

Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District
189 County Road NE
Spicer, MN 56288
January 6th, 2015

Present: B. Wing, J. Flanders (7:05), R. Hodapp, R. Schaefer of the Board, G. Behm absent; M. Johnson-Administrator; L. Christensen & C. Fischer-Technicians; J. Kolb-Legal and M. Leach-MPCA.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman 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 Chairman Hodapp.
3. A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by R. Schaefer to approve the agenda. The motion passed 3-0.

Consent Agenda

4. Approve the minutes of the December 2nd meeting.
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Permit #14-26
7. Permit #14-27
8. Permit #14-28

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

Regular Agenda

9. Project of the Year-C. Koch-The presentation will be postponed till the February meeting.

10. Administrator's Report:

10.a. Review of Calendar-See calendar.

10.b. Review of Project Status

10.b.1. Diamond Lake TMDL Implementation, Hubbard, Schultz and Wheeler Implementation Activity CIP #13-02. The Gratz family rejected the latest offer at a meeting with Ducks Unlimited, WD staff and Diamond Lake representatives. Discussions took place to assess the feasibility of moving the pipe to avoid the Gratz property. J. Kolb reviewed the possibility of a quick claim and or a quiet title. S. Lilleberg is aware of legal options he may pursue. M. Johnson offered to meet one more time with the Gratz family after the Beur easement is completed. It should be noted that both surveyors involved in this project agree with the interpretation of the property line. Due to the easement delays the project is now slated for 2016.

10.b.2. K-2-14 Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Project voucher #1-Duininck Construction has completed phase 1 of the project at a cost of \$61,594.39. A motion by R. Schaefer and second by B. Wing to approve payment of K-2-14 for \$61,594.39 for Duininck Construction. The motion passed 4-0.

10.c. Administrative matters

10.c.1. Board Elections-R. Hodapp turned the meeting over to R. Schaefer-secretary for the election of a President. B. Wing nominated R. Hodapp for President; seconded by J. Flanders. The vote was 3-0 (R. Hodapp abstained); R. Hodapp accepted the position of President. R. Schaefer turned the meeting over to President Hodapp. J. Flanders nominated B. Wing for Vice-President; this was seconded by R. Schaefer. The vote was 3-0 (B. Wing abstained); B. Wing accepted the VP position. J. Flanders nominated G. Behm for Treasurer; seconded by B. Wing. The vote was 4-0. B. Wing nominated R. Schaefer for secretary; seconded by J. Flanders. The vote was 3-0 (R. Schaefer abstained). B. Wing nominated J. Flanders as Co-Treasurer; seconded by R. Hodapp. The vote was 3-0 (J.Flanders abstained). J. Flanders accepted the Co-Treasurer position.

10.c.2. Official Newspaper Designation-A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by B. Wing to designate the West Central Tribune as the WD official newspaper. The motion passed 4-0.

10.c.3. Official Depository-A motion was made by R. Schaefer and seconded by J. Flanders to retain Home State Bank as the official WD bank. The motion passed 4-0.

10.c.4. Employee Salary: Noah & Associates Inc.-M. Johnson provided information of the range of services that could be provided to the WD by Noah & Associates for salaries. Data would be collected from area Watershed Districts, County agencies, state agencies and non-profits. The initial cost was estimated at \$1875-\$2500. R. Schaefer stated that the MAWD Board has contracted with the same agency to conduct a state wide salary survey. R. Hodapp suggested that M. Johnson wait until next month to note the status of the MAWD survey.

10.c.5. 2015 Watercraft Inspections DNR Grant-A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by B. Wing to approve the application of the DNR Watercraft Inspections grant. The motion passed 4-0.

10.c.6. Manager Appointment Expiration Dates: Hodapp and Flanders-Each manager will need to send a letter to their perspective county stating their intent to continue to serve. The final decision is up to county commissioners.

10.c.7. State Revolving Fund/Clean Water Program Loan Program-Funds are unable to be carried over into 2015. An application request of Clean Water Partnership 319/CWP state revolving loan funds will be submitted in March. The CWP funds for State Resolving Funds are no longer available. The expiration date was October 15, 2014. A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by J. Flanders instructing the Administer to apply for CWP/319 State Revolving Loan, if appropriate when available. The motion passed 4-0.

10.c.8. Nest Lake Aquatic Plant Management CIP#10-01: The Nest Lake Association representative met with M. Johnson to inquire if their current mechanical harvesting program could be expanded to include AIS projects. The focus of the current project is for water quality and removal of aquatic invasive plants mainly curly leaf pondweed. If the project would be expanded to include AIS then the WD would need to reassess benefits. No action was taken.

10.c.9. Public Employees Retirement Association of MN: Rate increase-The contribution rate increased by ¼% for employee and employer.

10.c.10. Aquatic Invaders Summit, St Cloud-January 20-21st, 2015. Attending will be: R. Hodapp, B. Wing, R. Schaefer of the board. M. Johnson will post a notice that 3 board members will be in attendance.

10.c.11. 2015 IRS Mileage Rate-The new rate is \$.575 for 2015.

10.c.12. 2014 Audit: Westberg Eischens-A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by J. Flanders to approve Westberg Eischens to conduct the WD 2014; the fee should not exceed \$7,500. The motion passed 4-0.

10.d. Follow up on December administrative matters

10.d.1. MA 103D.341-The 45 day waiting period will expire in February.

10.d.2. By-Laws Update Approval-The revised By-Laws were reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by J. Flanders to approve the By-Laws with the discussed changes. The motion passed 4-0.

11. Legal Counsel Report-J. Kolb read the drafted letter which will be sent to Mr. McDonald attorney for EOR. The Board discussed changes to the letter and after agreement the letter will be sent.

12. Public Access Forum-R. Hodapp and B. Wing attended The Managers Meeting at the annual MAWD meeting. The open meeting law was discussed and the need for specific policies with email were reviewed. Managers need to be careful as to not "reply to all" and should not forward on messages that would include 2 or more Managers.

The One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) meeting was attended by: R. Hodapp, B. Wing, M. Johnson, L. Christensen and C. Fischer. The WD will proceed with the North Fork Crow River Watershed District templates for MOU's, Grant Agreement. The "Working Group-1W1P" will meet again in February. The Crow Joint Powers will create a fact sheet for the group. M. Johnson will be a representative for the District on the Advisory Committee. Lead staff from all entities have yet to be determined.

B. Wing also asked the Fischer Lake Project; M. Johnson stated that the project is inactive. M. Johnson stated she would look into the project.

13. A motion was made by J. Flanders and seconded by B. Wing to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting ended at 8:58pm.

Submitted by,

Ruth Schaefer