

North Fork Crow River Watershed District Approved Regular Meeting Minutes May 8th, 2017

Managers Present: Berndt, Brauchler, Wuertz, Barchenger, Hanson

Managers Absent: None

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

Others Present: Kurt Deter (Rinke-Noonan), Roger Lyon, Earl Kasper, Steve Notch, Jared Oswald, Geoff Kramer, Joe Lewis, David Johnson, Art Malthaler, Roger Imdieke, Ken Radermacher, Tracy Lewis, Roger Gruber, Jason Weinerman, Chris Meehan, others

Call to Order:

Chairperson Wuertz called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Review and Approve Agenda

Motion to approve the revised agenda 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 May 8th, 2107
 - a. Check Register - 106 Bonanza Checking Acct
 - b. P & L Detail – All Accounts
 - c. Balance Sheet – All Accounts
2. Minutes
 - a. April 10th, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - b. April 19th, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes.

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

Open Discussion from the Public

Chairman Wuertz asked for comment from the public.

David Johnson questioned how lawsuits are paid by the District. Also, noted trouble with various projects which he attributes to lack of supervision. Attorney Deter responded that he could not provide an answer to generalities with each case handled by specifics on a case by case basis.

Regular Agenda

Staff Reports

Administrator's Report:

1. Intern: Resolution 2017-05

Skonard introduced Nick Budde as the 2017 summer intern. Skonard introduced a resolution to set the billable rate and work week.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2017-05 made by Brauchler, seconded by Hanson. Motion carried.

2. AIS In-Kind Contribution Discussion

Skonard stated this was carry over business from last month based on public comment from Kevin Farnum. Farnum requested that the District provide in-kind money to demonstrate support for AIS activities. Further discussion between District staff and Farnum agreed to provide the number of hours staff contribute to AIS activities and determine in-kind using billable rates.

3. Administrator Repair Authorization

Discussion regarding authorizing the Administrator to initiate limited repairs without Board approval.

Motion to authorize the Administrator up to \$5,000 to initiate repairs made by Barchenger, seconded by Hanson. Motion carried

4. NFCR Watershed Wide Projects

Skonard recommended the Board consider allowing unbudgeted water quality samples to be collected and paid out of the Watershed Wide Projects fund. Levied funds would continue to be used for budgeted samples.

Motion to authorize funds from the Watershed Wide Projects fund to pay for water quality samples at the Administrator's discretion made by Manger Berndt, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.

5. Petition Increase Managers-Update

Jason Weinerman, BWSR, presented an update on the status of the petition. The signatory threshold has been met and now the process moves to the Regional Committee in June followed by the full board. A hearing will be held to gage public desirability of increasing the number of managers at the District office should the BWSR Board move forward.

6. BWSR Drainage Workshop

Skonard informed the Board of a workshop hosted by BWSR to inform drainage authorities on new updates to the Public Drainage Manual.

Motion to send the Administrator and two managers to the workshop in St. Cloud on May 23, 2017 and pay the \$25/person registration fee made by Berndt, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

7. MAWD Summer Tour

Discussion on selecting voting delegates and alternate to the MAWD Summer Tour.

Motion to elect Manager Barchenger and Manager Hanson as voting delegates with President Wuertz as the alternate made by Barchenger, seconded by Berndt. Motion carried.

8. Additional Business

None

Technician's Report:

1. Activity Report:

Lundeen gave report of his activities. Stream samples have been collected and Lundeen noted that degraded transparency was observed in the JD1 Br 12 sample with a transparency of 1 cm or less. He also noted that this stretch has improved based on visual observation. The Surface Water Assessment Grant (SWAG) grant has been fully implemented and samples have been taken. Lake monitoring will begin in the very near future. The new sampling equipment has been setup and verified to be working correctly. The Rice Lake vegetation study found no Starry Stonewort.

Motion made to have the District apply for DNR AIS inspection grant made by Hanson, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.

2. Prairie Storm -Update

Lundeen informed the Board that the substantial completion has been attained on this project. Manager Berndt and Roger Lyon had serious concerns about the project specifically on sediment spoil placement and ditch appearance. Chris Meehan (Wenck) answered questions regarding the project. Deter informed the Board that the contract had been met.

Motion to approve substantial completion of the project and recommend final payment by Pheasants Forever to Sunram Construction in the amount of \$36,263.84 made by Brauchler, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried. Berndt abstained as a benefitted land owner.

Motion to approve expenses to have Chris Meehan (Wenck) attend the May meeting made by Barchenger, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.

Funds Manager / Administrative Assistant Report:

As reported in Financial Statements.

Program Reports

A. Permit Report:

None

B. Drainage Report:

1. CD 21: Status Update:

Joe Lewis informed the Board that work has been completed on the lower section of the ditch. Lewis presented a final pay request for Ag Tech Drainage.

Motion to pay Ag Tech Drainage in the amount of \$10,219.40 made by Brauchler, seconded by Hanson. Motion carried.

