

March 13, 2007

APPROVED

1. The regular meeting of the Wild Rice Watershed District Board of Managers was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2007, at the office of the District. The following members were in attendance: Joe Spaeth, Warren J. Seykora, Bob Wright, James Wagner, Sr., Dave Vipond, Diane Ista and Jim Skaurud. The following members were absent: None. In addition the following persons were in attendance: Engineer Jerry Bents, Administrator Steve Dalen, Secretary Loretta Johnson, Publicist Tim Halle and Audio Recorder Royal Knutson. Also in attendance were landowners and interested property owners.
2. Chairman Seykora called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. Seykora announced that the meeting is being taped by the Concerned Citizens.
3. Agenda. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Wright to approve the agenda for March 13, 2007. Carried.
4. Public Outreach. Administrator Dalen reported that the District is currently providing notices via radio and will also be using the local media to provide notice for the Reevaluation of the Twin Valley Dam informational meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday March 29, 2007, at the City of Twin Valley Community Center. Manager Ista commented that landowners within the District want to be informed of the activities of the District. Dalen stated that an email signup sheet would be provided at Twin Valley for the purpose of future notification of information. Ista also stated that she would like the Publicity Committee to be involved in future news articles. Dalen said that nothing has moved forward since the February Board meeting but would be utilizing the committee for additional information on news updates. Tim Halle stated that he emailed out the first update on Project #42 and if any new email addresses or additional information is provided, he would also be adding these items.
5. City of Mahnomen Drainage Issue. Administrator Dalen reported that a combined meeting with the City of Mahnomen, Mahnomen County Highway Department, Mahnomen County Board members, affected property owner and District staff and Engineer Bents is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday April 4, 2007, at the Mahnomen County Highway Department engineer's office. The City of Mahnomen drainage concerns will be addressed.
6. Project Team Meeting. A motion was made by Manager Skaurud and seconded by Manager Ista to forego the March Project Team Meeting and schedule the next Project Team Meeting for April. Carried.
7. Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Manager Skaurud and seconded by Manager Ista to approve the February 14, 2007, minutes as distributed. Carried.

8. Meetings/Conferences. Managers were reminded of the RRWMB March Conference schedule for March 28, 2007, at Crookston.

9. Project #42. Landowners interested in Project #42 attended this meeting. Engineer Bents provided an update on the status of Project #42. Chairman Seykora stated that the District is currently investigating four onstream storage on the South Branch east of Ulen in Section 26 of Ulen Township, Section 30 of Walworth, Section 3 of Atlanta and Sections 2/11 of Atlanta Township, but felt that it may be prudent for additional investigation to include onchannel sites from Ulen west to the ridge. Engineer Bents stated that there is also an advantage to have information on the Hagen site and by knowing what the concerns are for that site based on laws today the District would know for the future.

A motion was made by Manager Ista to table all off channel sites on Project #42 and amend the project to include all onchannel investigations and input from landowners where they think is potential storage. Manager Spaeth questioned if landowners had special sites that they think are more feasible. Ista stated that they did and she felt that the District should be taking a look at that. Chairman Seykora called three times for a second to the motion. Motion failed for lack of a second. Seykora stated that rather than try to kill this project, he felt it would be better if the District continued to add sites and keep the project moving forward and provide this information to legislators requesting that the District is a special entity that needs special treatment her in the Wild Rice for flood storage. Ista stated that legislators are not in favor of off channel storage that takes farmland and landowners are not happy if the District continues to move forward with a project. Ista stated that she wanted to set the project aside.

A motion was made by Manager Vipond and seconded by Manager Wright to continue looking at South Branch onstream storage beginning below the ridge east to Ulen.

Engineer Bents commented that no decision would probably be made on these sites until the District has completed investigation into the additional sites on the South Branch. Manager Vipond questioned if mitigation requirements could be provided; Bents replied that was necessary information that would be included. Administrator Dalen stated that the District staff could include as a point of record that when the District gets all of the information obtained through investigation of the onchannel sites, would notify all landowners for a meeting to provide the information. Dick Smith stated that for board members who were unable to attend landowner meetings in Ulen, he wanted the message stressed to legislators at the March 14-15 Meetings, that they do not support taking agricultural land for storage. Randy Pallum presented a resolution from the City of Borup stated that they are still opposed to Project #42 as it is written today and supports onchannel storage.

