

North Fork Crow River Watershed District

Approved Regular Meeting Minutes

September 14th, 2020

Managers Present: Jim Barchenger, Bob Brauchler, John Hanson, Jim Weller, Jim Wuertz

Staff Present: Cris Skonard, Christopher Lundeen

Others Present: Kurt Deter (Rinke-Noonan), **Via Teleconference:** Joe Lewis (HEI), Boyd Fischer, Steve Fuchs, Gary Berndt, Donovan McKigney, others.

1. Call to Order

President Brauchler called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held via teleconference due to the Governor's Emergency Stay Safe Minnesota order. The public was able to access the teleconference by requesting an access code.

2. Review and Approve Agenda

Motion to approve the revised agenda made by Hanson, seconded by Weller. Roll call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None

Motion carried.

3. Consent Agenda Items

1. Treasurer's Report and Bills to September 14th, 2020
 - a. Check Register - 106 Bonanza Checking Acct
 - b. P & L Detail – All Accounts
 - c. Balance Sheet – All Accounts

Motion to approve consent agenda made by Barchenger, seconded by Wuertz. Roll call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None

Motion carried.

4. Minutes

August 10, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes with corrections made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Roll Call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None

Motion carried.

5. Petition to Abandonment of Portion JD1 BR9 Hearing

President Brauchler convened the JD1 BR9 Partial Abandonment at 8:00 pm. Skonard presented the petition that was signed by all concerned landowners upstream of JD1 BR9. Attorney Deter stated the petition was valid and proper. Skonard shared the required public notifications for the hearing. Dennis Wildman addressed the Board for the need to abandon this portion of the ditch.

Motion to close public comment portion of the JD1 BR9 Partial Abandonment Hearing made by Hanson, seconded by Weller. Roll Call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Partial Abandonment of JD1 BR9 made by Barchenger, seconded by Wuertz. Roll Call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Regular meeting continued at 8:15 pm.

6. Staff Reports

A. Administrator's Report:

1. Activities

Skonard updated the Board on various activities within the District. Noted attendance via remote to the Drainage Work Group. All staff are working remotely from home due to the stay at home order.

2. 2020 Annual Meeting

Skonard informed the Board that the 2020 MAWD Annual Meeting will be virtual and that all information will be forwarded to all Managers.

3. MN Water Resources Conference

Skonard reported registration is being accepted for the Virtual University of MN Water Resources Conference. Motion to register and pay \$85/person registration fee for Manager Hanson, Skonard and Lundeen to attend made by Barchenger, seconded by Wuertz. Roll Call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None
Motion carried.

4. WPLMN Invoice Payments

Skonard asked the Board to pre-approve payment for future invoices from MFCRWD after the MPCA has provided reimbursement for the WPLMN Grant.

Motion to pre-approve future invoices to the MFCRWD upon reimbursement from the MPCA made by Wuertz, seconded by Weller. Roll call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None
Motion carried

5. Rice Lake AIS Petition

Skonard informed the Board that a petition has been received from the Rice Lake Association (RLA) to establish an aquatic invasive species (AIS) project. Attorney Deter has reviewed the petition and noted it meets MN Statute. Deter recommended the Board take no action at this time to accept the petition as no bond, cash or letter of credit has been submitted as required by State Statute. Further action tabled until the October board meeting.

6. Lake Koronis AIS Petition Update

Skonard requested the Board approve an invoice from Wenck Engineering up to \$2,552.70 pending further invoice details relating to the original Koronis Lake hearing. Manager Hanson requested a summary of the Koronis Lake petition. Koronis public hearing is postponed to October 1, 2020 at 6:00 pm at River of Life Church in Cold Spring. Motion to approve payment to Wenck Engineering up to \$2,552.70 upon approved invoice details made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Roll call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None
Motion carried

7. IWIP Update

Skonard informed the Board that the IWIP – Policy Committee met via teleconference on September 2 to review and approve proposed projects. Manager Hanson provided details of the meeting.

