

North Fork Crow River Watershed District Approved Regular Meeting Minutes March 13th, 2017

Managers Present: Berndt, Brauchler, Wuertz, Barchenger

Managers Absent: Hanson

Staff Present: Cris Skonard, Christine Knutson, Christopher Lundeen,

Others Present: Kurt Deter (Rinke-Noonan), Kevin Farnum, Ken Hess, Dennis Walz, Ruth Schaefer, Geoff Kramer, Ralph Klassen, Joe Lewis, Al Loch, Kevin Bruntlett, Boyd Fischer, Roger Lyon, Larry Ladwig, Jim Weller, Harold Marthaler, others

Call to Order:

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

Review and Approve Agenda

Added to pay Land Pride retainage in the amount of \$2,167.77 as a consent agenda item.

Motion to approve the revised agenda as amended made by Manager Brauchler, seconded by Manager Barchenger. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda Items

Chairperson Wuertz called for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

1. Treasurer's Report and Bills to March 13th, 2107
 - a. Check Register - 106 Bonanza Checking Acct
 - b. P & L Detail – All Accounts
 - c. Balance Sheet – All Accounts
2. Minutes
 - a. February 13th, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve consent agenda with changes made by Manager Barchenger, seconded by Manager Brauchler. Motion carried.

Open Discussion from the Public

Chairman Wuertz asked for comment from the public.

Dave Johnson expressed concern over staffing numbers. Believes they need to be increased to oversee projects and get others started.

Roger Lyon inquired of manager expenses paid by the District. Informed that managers are paid for hotels and meals for an overnight stay and mileage is paid for District travel with reimbursement restrictions. Lyon also requested that the managers should review and approve their claims between themselves other than just the Administrator.

Boyd Fischer questioned if managers are paid to attend the CAC meetings. Not on Board meeting days.

Regular Agenda

Staff Reports

Administrator's Report:

1. MAWD Legislative Days

Skonard updated the Board. Managers Brauchler and Barchenger will attend as will Skonard.

2. CAC Meeting

Skonard turned the floor over to CAC Chair Roger Lyon. Chairman Lyon informed the Board that meetings will be conducted using the latest version of the Roberts Rules of Order. They will meet quarterly with the next meeting being held the Monday before the June Board meeting. It was decided that only landowners can vote at the CAC.

3. 2017 Ag Drainage Workshop

Skonard presented information on the Ag Drainage Workshop conducted by the I&S Group. There is a \$30 registration fee per person. Discussion followed as to participants.

Motion to send any District personnel and pay registration fee made by Brauchler, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

4. Computer Hard Drive Failure

Skonard informed the Board that the server hard drive had failed. The drives were under warranty and replaced. A limited amount of data was lost owing to our backup policy.

5. Beaver Trapping

Skonard updated the Board on beaver trapping activities in the District. The District currently pays a \$50 bounty for the tail of each beaver. Public comments suggested it should be \$75. No action by the Board other than to continue current policy of having landowner file beaver nuisance form and have the trapper complete the claim form.

6. Intern Update

Skonard updated the Board that Nick Budde accepted the intern position with an anticipated May 8, 2017 start date.

7. Additional Business-District Financials

Skonard updated the Board on the financial status of the District's accounts. Most ditch accounts have a negative balance and owe the Administrative Account. Several large projects are moving forward for which payment is required. Discussion ensued regarding funding mechanisms. Attorney Deter suggested a meeting with John Kolb to discuss bonding questions with the Administrator and one Board member in attendance.

Motion to authorize a line of credit up to \$100,000 at a bank and setup a meeting with John Kolb of Rinke Noonan to discuss bonding questions made by Brauchler, seconded by Berndt. Motion carried.

8. Additional Business-BWSR Grant Training

Skonard updated the Board on a training opportunity presented by BWSR on grant applications/administration. Skonard and Lundeen will attend the Waite Park session on April 7, 2017.