Lawrence Pollock presented the following letter of request to the Board of Managers: "Dated March 12, 2007. We request the Board to investigate and evaluate the possibility of water retention on government land in Sections of 14, 15, 22, 16, 27 of Goose Prairie Township of Clay County. Signed, Lawrence Pollock." Pollock also stated that he felt that retention on this proposed property would have minimum costs and it would be a good project to look at.

Manager Ista stated that obviously the motion is not what she would like but stated that she would support it because as Engineer Bents stated that nothing will be moving forward on Project #42 until these investigations are complete.

Question was called for vote. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Manager Skaurud and seconded by Manager Wright to investigate request by Lawrence Pollock for investigation. Carried.

Robert Braseth requested notification of meeting when investigation on all additional sites is completed. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Vipond to notify all landowners who have provided email addresses when agenda items pertaining to decision making on Project #42. Carried.

10. Upper Felton Ditch Storage Sites. Engineer Bents stated that letters were sent out to all landowners within the Felton Ditch area asking for feedback on any of their property that may be available for storage. Bents stated that replies are coming into the District office, some with positive information.

11. Request for Audio Recording Copies. Chairman Seykora suggested submitting a request to the Concerned Citizens for copies of the audio recordings for the two landowner meetings held at Ulen on March 5 and 12. Royal Knutson noted that the Board would have to contact the Concerned Citizens as he does not own the tapes and Wayne Le as he requested Knutson to tape the March 12, Information Meeting. A motion was made by Manager Skaurud and seconded by Manager Wright authorizing a formal letter of request to the Concerned Citizens for the purchase of copies of the audio recordings for the March 5 and 12 meetings on the Upper Tributary Sites of Project #42. Carried.

12. Microphone Rental. Manager Spaeth suggested renting microphones for public meetings to provide better coverage for attendees. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Wagner authorizing speaker microphone rental from Royal Knutson, providing that the price isn't cost prohibitive. Carried.

13. South Branch Agent to Address Purchase for Trade Property. Administrator Dalen reported that he was referred to Vogel Law Firm which indicated that they are interested in being an agent for trade of land. Dalen stated that additional information will be provided at the April meeting of the Board of Managers.

PERMITS

14. Norman County Highway Department, Bridge Replacement, Section 25, Lee Township. Thomas Wilson, Erickson Engineering Consultant for Norman County; Keith Berndt, Cass County Engineer; and Mick Alm, Norman County Engineer along with interested landowners and Norman County Commissioners met with the Board of Managers at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the bridge replacement permit of the Norman County Highway Department. A revised hydraulic model indicating existing and proposed conditions based on the 100 year and 500 year flood elevations was presented. Engineers Wilson, Berndt, Alm and Bents answered questions by various landowners on the data presented. A motion was made by Manager Skaurud and seconded by Manager Vipond to approve Permit # 3-13-07-1 of the Norman County Highway Department for a bridge replacement in Section 25, Lee Township, west of Perley across the Red River. Carried.

15. Upper Reaches Project. Engineer Bents updated the Managers on the funding options for the Upper Reaches Project. Bents stated that items to discuss pertaining to a Water Management District (WMD) include the need to resolve the maintenance issue and what exactly will be considered maintenance; the need for modeling to determine the capacity of the Upper Reaches Project for the purpose of determining what is considered maintenance. Attorney Jerry Von Korff laid out a plan of action on how to determine fees.

Bents stated that he will provide the Managers with various ways to determine the fees; a few different boundaries that could be considered and how the fees would be developed. Von Korff will provide information on other WMDs that based their fees on contribution rather than taxable market value. Von Korff also suggesting checking other stated to see how they assess fees. Manager Ista questioned what the next step in the process would be. Bents stated that he will provide ways and areas for fees and several different ultimate projects that the Board could review. Bents stated that the absolute minimum that could be done on the Upper Reaches would include the following: defining the project; project area; and a rate schedule. Administrator Dalen stated that Von Korff stated that there is tremendous logic in investigating a WMD; the second option would be a new project, however the cost of a Redetermination of Benefits for the project would be an estimated \$250,000 for the redetermination only. Using engineering to develop the data for a WMD would be considerably less cost to the project and taxpayers.