8. Additional Business

Skonard informed the Board that the Pirz Lake Association has requested that \$15,000 be used to pay down the loan to the Bonanza Valley State Bank. They also requested that all lake projects be included in the monthly financials. Motion to pay \$15,000 towards the Pirz Lake loan held by Bonanza Valley State Bank made by Wuertz, seconded by Hanson. Roll call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None
Motion carried

B. Watershed Project Coordinator's Report:

1. Activity Report:

Lundeen gave a report of his activities including monitoring as needed and working on the sub-watershed grant project. Noted the BWSR grant application to install rock inlets and other water quality practices has been submitted. September is the last month for 2020 lake water quality monitoring.

2. Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

Lundeen informed the Board that there was low attendance at the CAC and did not achieve quorum. Staff provided updates to those present. The next CAC is scheduled for March 4, 2021.

3. MN AIS Showcase

Lundeen requested to attend the online conference. Registration is \$10.

Motion to approve \$10 registration fee for Chris Lundeen to attend the MN AIS Showcase made by Weller, seconded by Barchenger. Roll call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None

Motion carried

4. Additional Business

Lundeen noted that the BWSR Academy registration is open and at no charge this year. Lundeen announced that we were awarded the PCA 319 Small Watershed Grant which runs for 16 years to implement and monitor BMP's. Project funding will begin in 2022.

C. Funds Manager / Administrative Assistant Report: As reported in Financial Statements.

7. Program Reports

A. Permit Report: None

B. Drainage Report:

1. JD1 Main and Branches: Status Update

JD1 Main Repair

Joe Lewis, HEI, updated the Board on the status of the JD1 repairs noting that an as-built survey will be performed for work to date. Noted that spoils have been leveled and seeded north of Pope CR22. A quote has been received for BR8. Lewis also noted that 11.25 miles of ditch still need to be repaired at an upward cost of \$350,000.

JD1: Branch 4 Petition

Skonard reported a petition has been received to abandon JD1 BR4. Attorney Deter has reviewed and noted the petition meets MN Statute. Discussion regarding a hearing date.

Motion to set JD1 BR4 Abandonment Hearing on October 12, 2020 made by Barchenger, seconded by Wuertz. Roll call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None

Motion carried

2. CD37 Update

Attorney Deter reported that he has not heard back from the Fuchs' attorney. Nothing new to report.

3. Ditch Assessment Committee

Skonard requested two Board members participate on the Ditch Assessment Committee. Managers Hanson and Wuertz volunteered. Recommendations will be reviewed and acted on at the October board meeting.

4. Other Ditch Business

Boyd Fischer addressed the Board regarding an inverted side inlet on his property. Manager Weller confirmed that water was standing in the tile. Fischer also noted that repaired side inlet on township road has again washed out.

Motion to repair the inverted side inlet approximately ½ mile south of 330th Street and repair the washed out side inlet directly south of 330th Street made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Roll call.

Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None

Motion carried

Weller also noted the need to repair the Marthaler crossing and remove sediment on the Hellickson property. Noted efficiency while having a contractor in the area. Staff to follow up on these issues.

Discussion on tree spraying tabled until the Jan/Feb Board meeting.

C. Board Member Meeting Reports:

None

8. Items for Next Meeting Agenda:

Herickhoff's to appear at October meeting regarding January permit application, pending Governor's Stay Safe order. Rice Lake AIS Petition. JD1 BR4 Hearing.

9. Open Discussion from the Public:

Landowner Gary Berndt commented on the need for spraying noxious weeds along JD1 BR12 FK6 SP2.

Donovan McKigney questioned if leveling on JD1 Main north of Pope CR22 would be leveled on both sides of the ditch. The repair plan is to level side with the spoil and spray trees on the other side.

10. Calendar Review:

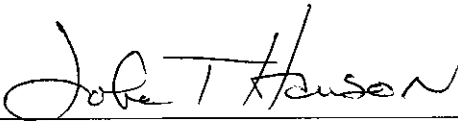
October 1, Koronis Lake AIS Hearing
Contact the Administrator for future events.

11. FYI Items:

None

12. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Weller, seconded by Hanson. Roll call.
Affirmative: Barchenger, Brauchler, Hanson, Weller, Wuertz Opposed: None
Motion carried.
Meeting Adjourned at 8:32 p.m.



John Hanson –Secretary
Oct 12, 2020