of MN. The WD discussed requesting that MPCA change the TMDL study date from 2015 to 2008. The WD is in a good position to assist with this project. We could be as involved in the process as we choose. The WD could take the lead role and approve contracts or hire an engineering firm to complete the entire process. J. Klocker stated that she and Peter Ebnet (summer intern) could begin the process and the actual work would begin in 2008. A letter of support for this idea was presented by the Diamond Lake Association, through their President, H. Meintz.

M. Leach-MPCA stated that, Diamond Lake is in the “State of MN Impaired List queue” and the cost is the same for MPCA if the WD takes the lead or contracts with outside firms. MPCA prefers methods which generates the greatest involvement with local residents’. The project will last many years and the success rests within the degree of local citizen’s involvement. D. Sanders stated that the CROW JP Board decided not to take the lead with their TMDL study as they had no prior experience with TMDL studies.

A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by R. Zenner to approve the second version of Resolution 2007-06 Requesting MPCA Reconsider of Diamond Lake TMDL Study. The motion passed. T. Fischer recommended that H. Meintz add the number of members to his letter as a show of support. H. Meintz stated that many volunteers are not members; it was decided to add this information to the letter.

7. D. Sander-CROW –Clean Water Legacy Grant and Earth Day presentation events were reviewed with a slide show. Training sessions were well attended in Maple Lake and Spicer. Despite the weather, Earth Day was attended by 400-450 people.

8. Office Move-J. Klocker updated the Board on the: change of address and need for a larger post office box. A resolution will be needed for the change of “principal place of business”; followed by a scheduled public hearing. A public hearing could be held during a regular Board meeting. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Zenner to accept Resolution 2007-07 to change the MFCRWD principal place of business. The motion passed.

9. Clean Water Legacy Act (CWLA) - Implementation of Grant Project Prioritization Process-J. Klocker updated the Board on the process that will be implemented with Kandiyohi County SWCD. See form. An example of how this form will be utilized is:
-A request for assistance was received by the WD from the Michael Pickle family of Harrison Township, near Diamond Lake. The request is for grass filter strips and a birm for waste water filtering. Estimated cost of the project is \$44,000 and it is possible that \$22,000 could be funded through CLWA. The property owner would be responsible for approximately \$11,000 (25% of total project cost). MFCRWD does not have bonding authority as of yet.

A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to grant up to \$22,000 from the Clean Water Legacy Grant and up to \$11,000 from the Clean Water Partnership Grant to Michael Pickle of Harrison Township for the above mentioned project. The motion passed. T. Fischer-BSWR requested an aerial photo be taken and included in the formal request. An Operational & Management Plan was included for NRCS review. Engineering was provided by a private company.

10. MFCRWD Engineering needs were reviewed by J. Klocker and the Board. The engineers of our local SWCD and cities have been helpful to the WD. One limitation identified was the inability of the SWCD to work with homes within city limits. The need for quick access to more specialized engineering services was discussed. The advantages and limitations of placing bids and contracting with only one firm were reviewed. A priority of the Boards is the ability to pick and chose an engineering firm based on the needs of the projects. No action was taken on this matter.

11. Board Per Diem Policy: The Board reviewed the revised policy. A motion was made by R. Schaefer and seconded by R. Zenner to approve the “MFCRWD Per Diem and Travel Expense Policy” per legal review. The motion passed.

12. Administrators Report-J. Klocker

a. Review of calendar- see attached.

b. June 28-30 MAWD Conference-several Board member will be attending. The conference may occur during the move of the office. Each Board member will send in their own registration if attending.

c. Equipment purchase-The Board discussed with J. Klocker the types and cost of flow meters (\$6000-7000) which would allow the WD to monitor specific sites when needed. This matter will be added to the June agenda for further review.

As no further business was brought before the Board a motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Submitted by,

Ruth Schaefer
Secretary

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