



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

August 20, 2025, Wednesday 08:00 a.m.

Staff Present: Michelle Overholser, Jeremiah Timm

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

Others Present: Gary Laleman, Tom Andries, John Frensko, Tom Frensko, Bill Frensko, Orville Schultz, Luke Olson, Keith Hennen.

1. Call to Order The meeting was called to order by Vice President Tim Buysse at 8:02 A.M. at the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District Office located at 122 North Jefferson Street Minneota, MN.

1.

1.1. Set Agenda **Kamrath moved to approve the agenda. Bach seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

1.2. July Regular Meeting Minutes - **Bach moved to approve the July Regular Meeting Minutes with the following corrections:**

3.1 Change "Country" to "Courtney"

5.1 Change "Char" to "Chair". Olsen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Olsen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

1.3. Special Meeting Minutes - **Bach moved to approve the Special Meeting Minutes. Kamrath Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

1.4. Treasurer Report - **Olsen moved to approve the Treasurer Report. Bach seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Permits to Approve

2.1. None

3. Public Comments and Reports

3.1. Public Comments - Gary Laleman (Lyon County SWCD) reported that Lyon County was currently in a hiring freeze and would not be hiring a replacement for Courtney Williams until after the freeze.

Tom Andries (Lyon County) reported that Lyon County is currently in the process of updating their annual budget.

3.2. Manager Reports – Kamrath updated board that there may be an Alta Vista Road Retention project meeting at 9:30 A.M. at the Area II office in Marshall. If there is one planned and the watershed district is needed, Area II or Randy will let Michelle know.

3.3. Technical Reports – Timm provided update regarding recent permit activities.

3.4. Administrative Report – Overholser provided update and grants, ordinary district business and progress on the 1W1P update.

9:00 a.m. Close Meeting, Open Public Budget Hearing – Board Meeting will resume when Hearing is completed

President Bill Briggs closed Regular meeting at 9:05 A.M.

Overholser presented multiple proposals for the 2025 budget and levy.

No public comments were received.

Olsen moved to increase the levy \$10,000 with the corresponding proposed budget. Bach seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Old Business

- 4.1 Tiling without a permit – Normania 7 – Kaye Christenson – Overholser provided update and recommended 4.1 to be tabled. **Bach moved to table 4.1. Buysse seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 4.2 Richard Larson – Permit Norman 13 – Briggs abstained. Overholser provided update and recommended 4.2 to be tabled. **Bach moved to table 4.2. Kamrath seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 4.3 Hauschild Dam – Briggs provided update regarding the Hauschild Dam. Discussion took place. No motions were made.
- 4.4 John Weverka – Royal 29 project – Overholser presented Weverka’s project which was approved in June of 2025. Tom Frensko presented his concerns with the project and his concerns regarding the Watershed District’s process in determining impacted landowners. Frensko believes that his property is impacted by the project, and he should have been notified of the project. It is the Watersheds position that all downstream landowners are notified between the potential outlet of a project to a public water or public ditch. The watershed district did such notifications but stopped at the public ditch system. The county verified that the parcel was benefited into the county system and had no objections to the project. Frensko provided historical information regarding drainage projects in the area impacting the drainage of his land. Discussion took place among board. No motions were made.

5. New Business

- 5.1. Brandon Kraus WBIF project 2023-036 – Overholser presented Kraus’s project for reduced tillage and cover crops on his land. It was brought to Lincon SWCD’s attention that Kraus had received Equip Funding for his reduced tillage and cover crops in addition to the 1W1P’s incentive payments which is specifically against the rules laid out in the Yellow Medicine River WD contract with him. It was determined that Kraus could keep the difference in payments, allowing him to still receive payment for his reduced tillage and cover crops from the 1W1P but would need to pay back the grant \$21,520.96. A non-compliant order will be sent out, instructing him to either pay it back or make suitable payment arrangements in 30 days. **Buysse moved to demand repayment from Kraus of the amount of \$21,520.96. Bach seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

6. YM1W1P WBIF Cost-Share Contracts 24/25

- 6.1. David Boulton - **2024-031**– Alta Vista 27 - \$63,828.27 **Olsen moved to approve Cost-Share Contract 24/25 2024-031. Bach seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

7. YM1W1P WBIF Cost-Share Payments 24/25

- 7.1. None

Olsen moved to adjourn meeting. Buysse seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:24 A.M.

Dates to Note:

Aug. Board Meeting	Wed. Sept. 17th 8:00 a.m.
Annual Resolution Meeting	Mon. Aug. 25 th 10:00 a.m. Zoom
Alta Vista Meeting	Wed. Sept. 3 rd Marshall