

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

REGULAR MEETING
March 12, 2025
APPROVED MINUTES

A full list of acronyms used is available at the end of this report (Appendix A)

1. The regular meeting of the Wild Rice Watershed District Board of Managers was held on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. Managers in attendance included: Greg Holmvik, Dean Spaeth, Mike Christensen, Curt Johannsen and Duane Erickson. In addition, the following people were in attendance: Administrator Tara Jensen, Engineer Jerry Bents, and Attorney Elroy Hanson. Various other interested taxpayers and landowners attended in person or via electronic means. Manager Matt Borgen and Manager Raymond Hanson were absent.
2. Chairman Holmvik called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with recital of the pledge of allegiance.
3. Agenda Approval. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Erickson to approve the agenda with the following addition: Administrative Budget and USACE. Carried.
4. Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Manager Johannsen and seconded by Manager Christensen to approve the February 12, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Carried.
5. Approval of Billings. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Christensen to approve the payment of billings as presented. Carried.
6. Financial Report. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Johannsen to approve the monthly financial report dated February 28, 2025, as presented. Carried.
7. Open Mic. No one spoke.

PERMITS

8. Mike Petry, Section 34, Lockhart Twp. Permit #25-005 to install subsurface drain tile. Engineer Bents explained the assessment area and flow of the water. He noted that the project is not assessed into either NCD 18 or NCD 11. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Manager Johannsen and seconded by Manager Spaeth to table the permit requesting that the applicant submit a petition to drain into NCD 18 or provide information showing that the project will not outlet into NCD 18 or NCD 11. Carried.
9. Jake Bitker, Section 25, Halstad Twp. Permit #25-001 to install subsurface drain tile. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Johannsen to table the permit pending Board action on the applicant's petition to drain into Project 16. Carried.
10. Petition to use Project 16 as an outlet. Engineer Bents presented the findings on the petition from Jake Bitker regarding permit #25-001. Discussion was held regarding the proposed outlet fee and assessment

amount. A motion was made by Manager Johannsen and seconded by Manager Christensen to set the hearing for April 9, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Carried.

11. Becker County Highway Department, Various Sections, Walworth and Atlanta Townships. Permit #25-007 to conduct roadway improvements-widen roadway and replace culverts. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manger Erickson to approve the permit. Carried.
12. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Johannsen to approve the following permits as listed. Carried.
 - Garden Valley Technologies, Various Sections, Marsh Creek, Pembina, Rosedale Twps. Permit #25-006 to install fiber optic cable lines with the condition that the utility line is installed a minimum of 30" below any ditch channel bottoms, the applicant is responsible for adequate erosion control measures during construction, and if a Watershed District project or other legal ditch project is hereafter initiated, repaired or improved over permitted utility, the owner of said utility shall be responsible for the cost of moving or deepening the utility if the Watershed District deems it necessary for the construction of the repair, improvement or initiation of the project.
 - Colby Neset, Section 6, Fossum Twp. Permit #25-008 to install a field approach with a 24" pipe.
 - Dale Noll, Section 1, Lake Grove Twp. Permit #25-009 to install two water and sediment control basins with standard tile conditions.
13. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Christensen to continue to table the following permits as listed. Carried.
 - Jerry Matter, Section 8, Riceville Twp. Permit #24-138 to install subsurface drain tile to request that the applicant provide an alternative plan that is acceptable to the adjacent landowner (MNDNR) and written approval from the owner in the SE1/4 of Section 8 Riceville where the outlet tile will be installed, and that the applicant consider amendments to the application to address concerns expressed by downstream property owners in Section 17.
 - Adam McCollum, Section 33, Gregory Twp. Permit #24-134 to install water and sediment control basins to allow the applicant to consider amendments to the application to address erosion concerns downstream of the outlet, expressed by the downstream property owner.
14. Administrator Jensen reported that the new online permit application system is currently being tested by staff before it is opened for public use.

COMPLAINTS (none)

15. Perley Flood Control Levee Improvement Project-Phase 2-Grade Raises. Engineer Bents stated that there is no update or action needed at this time. The remainder of the project remains on temporary suspension over the winter.
16. Acquisition Properties. Administrator Jensen reported that a bid opening for demolition of the first 3 properties was held on February 25, 2025. Some concerns were brought to staff relating to Prime or Subcontractor eligibility under one of our grant requirements. The situation was reviewed with legal

counsel. A motion was made by Manager Johannsen and seconded by Manager Spaeth to reject all bids and re-bid the project, specifying the 6% preference in the amount. Manager Erickson opposed. Carried.

