

# North Fork Crow River Watershed District

## Approved Regular Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2024

**Managers Present:** Ross Amundson, Jim Barchenger, Bob Brauchler, Jim Weller, Jim Wuertz,

**Staff Present:** Colton Henjum, Chloe Truebenbach, Christine Knutson

**Others Present:** Kevin Farnum, Dick Johnson, Larry Ladwig, Gary Berndt, Roger Lyon

### 1. Call to Order

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

### 2. Review and Approve Agenda

Motion to approve the revised agenda made by Weller, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

### 3. Consent Agenda Items

1. Treasurer's Report and Bills to December 9, 2024
  - 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 Amundson, seconded by Wuertz. Roll call.

Affirmative: Amundson, Barchenger, Brauchler, Weller, Wuertz,

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

### 4. Minutes

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve the revised November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 regular meeting minutes made by Barchenger, seconded by Weller. Motion carried.

### 5. Staff Reports

#### A. Administrator's Report: Colton Henjum

##### 1. Activities

Henjum provided a report on his activities for the month as well as drainage systems that had been worked on. Activities included drone inspections, working with HEI on JD1 Br12 Fk6, 2025 drainage assessments with the counties, and lake projects, WBIF and 319 grants.

##### 2. Resolution 2024-07 – 2025 Flex Plan Renewal

The resolution for the District's 2025 flex plan was presented to the board. Motion to approve made by Weller, seconded by Barchenger. Roll call.

Affirmative: Amundson, Barchenger, Brauchler, Weller, Wuertz,

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

##### 3. Office Phones

Henjum noted recent problems with the phones currently being used by staff in the office. People have been having a challenging time hearing staff when they call in, making it hard to communicate with the public. The District's IT contact at Glacial Ridge Computing noted the district could upgrade phones and reduce the phone bill at the same time. Motion to have Henjum schedule the phone upgrade made by Barchenger, seconded by Wuertz. Roll call.

Affirmative: Amundson, Barchenger, Brauchler, Weller, Wuertz,

Opposed: None

Motion carried.

#### B. Watershed Project Coordinator's Report: Chloe Truebenbach

##### 1. Activities

Truebenbach noted activities including AIS program work, website redevelopment, and working on the annual report.

## **2. PWELC Earth Day**

Truebenbach presented a letter from PWELC requesting funding for the 2025 Earth Day Celebration. Motion to donate \$600 to PWELC made by Amundson, seconded by Wuertz. Roll call.

Affirmative: Amundson, Barchenger, Brauchler, Weller, Wuertz,  
Motion carried.

Opposed: None

## **3. Manager Payroll**

Motion to move manager payroll to December 31<sup>st</sup> made by Barchenger, seconded by Wuertz. Motion carried.

**C. Funds Manager / Administrative Assistant Report:** As noted in financial statements.

## **6. Program Reports**

**A. Permit Reports:** none

**B. Drainage Report:**

### **1. JD1**

Henjum noted he had checked to see if grant funding would be available for the project on JD1 Br12 Fk 6 on the west side of the Prairie Storm WPA. He found there was not any current grant funding that would be available for the types of projects being discussed. Henjum to check in with Stearns County to see if boring under the county road to the south would be an option for re-routing the ditch.

### **2. JD2**

The cleanout on JD2 had to be stopped approximately 400 feet short because of frost. MBC will finish in the spring and an inspection will need to be done to see if more work is needed downstream.

### **3. Other Ditch Business**

Henjum noted beaver trapping was ongoing on JD1, CD32, CD5, and CD4.

## **7. Open Discussion from the Public:**

Kevin Farnum thanked the board for the work being done on Lake Koronis and gave an update on the project.

Roger Lyon noted that the proposed project on JD1 Br12 Fk6 would fit with the other water retention projects the District is pursuing.

Larry Ladwig inquired about tree spraying. Henjum stated Carr's Tree service would be contracting with the District in 2025 and already has a plan for targeted areas.

## **8. Items for Next Meeting Agenda:**

**9. Board Member Reports:**

**10. Calendar Review:**

**11. FYI Items:**

**12. Closed Session:** Motion to go to closed session made by Barchenger, seconded by Weller. Motion carried  
Motion to close closed session made by Weller, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

**13. Wage Adjustments:** Motion to approve wage adjustments made by Barchenger, seconded by Weller. Roll call.

Affirmative: Amundson, Barchenger, Brauchler, Weller, Wuertz,  
Motion carried.

Opposed: None

**14. Continuation:** Motion to continue the meeting on December 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am made by Barchenger, seconded by Weller. Motion carried.

**North Fork Crow River Watershed District**  
**Continued Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**December 30, 2024**

**Managers Present:** Ross Amundson, Jim Barchenger, Jim Weller, Jim Wuertz,

**Staff Present:** Colton Henjum, Chloe Truebenbach, Christine Knutson

**Others Present:**

**1. Financials**

Motion to approve December 30<sup>th</sup> financials made by Barchenger, seconded by Weller. . Roll call.

Affirmative: Amundson, Barchenger, Weller, Wuertz, Absent: Brauchler

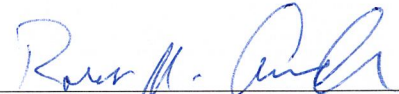
Opposed: None

Motion carried.

**2. Meeker County Snowmobile Bridge**

Manger Wuertz noted he had been contacted about a snowmobile bridge being put in on CD43. Henjum to obtain a permit from the association.

Motion to Adjourn made by Barchenger, seconded by Weller. Motion Carried.

  
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Ross Amundson – Secretary