

**WILD RICE WATERSHED DISTRICT**  
**11 Fifth Avenue East**  
**Ada, MN 56510**  
**Ph: 218-784-5501**

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**March 11, 2008**  
**APPROVED MINUTES**

1. The regular meeting of the Wild Rice Watershed District Board of Managers was held on Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at the District office located at 11 Fifth Avenue Main, Ada, MN. The following members were in attendance: Warren Seykora, Jim Wagner, Sr., Bob Wright, Dave Vipond, Diane Ista, Mike Christensen and Joe Spaeth. Absent: None. In addition the following persons were in attendance: Administrator Dalen, Engineer Jerry Bents, Attorney Hanson, Tim Halle, Loretta Johnson and members of the public whose names are attached at the end of these minutes.

2. Chairman Seykora called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

3. A motion was made by Manager Christensen and seconded by Manager Vipond to approve the agenda with the following changes: Manager Spaeth approval to attend Mahnommen County Commissioners Meeting March 18, 2008. Carried.

**Project #16, Hearing**

Chairman Seykora called the hearing on Project #16 to order at 10:00 a.m.

Engineer Bents provided a PowerPoint Presentation on recommended repairs/modifications to the project.

Alternative 1: Install a 24" CMP from the outfall riser to the Marsh River where it will discharge next to the existing 48" CMP. The upstream invert of this culvert shall be placed at elevation 868.6 and the downstream invert shall be at elevation 860.0. The 110' of 24" CMP and minimal rock rip-rap (5 cy) included in Alternative 1 is estimated to cost \$5,000.

Alternative 2: Install a 24" CMP from the outfall riser to a location just downstream of the ditch embankment. The upstream invert of this culvert shall be placed at elevation 868.6 and the downstream invert shall be at elevation 868.0. Discharging waters will continue to the Marsh River through a rock lined channel. Alternative 2 consisting of 60' of 24" CMP and a 40' long rock rip-rap channel (45 cy) will cost approximately \$5,500.

Independent of the chosen alternative, the spillway shall be lowered to elevation 874.5 to return the 100-year water surface elevation to the original design elevation. The comparative results are shown in Table 1 above. In addition, it is recommended that the channel in Sections 19 and 30 be cleaned.

A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Wright to order the following repair to Project #16. Carried by unanimous ballot.

**ORDER OF BOARD OF MANAGERS OF WILD RICE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
AUTHORIZING REPAIR OF PROJECT #16 - ANTHONY DITCH**

A meeting of the Wild Rice Watershed District Board of Managers was held on March 11, 2008, at the district office in Ada, Minnesota, at 10:00 a.m. A quorum of the board was present including the following: Mike Christensen; Bob Wright; Joe Spaeth; Warren Seykora; David Vipond; Diane Ista; and James Wagner. Also present were the district administrator, Steve Dalen, the district engineer, Jerry Bents, and the district's legal council, Elroy Hanson. Members of the public were also present.

Discussion was had regarding a repair petition filed by Jerry Bitker regarding the functioning of the Anthony Township Ditch Project #16 discharging into the Marsh River.

Discussion was had regarding an engineer's report dated December 12, 2007, with certain recommendations/alternatives.

Public comment was invited by the board from members of the public and the public discussed with the board/district's engineer their concerns.

Discussion was had that the repairs outlined in the engineer's 12-12-07 report outlined two alternatives and the board concluded the second alternative is the most beneficial for and in the best interests of Project #16.

Discussion was had that the estimated costs to perform the work outlined as alternative #2 would be \$12,000.00 to \$14,000.00.

NOW THEREFORE, based on the above discussion, the board makes the following Findings of Fact:

1. That a repair petition was filed with the board of managers by Jerry Bitker regarding Project #16.
2. An engineer's report dated December 12, 2007, was filed by the district's engineer and said report is incorporated into these Findings of Fact by reference.
3. The board finds alternative #2 identified in the engineer's 12-12-07 report to be in the best interests of Ditch #16.

Based on the above discussion and Findings of Fact, the board makes the following Order:

1. That the requested repairs per the second alternative identified in the engineer's report are hereby authorized.
2. The district's administrator, in cooperation with the district's engineer, are hereby authorized to take such action as may be reasonably be needed to give effect to the Order and proceed with the authorized repairs.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008.

