

**MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING**

**Tuesday, June 2, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
MFCRWD Office, 189 County Road NE, Spicer, MN**

Present: G. Behm, R. Hodapp, B. Wing, of the Board; absent J. Flanders and absent R. Schaefer, M. Johnson – Administrator; L. Christensen – Technician; J. Kolb – Attorney; L. Jonett and C. Meehan – Wenck, M. Leach – MPCA; R. Imdiek – Kandiyohi County Commissioner; S. Meints – Diamond Lake, A. Beilke – BWSR; D. Hanson – Kandiyohi County SWCD

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by R. Hodapp.
2. The District Mission Statement was read by R. Hodapp.
 "We exist for the protection and preservation of water quality in the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed"
3. A motion to approve the agenda was made by G. Behm and seconded by B. Wing. The motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Approve the minutes of the May meeting
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Permit #15-05 Volk Garage
7. Permit #15-07 Hedlof Home Addition
8. Laura Christensen Permanent Employment Memo
 A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by G. Behm to approve the Consent Agenda.
 The motion passed 3-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. Administrator's Report:
 - a. Review Calendar-See calendar
 - b. Review of Project Status
 1. Diamond Lake Aquatic Plan Management Project #14-02
- C. Meehan discussed the topic of invasive species including Curly-leaf pondweed. He addressed costs and recommendations for the Diamond Lake petition. DLARA has been doing treatment of the Curly-leaf for several years. Wenck came up with a plan for density and spot treatments. For Diamond Lake, 86 acres of intense treatment are recommended as well as and 40 acres that could potential need spot treatment. The two main mechanisms for treatment in Minnesota are harvesting programs and herbicide treatment. Curly-leaf emerges in early spring ahead of most native aquatic plants. This helps both these treatment mechanisms target the invasive Curly-leaf. The DNR will provide a vegetation management plan that will include the ability to harvest mechanically 50% of the littoral area or 325 acres. The plan will only allow herbicide treatment of 15% of the littoral area. Wenck's Engineers feasibility evaluated both processes and would be more inclined to do the herbicide between both of the approaches, based on the negative impacts and cost benefits of both approaches. Mechanical harvesting is not very selective and is twice the cost compared to herbicide treatment. The estimated annual budget provided by Wenck for the cost of the program over a 15 year period will be given to the viewers for a benefit analysis for the benefiting landowners. The appointed viewer R. Ringquist will provide the District with the appropriate information to inform benefited property owners. A public hearing will be tentatively set for late-July. A program budget will be provided to the County in September.

J. Kolb - As soon the board receives the viewed benefits, the District must publish notice and mail notices to certain individuals for the public hearing. A budget meeting for the program budget could be held in September.

A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by G. Behm to approve the Diamond Lake Aquatic Management Plan report provided by Wenck. The motion passed 3-0.

2. North Fork Crow 1W1P

M. Johnson discussed the Policy Committee processes and meetings attended by R. Hodapp on June 3, 2015. There will be approximately six meetings for the Policy Committee and many more for the approved Advisory Committee which is key staff and agency providing information for the Policy Committee to act upon.

3. Diamond Lake TMDL Implementation, Hubbard, Schultz, and Wheeler Implementation Activity CIP #13-02

a. Gratz & Roklane settlement

J. Kolb reported – Rinke Noonan understands the parties have both approved and documents were signed by Roklane LLC and are awaiting signature from Gratz Trust.

b. Buer Easement

No easement signed as of today.

c. Administrative matters

1. MFCRWD Shoreline Criteria

Shoreline funding through the District is short, which challenges the District to limit projects on “priority.” Some projects are in need of restoration. The Shoreline Criteria will provide social and science-based measures to help staff provide funding to higher priority projects. (see Shoreline Criteria handout). A motion was made by B. Wing and seconded by G. Behm to approve the. The motion passed 3-0.

2. Dawson project- Discussion took place regarding a project in need of funding on Elkhorn.

3. AIS Inspector program (MFCRWD and County)-Discussion took place on locations of zebra mussel plates. The MFCRWD will put them on each of the recreational lakes within the District and will continue to support the Kandiyohi County AIS Task Force with monitoring plates, through building and distribution.

4. Permit #15-06 Little Crow Golf Club Development Project - A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by B. Wing to approve the Permit #15-06 for a new development project. The motion passed 3-0.

5. AED: Automatic External Defibrillators

6. Brent Spanier Ag Incentive Application - A motion was made by G. Behm and seconded by B. Wing to approve the agricultural application for the cover crop project. The motion passed 3-0.

7. Hydrologic Technician position vacancy – The District will be posting in several weeks for the new position.

8. Clean Water Partnership summer intern – Brady Schmitz will start the first week of June. His position is funding by the Clean Water Partnership grant.

9. Office irrigation system – Bids will be received for a possible irrigation system at the office. This will be tabled and is pending based on additional bids to be received and board approval.

10. Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting – The CAC meeting will be held at the District Office on June 30 at 10:30 am. Discussion will take place with the CAC regarding their role in the District as an Advisory group.

11. MAWD Annual Summer Tour – The Summer Tour will be at Duluth, Minnesota, June 24 – 26. Water quality and quantity projects will be viewed and staff and board members will learn about Duluth’s water issues over decades of development in the harbor and in the city limits. Emphasis will be given to the 2012 flood which caused millions of dollars in damage.

d. Follow up on April administrative matters

1. Rain barrel program – The District has around ten barrels left to sell. The District plans to order the same number next year as the program was a very prevalent one.

2. Westby Internship 2015/2016 – Discussion took place as to how much the District is supporting the Westby Internship Program. Each year the District receives work by the Westby Intern for two weeks. The District will plan to increase support, financially, the Westby Internship Program into the future.

3. AIS Inspector Program: MFCRWD/County-District staff continue to support the County AIS programs, including Kandiyohi County AIS Task Force. Support has been given by staff time and financially through equipment and supplies for the decontamination unit. The program continues through the summer with great vigilance by Dave Paulsen the Kandiyohi County AIS Task Force Coordinator.

4. Street Sweeping (lake curb and gutter systems)

10. Legal Counsel Report (*J.Kolb*)

J. Kolb discussed the buffer law that will be moving through the house and senate soon. This will allow SWCD’s to enforce and the DNR to view. The county or WD will need to notify for compliance and will help decide what enforcement and mechanism and if they choose to enforce or the state will withhold funding. The drainage authority is not mentioned in the bill. The landowners are obligated to have the ditch buffer in place. Regardless who is the jurisdiction; the enforcement entities has the obligation to have that installation of the protection measures go through enforcement and notification processes. Series of exemptions including the private recreation use area, municipalities and water law, parcels of land that has NPDES and MS4 or construction stormwater requirement. The demand for CRP will be increased. We will await the outcome of the law.

11. Public Access Forum – M. Leech, mentioned the possibility of a state shutdown. Legacy funds cannot be used during this time.

L. Christensen would like to buy rain garden fill for the District’s rain garden. The cost could be around \$1,000. Motion to approve the rain garden G. Behm first and second by B. Wing and no discussion. The motion passed 3-0.

12. Adjournment motion made by G. Behm and seconded by B. Wing. The motion passed and the meeting closed at 8:13 pm.