Roger Gruber, representing the Crow River Township Board, informed the Board that estimates to repair the culvert under the road would amount to approximately \$8,500 and requested cost share from the District. Discussion noted that other culverts have been cost shared 50-50.

Motion to cost share 50-50 with the Crow River Township for culvert repair at a project cost of \$8,500 made by Barchenger, seconded by Berndt. Motion carried.

2. CD 32: Status Update

Skonard informed the Board that the change order signed by the Engineer and District had been forward to the contractor but have had no reply. The new tile is not functioning and waiting for engineer approved repairs. Deter suggested working with contract attorney for proper procedure.

Motion to authorize the Administrator to work with Roger Justin (Rinke-Noonan) and RESPEC to determine course of action made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried. Berndt abstained as a benefitted land owner.

Skonard presented a request by Raymond Township to install a rock inlet on the Boyd Fischer property. Boyd Fischer questioned why a manhole was placed outside of easement. RESPEC to survey and follow up. Discussion followed on request by township to drain low area. Fischer questioned where the “phantom” tile under the road will be disconnected. Fischer suggested that approximately 40’ of tile be extended from his private field tile, placed in the low area in question and extend to the township right of way, eliminating the need for a surface inlet. Mr. Fischer agreed that installing additional tile will settle the “phantom” tile connection issue.

Motion to have 1) the District pay for same size, private tile as existing on Fischer property, 2) Boyd Fischer to pay for tile installation, 3) District permission to cross CD 32 at a shallower depth, 4) commencing at the terminal end of

the existing field tile located on the Fischer property and extend directly through the low area terminating at the township right of way, 5) agree with Boyd Fischer to settle “phantom” tile issue made by Barchenger, seconded by Hanson. Motion carried. Berndt abstained as a benefitted land owner.

Skonard presented a letter from RESPEC regarding additional polypropylene pipe installation and reimbursement with donated construction observation from RESPEC. Discussion to wait until Contractor reply on change order.

3. CD7: Update:

Skonard informed the Board that a pre-construction meeting will be held at the District office on May 18, 2017 at 9:00 am. Post cards have been sent to all land owners physically on the system informing them of the meeting.

4. JD 1 Main and Branches: Status Update:

Joe Lewis informed the Board that a final walk thru will happen sometime late May with the Administrator. A final pay request from MBC drainage will be available for the June meeting. Manager Berndt questioned the structural integrity of a culvert on BR12 FK5. Lewis expressed the culvert will be replaced if there is drainage issue.

Skonard presented an outlet request from Gary Berndt in section 33, Raymond Township.

Motion made to grant request by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried. Berndt abstained as the benefitted land owner.

Skonard presented a request from Don Grussing to bore a tile line under Pope County Road 25 and outlet to JD1 BR9. Discussion regarding closing of open ditch was needed. Skonard to obtain landowner permission west of Grussing property.

5. CD29, CD36 and CD37: ROB Update:

Skonard updated the Board on correspondence with H20ver Viewers regarding contract.

6. CD 37: Beaver Control Request:

Skonard presented letter from Cletus Frank, attorney representing Virgil Fuchs. Skonard informed the Board that the site has been viewed and has been in contact with the DNR. A trapper is in the WMA until May 15, 2017. No Public Water permit needed to remove dam debris, however, an access permit is required for equipment. Board instructed Skonard to update Frank on status.

7. CD43: DNR West Lake Update:

Skonard updated Board on land owner conversation regarding control structure. Skonard will meet with downstream landowners when Kevin Bruntlett sets a meeting.

8. CD38: Update

Skonard informed Board of repair of tile. MBS is having difficulties in finding any broken section. A camera has been sent in and only found roots and sand. MBC feels tile is at capacity. Skonard recommended that brush over tile line on Heinze property be cleared to minimize root obstruction. Richard Kirchof addressed the Board with concerns of non-functioning tile and historical land benefit issues.

9. Other Ditch Business:

Joe Lewis updated the Board regarding ditch termination points. Indicated that GIS location does not always reflect actual legal description and will be updated as discovered. Provided three examples of where the ditch begins further upstream than shown on GIS.

C. Board Member Meeting Reports:

Brauchler updated the Board on Starry Stonewort effort to keep Lake Koronis useable. John Hanson added that two meetings were held to update public on research efforts to control Starry Stonewort.

Hanson updated the Board on 1W1P Policy Committee. The Policy Committee approved using contingency funds to cover financial gaps. Still working with BWSR to address additional funding needs.

Items for Next Meeting Agenda:

None

Calendar Review:

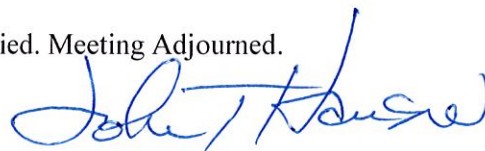
Three month outlook calendar provided.

FYI Items:

None

Adjournment:

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



John Hanson – Secretary

12 June 2017