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Secretary of Board of Managers

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Chairman of Board of Managers

4. Agricultural Watershed Restoration Projects. Engineer Bents explained the process of applications to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to participate in a project entitled Agricultural Watershed Restoration. Funding under the Clean Water Legacy Act was appropriated for agricultural watershed restoration projects that are located in a watershed impaired by nonpoint agricultural sources. The goal for the AWR projects is to provide long-term restoration of surface water quality, on a watershed scale, through the restoration of natural hydrologic function to working lands. These projects are to develop a framework, or blueprint, for defining and implementing feasible and practical practices for restoring water quality within impaired agricultural watersheds in Minnesota. The three phases of the project are: 1. Identify Project subwatersheds and local sponsors; 2. Watershed modeling, analysis and reporting; 3. Implementation of hydrology management and other BMPs. Application deadline is April 10, 2008. A motion was made by Manager Vipond and seconded by Manager Ista authorizing Engineer Bents and Administrator Dalen to work with the SWCDs to apply for the funding with inviting the SWCD to be the participating agency. Carried.
5. Project Team Representative. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Vipond authorizing Administrator Dalen to coordinate with the Citizens for Farmland Preservation in providing a member of their organization to sit on as a member of the Project Team. Carried.
6. Becker Dam Project Update. Administrator Dalen reported that he has had two landowner meetings and will have two more appointments within the next ten days on the proposed Becker Dams Project. He hopes to bring the information back to the Board at the April Meeting.
7. MAWD Legislative Breakfast. Administrator Dalen distributed the informational packets that will be provided to legislators at the upcoming legislative breakfast.
8. Project #29. David Larson discussed his request to the District for authorization to hire a contractor to remove the snow in the ditch of Project #29, to prevent flooding. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Wagner stating that Larson contact the District office prior to hiring a snow removal contractor. Carried.
9. Request for Copies of Audio CDs From Meetings. Discussion was held regarding the amount of time staff needs to fill the requests for audio recordings of the meetings and also the costs to be charged for the CDs. A motion was made to investigate the possibility of making the audio available on the District's web site, and if possible, determine if this reduces the amount of requests. Carried.
10. Tiling Process Presentation Borchert/Christianson. Mark Christianson along with Curtis Borchert, presented information on the benefits to flood damage reduction with tiling. Christianson stated that he included some of his calculations in the handout, that he had used to compile the information. The results of the calculations indicated that tiling is not a real good alternative to flood storage; and would need to be done in cooperation with willing landowners. Although tiling is beneficial to farmland, it is not practical for flood storage and might be in the cost range of what the District has planned when it comes to benefit cost, however it is just on a smaller basis.
11. Twin Valley Dam. Engineer Bents reviewed the PowerPoint Presentation that has been compiled by Jeff LeDoux for the Steering Committee to present to the congressional delegation in North Dakota. Also discussed were resolutions supporting the WRDA bill which would provide for reevaluation of the Twin Valley Dam. Curt Jacobson stated that he, as a Concerned Citizen Member, has been visiting with various cities up and down the valley getting resolutions for support.

Administrator Dalen stated that he filled out the appropriations forms and submitted them to both Senators Coleman and Klobuchar. Mike Christensen suggested an article with information on the status of the WRDA appropriations process for the Twin Valley Dam, be placed in the Twin Valley Times, to inform property owners the status of the project and also the point in the process at the present time. motion was made by Manager Vipond and seconded by Manager Wagner authorizing Tim Halle to write a publication article for the Twin Valley and Mahnomen papers. Carried. A motion was made by Manager Vipond and seconded by Manager Wright approving the PowerPoint presentation as shown, with the addition of the verbiage from the WRDA bill. This will be provided to the Concerned Citizens for presentation. It was recommended that a Board member be included when the presentation is used. Carried.

Administrator Dalen stated that he received a request from Raymond Hanson to be added to the Twin Valley Dam Steering Committee. Mark Habedank also volunteered to serve on the Committee. A motion was made by Manager Wagner and seconded by Manager Wright to add Hanson and Habedank to the committee. Carried.

A motion was made by Manager Vipond and seconded by Manager Wright to approve the brochure on the Twin Valley Dam as presented to the Steering Committee. Carried.

12. Project #42. Administrator Dalen reported that he will be closing on the purchase of one property Friday, March 14, with two additional closings for purchase of property within the following week.

13. Upper Felton Project. Manager Wright is not taking part in this discussion. Chuck Larson met with Managers to discuss his proposal of \$5,000 per acre to purchase his property in Felton Township to be used for a flood control project. Larson was asked the cost for an option to purchase. He stated 2% or \$48,000 is common, and saw no room for negotiation. Manager Vipond asked if Larson would consider \$10,000 for an option, Larson indicated he would not. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Vipond to not purchase the Larson property, but to continue to look into other alternatives in the Felton area. Carried. Larson requested a letter of withdrawal from the District. Bob Wright did not vote.

14. Heitman Coulee Access. Attorney Hanson reported that currently he is working with engineering to determine if there is any alternate access for ingress and egress to the project rather than gaining access through the Vik property.