16. Home Lake Township Request. Representatives from Home Lake Township, the Norman County SWCD and interested landowners met with Managers at 11:00 a.m. to discuss a request to the District by Home Lake Township to submit a permit application to the Minnesota DNR for a culvert installation with a nonplugging pipe in the northeast corner of Home Lake to the level of the OWH established by the survey of Glen Yakel and John Scherek. Curtis Borchert stated that they are requesting the Watershed District to sponsor a permit to the DNR. Chairman Seykora felt that the District did not usually submit a permit and suggested that Home Lake Township might apply. County Commissioner Steve Bommersbach stated that Norman County agreed to fund the culvert installation at the proper elevation. Manager Ista felt it would be Watershed jurisdiction to be the sponsor to apply for the appropriate permits to assist. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Skaurud authorizing the District to be project sponsor and submit a permit application to the Minnesota DNR for a change in culvert in the northeast corner of Home Lake. Carried. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Skaurud to withdraw the previous motion. Carried. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Skaurud authorizing the District to be a joint sponsor with Home Lake Township, Norman County SWCD and Norman County and assist Home Lake Township in submitting a permit application to the Minnesota DNR for a culvert change on Home Lake. The WRWD will be completing the Hydraulic Analysis required as part of the permit application and the SWCD will be completing the design of the culvert lowering and outlet structure. Carried.

17. Project No. 9, Repair Sections 24/25 Mary, 30/36 of Winchester and 1 of Felton Townships. Manager Wright abstained from any discussion or voting. Engineer Bents distributed information on the first phase of the hydraulic analysis on the project. Under the existing condition, the channel is capable of conveying the design flood, however in some areas there will be minimal/or no separation between the adjacent field elevation and design water profile. This may negatively affect the ability of tributaries and lateral ditches to flow into the south Branch until the flow/stage in the South Branch recedes. Bents recommended that the District provide Attorney Hanson with the information for his review and input on whether the District should continue with Phase II of the hydraulic analysis of if the current information is sufficient to make a decision on whether to move forward with the project. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Wagner to provide the information to Attorney Hanson for a recommendation. Carried.

18. Chairman Seykora recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:00 noon and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

PERMITS

19. Clay County Highway Department, Replace Bridge, Section 13, Georgetown Township
Clay County Highway Department, Replace Bridge, Section 25/30 Viding and Felton Townships
Clay County Highway Department Replace Bridge, Section 13/14 Georgetown Township

Engineer Bents recommended tabling the above permits of Clay County Highway pending hydraulic analysis being provided to the District and notification of landowners. A motion was made by Manager Vipond and seconded by Manager Spaeth to table the above three permits of Clay County until a hydraulic analysis is provided and downstream and upstream landowners will be notified on each permit. Carried.

20. City of Twin Valley, Install Storm Sewers, Drainage Ditch, Water Quality Pond, 24" Culvert in Section 27/28 of Wild Rice Township. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Wright to table the permit of the City of Twin Valley for installation of storm sewer systems in Section 27/28 of Wild Rice Township and notice landowners in the #1/2 of Section 20 and the NE1/4 OF Section 29 of Wild Rice Townships. Carried.

21. Clay County Highway Department, Bridge Replacement, Section 8, Hagen Township. A motion was made by Manager Skaurud and seconded by Manager Vipond to table the permit application of Clay County Highway Department for a bridge replacement in Section 8 of Hagen Township, schedule a time on the agenda and provide notice in newspapers for April Meeting. Carried.

22. City of Hendrum, Section 30, Hendrum Township. A motion was made by Manager Wright and seconded by Manager Vipond to table the permit application of the City of Hendrum to remove a culvert and private driveway, regrade the existing ditch, and construct an approach with a 24: CMP, in a part of the construction of a 21 lot subdivision pending additional information be provided. Carried.

23. Keith Lavoie, Section 36, Pembina Township, Mahanomen County. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Vipond to table the permit of Keith Lavoie to fill in one ditch to "1985 levels" and fill in another ditch in Section 36 of Pembina Township pending an on site meeting with Lavoie and additional information being provided. Carried.

24. Monthly Financial Report. A motion was made by Manager Ista and second by Manager Spaeth to table the financial report for February 28, 2007, until the April meeting due to Accountant Marcussen having a scheduling conflict. Carried.

25. Monthly Billings. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Wright to approve the billings dated 3-13-07 along with Managers Per Diems and expenses. Carried.

26. Goal Setting. Administrator Dalen discussed the upcoming Legislative Breakfast in which representatives of the District will have the opportunity to meet with legislators. Dalen stated that hand delivered invitations followed by correspondence was provided to legislators for the meeting. Dalen also distributed scheduled times and agendas for each meeting. In an effort to hopefully make changes in the future of the District, Dalen reminded Managers that legislators are busy people and the points to be made clear are that the District needs a policy change to build future projects. Be brief and to the point, professional and respectful but firm in your beliefs; remember it is a big ball for them to carry in doing their job, too. Let them visit and learn more about the District.

