



Yellow Medicine River Watershed District

122 North Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 267, Minneota MN 56264-0267

Phone: 507-872-6720 www.ymrwd.org admin@ymrwd.com

Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2024, Wednesday 10:00 a.m.

Staff Present: Michelle Overholser, Jeremiah Timm

Board Members Present: Faith Olsen, Bill Briggs, Tim Buysse, Randy Kamrath, Darwyn Bach

Others Present: Tom Andries, Luke Olson

1. **Call to Order :** The meeting was called to order by President Bill Briggs at 10:02 A.M. at the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District Office at 122 North Jefferson Street Minneota, MN.
 - 1.1. Set Agenda **Kamrath moved to approve Agenda. Buysse seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
 - 1.2. Jan. Regular Meeting Minutes **Bach moved approve Dec. Regular Meeting Minutes. Buysse seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
 - 1.3. Treasurer Report **Olsen moved to approve Treasurer Report. Bach seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
2. **Permits to Approve**
 - 2.1. None
3. **Public Comments and Reports**
 - 3.1. Public Comments: Andries reported on happens of Lyon County including progress on repair project of CD 14, and a controversial solar farm proposed to be built in southern Lyon County. Olson provided a report on a soil health grant be provided to the SWCDs. Phase 1 is currently in progress and was designed for soil health staffing needs. Olson also have a short update on RCPP, which should be available soon, but no exact date as been released.
 - 3.2. Manager Reports: Kamrath and Buysse reported on the recent drainage conference.
 - 3.3. Technical Reports: Timm provided report on recent office happenings and recent beaver bounty claims. Timm missed Drainage conference due to sick kids. Timm provided insights to use of alfalfa as a cover crop in accordance with NRCS Standard 340 and provided benefits from a U of M article and cover crop field guide information.
 - 3.4. Administrative Report: Overholser provided report regarding Grant reporting submitted to BWSR and on ordinary district business.
4. **Old Business**
 - 4.1 Remote Meetings: Overholser provided update regarding equipment needs for remote meetings. Staff will continue to look into this.
 - 4.2 Website: Streamline provided startup costs of \$500 and yearly maintenance of \$2760. **Kamrath motioned to proceed with Streamline, Bach Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
5. **New Business**
 - 5.1. Alternative tile intake policy: Overholser proposed a standalone policy for providing cost share for alternative tile intakes. The suggestion was to cost share at 90% up to \$500 per alternative tile intake. **Buysse Moved to approve. Olsen Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**



Yellow Medicine River Watershed District

122 North Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 267, Minneota MN 56264-0267

Phone: 507-872-6720 www.ymrwd.org admin@ymrwd.com

- 5.2. Personnel Policy **Kamrath Moved to table until March Meeting. Buisse Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 5.3. 2020/2022 BWSR Corrective action plan **Buisse Moved to approve. Bach Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 5.4. 1W1P: During the last grant reconciliation, there were multiple training opportunities regarding filling out the cost share contracts and the vouchers that came to light. To address these concerns and to help insure that items are not missed, Overholser developed a few checklists that she would like to require the SWCDs and the YMRWD complete for every contract and voucher before they are approved. **Kamrath Moved to approve. Buisse Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 5.5. Legislative Days: Overholser provided agenda and confirmed that there weren't any board members attending.
- 5.6. 2022 Audit Overholser went over 2022 Audit Draft
- 5.7. 2023 Audit Contract with Person for the 2023 audit. **Buisse Moved to contract with Person, Bach seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 5.8. Bank Authorizations to add Olsen and Bach to both bank accounts and to remove Volstad and Dritz. **Kamrath moved to approve, Buisse seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

6. YM1W1P WBIF Cost-Share Contracts

- 6.1. Albertson Amendment – 2023-007: The reason for the amendment was not filled out in the form submitted to the District by YMSWCD, Overholser requested that they resubmit the amendment with the narrative. The SWCD did submit a standalone document that explained the reason for the amendment. The BWSR BC, recommends that the narrative should be included on the amendment and not as a separated document. After discussion, It was recommend to table the amendment, **Kamrath moved to table the amendment until the amendment is resubmitted with the additional information. Olsen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

7. YM1W1P WBIF Cost-Share Payments

- 7.1. Kvam – 2023-028 \$2500 **Buisse moved to approve, Bach seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Adjourn Bach moved to adjourn, Buisse seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Dates to Note:

Watershed Storage Meeting Mon. February 29th 12:00 p.m. Marshall

March Board Meeting Wed. March 20st 10:00 a.m.

Legislative Days Wednesday, March 6th and 7th

Board Term Ending Dates in 2024

Olsen Aug. 2024

Buisse/Briggs Dec. 2024