9. Additional Business-BWSR Engineering Training

Skonard requested to attend BWSR drainage manual update specifically for drainage engineers in Willmar, MN on April 27, 2017. The registration fee is \$20.

Motion to allow Skonard to attend BSWR training authorize the \$20 registration fee made by Berndt, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.

Technician's Report:

1. Activity Report:

Lundeen gave report of his activities, which consisted of completing the 2016 Annual Report, early season water quality sampling and data analysis. Lundeen also updated the Board on upcoming training.

2. 2017 Monitoring: Update

Lundeen informed the Board of the sampling schedule which has been revised to include additional parameters on CD 32 and CD 7 but falls within the sampling budget. Lundeen addressed a question from Manager Berndt regarding the sampling frequency. Lundeen presented information regarding the purchase of a new water quality

sampler. The SWAG grant in partnership with the Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District allowed for partial funding of the sampler. The estimated cost to the District is approximately \$7,500.

Motion to update the 2017 sampling program made by Brauchler, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

Motion to acquire the sampler made by Berndt, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried

3. Prairie Storm Change Orders

Lundeen presented two change orders for the project. The first adjusted the consultant fee compensation structure. Wenck has used a majority of the construction oversight budget developing a stop log control structure coordinating with FWS. The change order does not change the overall compensation amount but agrees to offset the overage by allowing District staff to observe construction of the stop log structure.

The second change order is for the manufacture of the stop logs in the amount of \$7,500 for which Pheasants Forever will cover the costs.

Motion to approve the change orders made by Brauchler, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

Funds Manager / Administrative Assistant Report:

As reported in Financial Statements.

Program Reports

A. Permit Report:

None

B. Drainage Report:

1. CD 32 Repair: Status Update:

The District received a letter from Boyd Fischer's attorney shortly before the meeting. Attorney Deter had not sufficient time to review the letter but suggested a closed meeting be held during the April meeting. RESPEC was preparing a memo to discuss the cleanout on the Heieie/Hanson property. The side inlets could not be evaluated due to snow. It was anticipated that States Borders Construction was to be on-site within the next two weeks.

Motion to have the engineer on-site during the repairs made by Barchenger, seconded by Berndt. Motion carried.

2. CD 7 Status Update:

Skonard informed the Board that the bid package will be available this week. Notice was sent to all newspapers and placed on the website. Bids will close April 3, 2017 and proposals available for the April meeting.

3. JD 1 Main and Branches: Status Update:

Joe Lewis informed the Board that construction activity has resumed on Branch 12. Trees are to be cleared in Fork 4 with removal of sediment to follow. There is a field crossing on Fork 5 that may be removed. Lewis presented a proposal to commence work on the JD1 Multi-Purpose Drainage Management Plan in the amount of \$48,500.

Motion to approve proposal in the amount of \$48,500 made by Brauchler, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

4. CD21: Status Update:

Alan Loch discussed cleanout issues. Photos of the project were reviewed. Consensus was to develop a punch list and work with the contractor for resolution.

Dennis Walz requested the Board lower the inlet on the township road near Alan Loch residence.

5. CD29, CD36 and CD37: ROB Update:

Informational hearing held on March 8, 2017. The Radermacher letter will be discussed at the April meeting.

6. Other Ditch Business:

Motion to release the retainage held from Land Pride in the amount of \$2,167.77 made by Brauchler, seconded by Berndt. Motion carried

Harold Marthaler informed the Board that a road permit is required for the repairs on 330th Street in Raymond Township.

C. Board Member Meeting Reports:

Brauchler updated the Board on activities for the Paynesville Water Festival.

Items for Next Meeting Agenda:

Calendar Review:

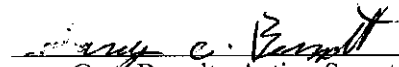
No comment.

FYI Items:

None

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Brauchler, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried. Meeting Adjourned.



Gary Berndt – Acting Secretary