27. Meetings/Conferences/Seminars. Manager Wright provided a brief report on the February Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB). Managers were reminded of the Legislative Breakfast at St. Paul beginning March 14-15. A motion was made by Manager Wright and seconded by Manager Vipond authorizing by board and staff at the meeting informational meeting on the Reevaluation of the Twin Valley Dam scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday March 29, 2007. Carried.

28. Other Issues-Discussion. Chairman Seykora stated that the idea of adding a women's restroom to the District office had been brought to his attention. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Wagner authorizing staff to obtain quotes for the proposed restroom. Carried.

29. There being no further business to come before the Board of Managers a motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Vipond to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

30. Chairman Seykora adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Diane Ista, Secretary

Name	Type	Num	Date	Amount
Mar 07				
Alerus Appraisals	Bill Pmt -Check	10371	03/13/2007	1,600.00
Alltel	Bill Pmt -Check	10422	03/27/2007	149.58
AmeriPride	Bill Pmt -Check	10372	03/13/2007	40.79
Arvid L Ambuehl	Bill Pmt -Check	10373	03/13/2007	3,562.50
Becker Co. Auditor	Bill Pmt -Check	10374	03/13/2007	10.65
Cardmember Service	Bill Pmt -Check	10375	03/13/2007	604.40
City of Ada	Bill Pmt -Check	10376	03/13/2007	116.57
Clay County Auditor	Bill Pmt -Check	10377	03/13/2007	13.50
David Vipond	Bill Pmt -Check	10378	03/13/2007	124.67
David Vipond	Bill Pmt -Check	10404	03/13/2007	50.44
Diane Ista	Bill Pmt -Check	10379	03/13/2007	259.80
Diane Ista	Bill Pmt -Check	10405	03/13/2007	52.38
Ernie Hilde	Bill Pmt -Check	10380	03/13/2007	525.00
FP Mailing Solutions	Bill Pmt -Check	10351	03/27/2007	99.05
Houston Engineering, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	10381	03/13/2007	47,471.83
HSBC Business Solutions	Bill Pmt -Check	10382	03/13/2007	235.43
Index Printing Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	10383	03/13/2007	165.85
Insight	Bill Pmt -Check	10384	03/13/2007	3,037.24
James Wagner Sr-Mgr	Bill Pmt -Check	10385	03/13/2007	212.17
James Wagner Sr-Mgr	Bill Pmt -Check	10406	03/13/2007	24.07
Jim Skaurud	Bill Pmt -Check	10386	03/13/2007	272.38
Jim Skaurud	Bill Pmt -Check	10407	03/13/2007	112.47
Joe Spaeth	Bill Pmt -Check	10387	03/13/2007	194.85
Joe Spaeth	Bill Pmt -Check	10408	03/13/2007	104.76
Kris Versdahl	Bill Pmt -Check	10388	03/13/2007	1,560.00
Loretel Systems	Bill Pmt -Check	10389	03/13/2007	317.64
Marcussen Accounting	Bill Pmt -Check	10390	03/13/2007	400.00
McCollum Hardware, Inc.	Bill Pmt -Check	10391	03/13/2007	6.70
Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation	Bill Pmt -Check	10423	03/27/2007	142.63
NetWork Center	Bill Pmt -Check	10392	03/13/2007	412.38
North Star Water	Bill Pmt -Check	10393	03/13/2007	71.50
Office Supplies Plus	Bill Pmt -Check	10394	03/13/2007	299.50
Ralph's Food Pride	Bill Pmt -Check	10395	03/13/2007	85.54
Renae Kappes	Bill Pmt -Check	10396	03/13/2007	60.00
Rinke Noonan	Bill Pmt -Check	10397	03/13/2007	495.00
Robert E. Wright	Bill Pmt -Check	10398	03/13/2007	259.80
Robert E. Wright	Bill Pmt -Check	10409	03/13/2007	71.78
The Shopper	Bill Pmt -Check	10399	03/13/2007	23.00
Tim Halle	Bill Pmt -Check	10400	03/13/2007	984.00
Twin Valley Bakery	Bill Pmt -Check	10424	03/27/2007	45.50
Wambach & Hanson	Bill Pmt -Check	10401	03/13/2007	1,706.21
Warren J. Seykora	Bill Pmt -Check	10402	03/13/2007	844.35
Warren J. Seykora	Bill Pmt -Check	10410	03/13/2007	650.51
Mar 07				67,476.42