

North Fork Crow River Watershed District

Approved Minutes

January 12th, 2015

Managers Present: Barchenger, Berndt, Brauchler, Wuertz

Managers Absent: Hanson

Staff Present: Tara Ostendorf, Christopher Lundeen, Christine Knutson

Others Present: Maggie Leach (MPCA), Jason Wienerman (BWSR), Kevin & Carolyn Farnum (KLA, Stearns COLA, Stearns AIS Committee), John Muller (JD2 Landowner), Brent Johnson (Pinnacle Engineering)

Call to Order:

President Wuertz called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Review and Approve Agenda:

Ostendorf added additional agenda items for discussion under Administrator Report. Motion to approve agenda as revised made by Manager Barchenger, seconded by Manager Brauchler. Motion carried with all in favor.

Additions to Agenda: Ostendorf added preapproval of payment to CMCU credit card upon clarification of billing under Treasurer's Report.

Consent Agenda:

Corrections to Minutes:

Ostendorf stated corrections to the minutes as follows: 12-8-14 Minutes; correction to motion to approve funding from Rice/Koronis, motion made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger, motion carried with all in favor. Add motion to approve 4% wage increase for Bookkeeper/Admin. Assist. And Technician for 2015 made by Hanson, seconded Berndt. Motion carried with all in favor. 12-15-14 Minutes; Correction to attendance for Manager Hanson, correction to CD 32 hearing, seconded by Berndt, motion carries.

Motion to approve consent agenda as revised and amended made by Manger Berndt, seconded by Manager Barchenger. Motion carried with all in favor.

Open Discussion from the public:

Kevin Farnum updated the Board on the current status of the Stearns County AIS Program planning efforts. The planning committee anticipates a draft plan for approval in February. Farnum proposed to the Board that NFCRWD staff and he meet at a later date to discuss partnering efforts. Farnum also expressed gratitude to the Board for their support.

Staff Reports

Administrator's Report:

Update on office move, deadlines and moving date.

Ostendorf gave update on status of building move, issues with phone/internet services at current location, and expected moving date of week of January 26th.

Authorize Staff to submit application for 2015 DNR Watercraft Inspection Grant:

Ostendorf gave overview of the Request for Applications for the 2015 DNR Grant. Farnum informed the Board that Koronis Lake Association (KLA) had applied for a separate round of funding through DNR for inspection funding. Ostendorf informed the Board that the application requires the District to enter into a delegation agreement for grant funding. Additional discussion ensued regarding current AIS regulations. Motion to approve entering into required delegation agreement for 2015 grant application made by Manager Barchenger, seconded by Manager Berndt.

Discussion of "One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P)" and appointment of manager to planning process and approval of resolution 2015-02:

Staff and Jason Weinerman updated the Board on current proceedings for 1W1P. Discussion and approval tabled until February meeting.

Additional Business – Discussion of Stearns COLA Initiative Foundation grant application, Approval of resolution 2015-01-Annual Authorizations, 2015-03-Interest Rate, 2015-04-Payment of Monthly Bills:

Kevin Farnum gave an overview of the Initiative Foundation grant application, meant to improve standards and methods for AIS boat decontamination and provide additional equipment to KLA, in the amount of \$770,000. Farnum noted that the application is still under review, but they have made the first round of cuts. Managers discussed the need to seek bids for auditing services for 2015. Managers discussed seeking alternative legal services due to 2014 conflicts of interests. Weirnerman suggested the Board contact Ray Bohn (MAWD) for a list of qualified attorneys. Motion to approve resolution 2015-01 made by Manager Brauchler, seconded by Manager Barchenger. Motion carried with all in favor. Motion made to approve resolution 2015-03 made by Manager Barchenger, seconded by Manager Berndt. Motion carries with all in favor. Motion made to approve resolution 2015-04 made by Manager Brauchler, seconded by Manager Barchenger. Motion approved with all in favor.

Technician's Report:

Lundeen reported on current activities including; Submitted final review for monitoring data, updated E-link grants, worked on setting up project database, attended Stearns AIS plans, working on moving, preparing for Earth Day education event, will be attending the Stearns AIS meeting in St. Cloud, deadlines coming up for grant payments. Review of monitoring plan and report of 2014 monitoring efforts in March.

Bookkeeper / Administrative Assistant's Report:

No Report

Program Reports

Permit Report:

No Report

Drainage Report:

CD 32 – Review and signature of Order of the Board Directing Redetermination of Benefits.

Ostendorf presented the final Order for signature and requested changes to language. No changes made.

Accept request for repair presented to the Board at the December 15th, 2015 public hearing.

Motion made by Manager Barchenger, seconded by Manager Brauchler. Motion carried with all in favor, Manager Berndt abstaining due to conflict of interest.

Direct staff to obtain engineer's report and any other public meetings as necessary.

Ostendorf presented legal counsel's suggestion of holding an information meeting to give the opportunity to CD 32 landowners to present information on areas requiring repair. Manager Berndt notified the Board that he has been informed by the other landowners that this will need to be a full system repair. Discussion of possible services needed for engineering. Board directed staff to present a draft request for proposals listing all activities to be completed at the February meeting. Board directed staff to present a draft request for proposal for tiling scoping activities at the February meeting.

CD 43 – Inspection report and findings of 12-11-14

Ostendorf presented inspection report of CD 43 Bruntlett complaint.

Other Ditch Business: - John Mueller requested update on the status of his inquiry into JD2 culvert placement, and requested that the Board continue to search for information.

Board Member Meeting Reports:

Managers Brauchler gave update on the Bonanza Valley GWMA planning meeting.

Items for Next Meeting Agenda:

No Discussion

Calender Review:

No Discussion

FYI Items:

No Discussion

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Manager Barchenger, seconded by Manager Berndt. Meeting Adjourned 2:45 pm.