15. Mahnomen West Side Drainage. Discussion was held regarding the need for a downstream analysis on the project for which Engineer Bents and Administrator Dalen stated that there are no requirements under statute for this. Engineer Bents estimated the cost to do an analysis between \$3-5,000. A motion was made by Manager Vipond and seconded by Manager Wagner not to proceed with an analysis for downstream impacts. Carried.

#### **PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

16. Terry Guttormson, Section 19, Hendrum Township. A motion was made by Manager Wright and seconded by Manager Spaeth to table Permit Application #3-11-08-1 of Terry Guttormson to install drain tile until field review can be done later in the spring. Carried.

17. Norman County Highway Department, Section 9-10, Wild Rice Township. A motion was made by Manager Wright and seconded by Manager Spaeth to table Permit Application #3-11-08-2 of the Norman County Highway Department pending notice to adjacent landowners. Carried.

18. Paul Borgen, Section 9, Hegne Township. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Spaeth to deny Permit Application #3-11-08-3 of Paul Borgen to lower a 36" CMP in a field approach approximately one foot due to the proposed change not being on Mr. Borgen's property and the property owner being opposed. Carried.

19. Managers Direction/Accountability. Administrator Dalen distributed copies of the MAWD Managers' Position Description and urged those pursuing their own personal agenda to uphold the District's mission, purpose and policies. He urged those with grievances to follow established policies and procedures and to serve the Wild Rice Watershed District Organization as a whole rather than any special interest group or constituency. He also distributed information provided by Ron Harnack regarding the bonding bills for the current session. Dalen stated that Representative Ken Eken intended to carry the \$4 Million bonding bill for the District but has withdrawn due to landowner involvement. Also discussed were the minutes of the recent Citizens for Farmland Preservation (CFP) and Manager Ista's involvement. Ista commented that her involvement at CFP meetings was all positive regarding the Watershed District and that landowners at the meeting asked her questions and she answered them. Chairman Seykora stated that the WD Board is not unified and asked if the WD Board should go to area county boards and explain that the District has a dysfunctional board. Dalen also suggested that Board members begin with visiting with county commissioners. Dalen stated that this board has to work in the spirit of the whole board and asked if the board wanted to do nothing or be proactive. Attorney Hanson stated that there is a big distinction between having a unanimous vote on a board and a dysfunctional board. Seykora stated that whatever the vote is on a motion, board members should support the board's mission. Ista stated that she gave a very positive view of the WD at the recent Norman County SWCD meeting. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Wright authorizing full board and staff to attend local county board meetings. Dalen agreed to provide a list of appointment times to board members. Carried.

20. J.D. #53 Main. A motion was made by Manager Wright and seconded by Manager Christensen to schedule a hearing on J.D. 53, Main Repair for 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 9, 2008, at the District office. Carried.

21. Lower Wild Rice TMDL Update. Engineer Bents gave an update on the TMDL study and stated that if the Board chooses, they can be the lead agency in the implementation phase. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Wagner authorizing the District to be the lead agency on the implementation phase of the TMDL Study of the Lower Wild Rice River. Carried.

22. Managers Christensen and Seykora left the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

23. Marsh River Hydraulic Modeling. Engineer Bents stated that they are awaiting the modeling from the COE on the 205 Study for the City of Ada, and the COE has indicated that the data will not be available until May.

24. Moccasin Creek Dam. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Vipond authorizing Engineer Bents to provide a proposed change for the operating plan on Moccasin Creek to be reviewed by Managers at the April meeting. Carried.

25. Ambuehl/Kurpius Complaint. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Wagner authorizing an investigation into the request by Ambuehl and Kurpius to investigate possible dike construction on the north side of the river by Vik. Carried.

