

MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

189 County Road 8 NE

Spicer, MN 56288

February 4th, 2014

Present: R. Hodapp, B. Wing, J. Flanders (7:05 pm) R. Schaefer of the Board (G. Behm-absent); M. –Johnson-Administrator; M. Behan-Technician; J. Kolb-Legal; R. Imdieke-County Commissioner; M. Leach-MPCA; S. Lilleberg and J. & A. Kavanaugh-Ducks Unlimited.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hodapp at 7:00 pm.
2. District Mission Statement “We exist for the protection and preservation of the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed” was read by Chairman Hodapp.
3. A motion to approve the agenda was presented by B. Wing and seconded by R. Schaefer. The motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Approve the minutes of the January 7th meeting.
5. Treasurer’s Report

A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by R. Schaefer to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 3-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. 2013 Project of the Year-The second annual Project of the Year Award was accepted by S. Lilleberg of Lilleberg Farms and presented by R. Hodapp. Lilleberg Farms are located near the Hubbard, Schultz and Wheeler chain of lakes. The Lilleberg family installed a bioreactor which will filter out nitrates in the water prior to entering the lakes.

7. Administrator’s Report

7.a. Review of Calendar-See calendar of events.

7.b. Review of Project Status-The WD is still waiting for a determination on the DNR block grant. Denials were received on the BSWR grants. The denied BSWR projects will be submitted to other funding sources for review.

7.c. Administrative matters

7.c.1. Application for Program Funds-PWELC Earth Day-A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by J. Flanders to approve \$400 to the April 2014 Earth Day event. The motion passed 4-0.

7.c.2. 2014 BWSR grants-Denied were: “Protecting and Improving Water Quality in the MFCRW” and “Streambank Erosion Assessment on the MFCR- Accelerated Implementation Grant”.

7.c.3. DNR Delegation Agreement-See Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which was signed by R. Hodapp prior to the meeting. All Level 1 Inspectors need to be trained by the DNR; scheduled training yet to be determined. The delegation agreement allows for this training to occur. M. Johnson reported that Kandiyohi county applied for two Inspector positions. The WD is currently advertising for the summer positions in all area colleges.

7.c.4. Office needs-A freezer for samples will be obtained by staff.

7.c.5. Personnel Review March 4th-The March meeting will start at 6:00 pm for personnel reviews.

7.c.6. Hubbard, Schultz and Wheeler Project update-J. Kolb created a MOU for Ducks Unlimited (DU) and DNR along with the WD for this Project. See MOU for a detailed summary of each organization responsibilities. In summary the DU will: acquire funding; design, engineer and bid the Project as well as overseeing the Project. The WD shall: establish the Project under the Statutes Chapter 103D; acquire necessary property interests; own all improvements constructed in the Project; fund long term Capital Maintenance of the Project and obtain all permits in the coordination with the DNR. The DNR will obtain Commissioner approval for active water level management, perform routine maintenance of the Project and assist the WD with obtaining permits. All three organizations shall jointly develop a Comprehensive Management Plan for the Project. Maintenance of the Project will be defined as Capital Maintenance, Routine Maintenance and if needed more specialized maintenance. A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by J. Flanders to accept the MOU. The motion passed 4-0. The MOU will be sent to the DNR and DU.

7.c.7. One Watershed, One Plan update-See MN BWSR Draft proposal for One Watershed-One Plan. MS 103B.101 allows BWSR to adopt resolutions that allow a comprehensive watershed management. See the draft policy for revising the comprehensive watershed plans. Three types of concept plans are proposed to be tested through the pilot watershed program. Implementation will occur over a 10 year transition period. Concept Implementation Plans would include: Water Quality, Priority Concerns Watershed and Comprehensive Watershed Management. M. Johnson

stated the D. Sander-CROW Joint Powers is willing to head a pilot project. R. Imdieke stated that the Joint Powers Board is interested in hiring a Project Coordinator.

7.c.8. DNR-Bonanza Valley Groundwater Management Program (GWMP) meeting was held in Belgrade and attended by B. Wing and R. Schaefer. DNR staff presented information on: groundwater challenges; the DNR Water Use Permit and Implementing the Bonanza Valley Pilot GWMP. Email updates to this project can be obtained through <http://tinyurl.com/gwma-bonanzavalley>

7.d. Follow-up on January administrative matters-

7.d.1. DNR Level 1 Inspector grant funds-The Level 1 Inspector application for a \$5000 grant has been completed.

7.d.2. Kandiyohi County MOU for Level 1 Inspectors has been signed.

7.d.3. Variance for lawn-M. Johnson and M. Behan attended the Spicer Planning & Zoning meeting. The committee denied our request for a Conditional Use Permit. Approval for a 12,000 square foot area and 2 rain gardens was approved on a 3 year basis. WD would then need to reapply for a variance every three years. The Committee has the right to deny the variance at that time. A MOU has been drafted with the WD allowing two rain gardens outside of the approved 12,000 square feet native planting site. A plant list has been established by M. Behan.

7.d.4. 2013 Audit-An agreement was signed by R. Hodapp renewing our contract with Westberg Eischens. The 2013 audit will be scheduled later this month.

8. Legal Counsel Report-none

9. Public Access Forum-R. Schaefer asked about the Legislative Session to be held in March. M. Johnson stated that she will coordinate the event.

M. Johnson reported that: Houston Engineering will complete their report prior to the March meeting. The Public Meeting could be scheduled in May and the Project could be officially established. WD will need to acquire easements and work with Kandiyohi County for the outflow of the water; Sticker Boy Signs has been contacted for the requested roadside sign which would be used during BMP projects.

B. Wing asked about staffing needs for the summer months. M. Johnson stated summer interns would be requested. B. Hodapp asked how long interns would be needed and M. Behan stated 4-5 months for monitoring and checking permit sites.

10. Adjourn- A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by B. Wing to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting was closed at 8:24 pm.

Submitted by,

Ruth Schaefer
Secretary

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