

MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

August 7th, 2007
MFCRWD Office
174 Lake Avenue North
Spicer, MN 56288

Present: Joe Flanders, Gordy Behm, Robert Hodapp, Robert Zenner and Ruth Schaefer of the Board; Peter Ebnet-Intern; Tom Bonde-Technical Advisor; Maggie Leach-MPCA; Tom Fischer-BSWR; Jean & Dale Ruter, Connie Filley, Mariette & Dean Lovold and Irene Mills of Nest Lake; Harlan Meints and Dale Owen of Diamond Lake; Ralph Jansen, Gary Broman and Terry Frazee of Green Lake. Absent: Julie Klocker-Administrator.

Nest Lake tour (5:30-6:30 pm) was provided by Mr. Filley and Jean and Dale Ruter. Attendance on the tour included: G. Behm, R. Hodapp, R. Zenner, R. Schaefer, T. Bonde, P. Ebnet and D. Lovold.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman R. Hodapp at 7:00 pm.
2. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Zenner to approve the agenda as stated. The motion passed.
3. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by G. Behm to approve the July 10th minutes as stated. The motion passed.
4. Due to an emergency, the Administrator was unable to attend the meeting and the Treasurers Report was incomplete. A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by J. Flanders to table the August Treasurers Report to the September meeting. The motion passed.
5. A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by J. Flanders to approve the August bills to pay. See attached list. The motion passed.
6. **Green Lake Eurasian Water Milfoil Plant Management:** An update on the Eurasian milfoil treatment on Green Lake was provided by R. Jansen and T. Frazee. Lake Restoration treated approximately 47 sites with the application of a herbicide. Osgood Consulting, of the metropolitan area will be the Project Manager and assist the GLPOA in their pursuit of options available to address the management of Eurasian Milfoil. A grant application to the Legislative Citizens Commission on MN Resources (LCCMR) for a pilot project is underway. September 4th, 2007 is the due date for the application. The GLPOA has asked Kandiyohi County and the MFCRWD to provide technical and financial support. GLPOA initially proposed a Resolution to this effect which was revised by J. Klocker-Administrator and the WD Board. See attached Resolution 2007-10 MFCRWD Green Lake LCCMR Grant Request. T. Frazee stated at this time, no specific information as to cost and technical needs can be provided to the Board. More information will need to be forthcoming. GLPOA was asked to provide timely information to the Board prior to the meetings, so that it may be reviewed. T. Frazee agreed to

this request. A motion was made by R. Schaefer and seconded by R. Zenner to approve Resolution 2007-10. The motion passed 5-0.

7. Nest Lake Issues- Information provided by J. Ruter: The Nest Lake Association is creating a Lake Vegetation Management Plan with the assistance of J. Klocker, DNR & Fisheries. The Lake Vegetation Management Plan is a prerequisite for grant funding and is similar to the Phase 3 study done several years ago. Currently the Association is in the research and data collecting stage.

The weed cutting project has 34 property owners requesting service. The harvester is old and in need of numerous repairs. Due to low water levels the cutting season was shorter than usual and some areas of the lake could not be reached at all, due to low lake levels/property owners not allowing the weeds to be cut directly in front of their property. Information obtained at a Minnesota Waters conference has led to changes in the cutting program. The volunteer group now starts much earlier in the spring and concentrates on more specific areas. Hopefully this reduces the number of plants going to seed. D. Ruter stated that he thought he saw a Eurasian milfoil plant during his weed harvesting. A Eurasian milfoil site has not officially been found in Nest Lake.

Members of the Nest Lake Association expressed concern that a sediment ridge is developing by the County Road 9 bridge which is changing the natural landscape of the river and shoreline. Members are asking the WD and DNR what can be done to reduce the sediment build up process. The Board stated they will need to obtain more information and study this concern prior to commenting.

The annual Nest Lake Association meeting is August 11th; the GLSSWD will be presenting information. One trunk line is in place for possible hook up from the GLSSWD to Nest Lake. The septic situation and soil types were discussed. G. Broman suggested a diagnostic study of the lake be performed. P. Ebnet stated that he did conduct stream surveys and stream bank assessment for further study. These assessments were done during low water levels and hopefully can be repeated during high water levels. T. Fischer asked what the lake levels were like during the dryer years of the 1980's; J. Ruter replied that property owners could always use their boats; however, due to the sediment build up that is no longer true.

8. Facilitation on Diamond Lake Issues: H. Meints stated that the Diamond Lake Association voted against the offer by Kandiyohi County to extend the GLSSWD to the lake. The septic problems remain (limited space, old or failing systems). One option being discussed is the University of Minnesota Extension-Service's "On-Site Sewage Treatment Program". The program coordinator for our area, stated that the WD could hold a one-evening workshop to provide information and ideas about small community septic/sewage treatment programs. The workshop would be an overview of what a community decision making process would entail. The WD would like to invite everyone from the Diamond Lake area to the initial meeting. If enough interest is generated, the workshops would entail a 5 step process. The cost would be approximately \$2,000-\$2,500 and take several months. J. Klocker has been in contact with Kandiyohi County, who has offered to provide the necessary records and resources that may be needed. H. Meints stated that "there is interest in the initial informational meeting with the U of MN Extension staff and sharing the costs if enough property owners were interested in the project.