26. COE WRRFS. It was reported that Administrator Dalen, Engineer Bents and a board representative will be meeting with Nan Bischoff on March 31 in St. Paul.
27. RRWMB Correspondence. Manager Wright stated that Brian Borgen sent correspondence to the RRWMB requesting information. Consensus was that Administrator Dalen will contact Administrator Naomi Erickson for discussion on this.
28. Mowing and Spraying. A motion was made by Manager Wagner and seconded by Manager Spaeth to begin advertising for mowing and spraying bids. Carried.
29. Public Meeting, April 5, 2008. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Wagner authorizing staff to use the radio and printed media for a total not to exceed \$800 to advertise the upcoming public meeting scheduled for April 5, 2008, at the Ada/Borup School Auditorium. Carried. A motion was made by Manager Vipond and seconded by Manager Wagner authorizing staff to obtain an estimate for a cost effective meal for the April 5, meeting. Carried.
30. Project Team Meeting. There will be no March Project Team meeting but staff is to inform team members of the change in date and encourage them to attend the April meeting.
31. Financial Report Dated February 29, 2008. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Spaeth to approve the financial report as presented for February 29, 2008. Carried.
32. Approve Billings. A motion was made by Manager Ista and seconded by Manager Spaeth to approve the billings as presented along with Managers expenses and per diem and including \$100 to the Becker County Envirothon and \$7,732.95 to the RRWMB. Carried.
33. Meeting Minutes. Discussion was held regarding the minutes policy and how much detail should be provided. Manager Ista preferred more detail; Wright recommended that this be included in the April agenda for Board discussion. A motion was made by Manager Vipond and seconded by Manager Spaeth to approve the January 9, 2008, minutes as presented. Carried. A motion was made by 6 Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Wagner to approve the February 13, 2008, minutes with the change of Bennett Litigation to J.B. Asc. Ltd. Carried. Manager Ista opposed.
34. Legislative Breakfast. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Vipond to authorize attendance at the Legislative Breakfast. Carried.
35. 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. Vice Chairman Wright adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

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Diane Ista, Secretary

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
<b>Checking-CBRRV</b>				
02/15/2008	11239	Community Bank of the RRV	Pymt	-3,232.30
02/19/2008	11281	Cardmember Service	Pymt	-4,375.79
02/19/2008	Withdrawal	postage	postalia	-500.00
02/21/2008	11289	Bill Zurn	SWCD Sml Stor Sites	-228.00
02/21/2008	Withdrawal	cell bill	Alltel	-257.42
02/29/2008	11282	First National Bank	Vehicle Payment	-869.45
03/01/2008	11291	Ramsey District Court	Parking	-25.00
03/10/2008	11300	G R Graphics-Maintenance	Copy Machine	-308.85
03/11/2008	11304	Arvid L Ambuehl	Channel Tree Removal	-5,307.50
03/11/2008	11305	Becker County SWCD	Envirothon	-100.00
03/11/2008	11306	City of Ada	Utilities	-333.01
03/11/2008	11307	David Vipond	per diem	-69.26
03/11/2008	11308	Diane Ista	per diem	-129.52
03/11/2008	11309	G R Graphics-Supplies	Supplies	-111.61
03/11/2008	11310	Houston Engineering, Inc.	March Invoices	----20,825.08
03/11/2008	11311	ICS Agency	Bond Renewal	-100.00
03/11/2008	11312	James Wagner Sr-Mgr	per diem	-146.79
03/11/2008	11313	James Wagner, Sr.	Beaver Control	-910.95
03/11/2008	11314	Joe Spaeth	per diem	-129.52
03/11/2008	11315	Kris Versdahl	Web Site Assnt	-104.00
03/11/2008	11316	Loretel Systems	Utilities	-368.28
03/11/2008	11317	Mike Christensen	per diem	-164.06
03/11/2008	11318	Minkota Technologies, Inc.	Server Installation	-11,165.00
03/11/2008	11319	Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation	Utilities	-109.10
03/11/2008	11320	Norman County SWCD	Grivno Tree Planting	-757.50
03/11/2008	11321	North Star Water	Bottled Water	-60.50
03/11/2008	11322	Ralph's Food Pride	Lunch Supplies	-12.82
03/11/2008	11323	Renae Kappes	Cleaning	-100.00
03/11/2008	11324	Robert E. Wright	per diem	-129.52
03/11/2008	11325	Sorenson Electric	Heater Repair	-90.00
03/11/2008	11326	Subway	manager lunch	-95.00
03/11/2008	11327	Tim Halle	Public Information	-798.00
03/11/2008	11328	Wambach & Hanson	March Billings	-3,516.36
03/11/2008	11329	Warren J. Seykora	per diem	-971.44
03/11/2008	11331	David Vipond	mileage	-26.26
03/11/2008	11332	James Wagner Sr-Mgr	mileage	-10.62
03/11/2008	11333	Joe Spaeth	mileage	-66.66
03/11/2008	11334	Mike Christensen	mileage	-60.60
03/11/2008	11335	Robert E. Wright	mileage	-36.36
03/11/2008	11336	Warren J. Seykora	mileage\exp reimburse	-642.16
03/14/2008	11302	AmeriPride	rug rental	-43.86
				-57,288.15

march 11, 2008  
Reg. Mtg Sign in

~~David Smith~~

Marijo Vik

Brent Kaffer

Mark Habedank

Curt Jacobsen

Ernst Billje

Tim Johnson

~~Dave Smith~~

Daylan Larson

Ron Gustafson

Alan Brase & H

Brian Boyer

Michael Lockhart