17. Future Landowner Applications. A motion was made by Manager Erickson to deny future applications of flood buyout properties. The motion died for lack of a second.
18. Ditch and Project Maintenance. Engineer Bents reported that repair plans are complete for the cleanout on Clay County Ditch 18. The WCA onsite meeting was held last week. Cleanout is likely to begin in the Spring of 2025.
19. Upper Reaches. Administrator Jensen reported that we are still waiting a response on the request for Section 1135 funding.
20. Lower Wild Rice. Administrator Jensen reported that updated RIM rates are expected in April. She is currently working with six applicants.
21. White Earth Regional Water Taskforce. No meetings have been scheduled at this time.
22. Citizens' Advisory Committee. The next meeting is April 7, 2025. Manager Borgen and Manager Christensen are on the committee.
23. Minnesota Watersheds 2025 Voting Delegate Appointment. A special meeting will be held on March 21, 2025 to discuss the resolution process. MN Watersheds is looking for 2 delegates from each Watershed District. A motion was made by Manager Johannsen and seconded by Manager Spaeth to appoint Manager Christensen and Manager Erickson with Manager Johannsen as an alternate. Carried.
24. Minnesota Watersheds Legislative update. Administrator Jensen gave feed back from her attendance at the event. Chairman Holmvik, Manager Borgen and Manager Erickson attended as well.
25. United States Army Corps of Engineers. Chairman Holmvik shared feedback from the meeting he attended with the USACE at the Legislative event.
26. Manager Appointments. Administrator Jensen reported that terms expire in April for Managers Hanson, Christensen and Johannsen. If any wish to reapply, a letter of intent needs to be turned into the County by March 12, 2025.
27. KRJB Ag Program Sponsorship Renewal. A motion was made by Manager Christensen and seconded by Manager Spaeth to renew the sponsorship. Carried.
28. Manager Per Diems. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Johannsen to approve payment of Manager per diems as distributed. Carried.
29. Meetings/Conferences/Seminars. A motion was made by Manager Spaeth and seconded by Manager Christensen to approve staff and Board attendance at the MN Watersheds Special meeting March 21, 2025. Carried.
30. Administrative Budget. Manager Erickson would like to see more transparency of administrative costs. He would also like more discussion about it before the RRWMB meets regarding the levy.

31. There being no further business to come before the Board of Managers, a motion was made by Manager Johannsen and seconded by Manager Spaeth to adjourn the meeting. Carried. Chairman Holmvik adjourned the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

Curt Johannsen, Secretary

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
Feb 13 - Mar 12, 25				
02/25/2025		QuickBooks Payroll Service	Created by Payroll Service on 02/24/2025	7,134.54
03/11/2025		QuickBooks Payroll Service	Created by Payroll Service on 03/10/2025	6,852.23
02/18/2025	ACH	Pitney Bowes		120.00
02/15/2025	ACH	Aflac		183.11
02/15/2025	ACH	Aflac		366.22
02/25/2025	ACH	MN PEIP		3,541.54
03/05/2025	ACH	MARCO, Inc.		743.96
02/14/2025	ACH	PERA		1,391.58
02/13/2025	ACH	US Treasury-Payroll	41-6145653	2,317.92
02/13/2025	ACH	MN Dept of Revenue	5062265	399.00
03/06/2025	ACH	Minnesota Energy Resources Corporation		35.97
03/03/2025	ACH	Arvig		360.54
03/10/2025	ACH	Ada City		568.52
02/27/2025	ACH	MN Dept of Revenue	5062265	27.00
02/28/2025	ACH	PERA		1,269.05
02/27/2025	ACH	US Treasury-Payroll	41-6145653	2,118.04
03/05/2025	ACH	MARCO, Inc.		437.77
03/12/2025	ACH	Elan Financial Services	February statement	3,178.21
03/12/2025	19664	Area 1 Envirothon-Norman	Envirothon Donation	200.00
03/12/2025	19665	Carol Peppel and Donald Peppel	Option agreement	124.44
03/12/2025	19666	Cintas	Rugs	93.67
03/12/2025	19667	Docu Shred	Shredding	53.11
03/12/2025	19668	Hanson & Liebl Law Office, P.C.	February statement	6,981.20
03/12/2025	19669	Houston Engineering, Inc.		53,369.55
03/12/2025	19670	Jane & Glenn Pavia	Option agreement-Pavia	1,172.18
03/12/2025	19671	Kenneth Aaron Kesselberg	Snow removal	220.00
03/12/2025	19672	Liberty Mutual Insurance	Bond invoice	125.00
03/12/2025	19673	Michael Olson and Laura Olson		2,483.64
03/12/2025	19674	Morris Electronics, Inc.		5,560.44
03/12/2025	19675	Norman County Index-Ada	Advertising-bids	627.00
03/12/2025	19676	Norman County SWCD		30,671.46
03/12/2025	19677	Red River Valley Coop Pow er Assn		517.39
03/12/2025	19678	Supermarket Foods	Supplies	15.44
03/12/2025	19679	Terry & Karey Hoff	Option agreement-Hoff	3,440.58
03/12/2025	19680	Curt Johannsen		237.73
03/12/2025	19681	Dean P Spaeth		160.24
03/12/2025	19682	Duane L Erickson		730.69
03/12/2025	19683	Gregory R Holmvik		555.18
03/12/2025	19684	Michael K Christensen		142.31
		TOTAL		138,526.45

Appendix A

List of Acronyms Used:

MNDNR	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
NCD	Norman County Ditch
RIM	Reinvest in Minnesota
RRWMB	Red River Watershed Management Board
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
WCA	Wetland Conservation Act