A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to share the cost of a U of MN Extension-"On-Site Sewage Treatment Program" initial meeting with the Diamond Lake Association. The motion passed.

9. Best Management Practice Projects:

a) **Scott Gully Erosion Site:** This project involves a cost share funding agreement between the Scott property on Nest Lake and the WD. The gully repair has been engineered by the NRCS and will entail stabilizing a gulley channel through reshaping the side slopes to a 2 to 1 slope, which will provide energy dissipation at the end of the gully. A lining consisting of geotextile fiber and 16" of angular riprap will also be added to the channel. The requested cost share is a maximum of \$15,000 or 75%, whichever is less. 50% of the total project cost is from the CWLA Implementation Fund and 25% will come from the CWP. A motion was made by R. Schaefer and seconded by G. Behm to approve the K-2-07 contract as stated. See contract. The motion passed.

b) **Schaefer Shoreline Project on Lake Calhoun:** This shoreline project will include 5,750' in area and entails placement of approximately 2,500 plants, erosion control fabric and 27 yards of mulch. The requested cost share is a maximum of \$5,000 or 75%, whichever is less. 50% of the total project cost will come from the CWLA Implementation Fund and 25% from the CWP. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Zenner to approve the Schaefer Shoreline Project. The motion passed and R. Schaefer abstained.

c) **Wensman Shoreline Project on Lake Calhoun:** This shoreline project which is 2525' in area entails placement of approximately 1,500 plants, erosion control fabric and 12 yards of mulch. The requested cost share is a maximum of \$4,000 or 75%, whichever is less. 50% of the total project cost will come from the CWLA Implementation Fund and 25% from the CWP. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by G. Behm to approve the Wensman Shoreline Project. The motion passed.

d) **Filley Rain Garden Project on Nest Lake:** This project includes installation of 2 rain gardens to treat runoff from upland areas prior to running into the lake. The requested cost share is a maximum of \$4,400 all of which will be funded from the MN Waters Conservation Partners grant. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by R. Schaefer to approve the Filley Rain Garden Project on Nest Lake. The motion passed.

e) **Pickle Septic System Loan:** A loan agreement has been signed and notarized for a loan in the amount of \$7,000 for a septic system upgrade in the Diamond Lake watershed. This is a 7 year loan to be repaid through a special assessment on the property. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by G. Behm to approve the Pickle Septic System Loan # . The motion passed.

10. County Road 10 Project Update: Engineering work is moving forward on this project and storm water treatment plans need to begin. The potential for water quality projects will require consultation with the landowners, City of Spicer and SEH Engineering firm. Jay Michels of EOR Engineering firm has been involved on a limited basis and the Board discussed allowing them to continue with the next step of the project. T. Bonde expressed concerns about SEH's ability to provide environmentally sound design on this stretch of road. The Board has been pleased with information and services provided by EOR Engineering and Jay Michels. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by J. Flanders to designate another \$10,000 from the general fund for EOR/J. Michels to continue to work on the County Road 10 project. The motion passed.

11. Draft Budget Proposal: The budget draft was reviewed by the Board and the need for a Public Hearing was discussed. A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by R. Schaefer to approve the draft budget as stated and ask the Administrator to proceed with the requirements of the Public Hearing on September 4th, 2007. The motion passed.

12. Summer Intern Report: P. Ebnet reported on his summer activities and stated the importance of the intern position. Most of his time was spent in the field sampling streams, lakes and assessing river banks. Monitoring information was entered into the Storet program for the MPCA. Recently he walked from the New London dam to Nest Lake and sampled 7 different sites for TP, TKN, and TSS. Samples were also taken from pipes leaving the fish pond area. YSI, temperature and pH readings were also taken at various sites within the WD. The Board thanked Peter for his time in the field and at our meetings and wished him well in his college courses.

13. Administrator's Report: J. Klocker was unable to make the meeting due to a family emergency. The upcoming calendar was reviewed.

September 15th is Crow River Clean Up Day; R. Schaefer volunteered to coordinate that event and will contact D. Sander of the CROW.

The Board discussed the need for additional office staff now that the summer intern position is completed. The Board decided to table the discussion till the next meeting so the Administrator can provide more information as to specific needs. A motion was made by R. Zenner and seconded by J. Flanders for the Administrator to proceed with a job description for additional staff and allocation of funds up to \$40,000 for the position. The motion passed.

P. Ebnet attended the CROW phase I meeting on TMDL's, which will involve the North Fork and South Fork of the Crow River more so than the Middle Fork.

P. Ebnet will be attending the Nest Lake Association annual meeting and J. Klocker will be attending the Diamond Lake Association annual meeting.

14. Public Access:

T. Fischer stated that the BSWR will be providing Legacy grant money again, details are still pending. Application process has been extended to 6-8 weeks. T. Fischer will provide more information as it becomes available.

As no other further information was presented a motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by R. Zenner to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Submitted by,

Ruth Schaefer
Secretary

Draft 8-20-07
Approved 9-4-07