



Yellow Medicine River Watershed District



122 N Jefferson St | P.O. Box 267 | Minneota MN 56264-0267

admin@ymrwd.org | (507) 872-6720 | www.ymrwd.org

Regular Meeting Minutes September 10, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Tim Buysse at 9:01 a.m. at the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District (YMRWD) Office at 122 North Jefferson Street in Minneota, MN.

Managers present: President Tim Buysse
Treasurer Tim Dritz
Public Relations Elmo Volstad
Secretary John Boulton
Vice President James Kraus

Others present: Michelle Overholser, YMRWD Administrator
Gary Crowley, Lyon County Commissioner
Gary Laleman, Lyon SWCD Board
Dennis Heggeseth
Rob Prellwitz

Set Agenda

Dritz moved to approve the agenda as presented. seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes (August 13, 2018)

Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Dritz moved to approve the minutes. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Treasurer's Report

Overholser presented the following reports:

- Balance Sheet
 - Profit and Loss Report
 - Warrants to be Paid
- Total Liabilities and Equity = \$398,111.49
Net Income = \$11,603.32
Total Warrants = \$4732.67

Outstanding warrants to be paid include:

- Jim Wambeke
 - Century Tel
 - Bankcard Center
 - Contech Engineered Solutions
 - Net Point
 - League of MN Cities
 - Minneota Mascot
 - Taunton Senior Center
- Rent =\$500.00
Phone/Internet=\$127.16
Credit Card=\$319.64
Ditch 17 repair=1711.72
Web Hosting=\$8.95
Dues=1878.00
Publishing=\$37.20
Advisory Meeting=\$150.00

Volstad moved to pay the warrants and approve the treasurer's report. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 4-0.



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Meeting Recessed

Budget and Levy Hearing

Overholser presented the proposed 2019 budget. She is proposing no levy increase. She reported that the advisory committee met on August 23rd and did not have any concerns about the proposed budget.

Boulton moved to approve the budget and to not increase the levy. Dritz seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Ditch Systems Levies

It was decided to set a minimum reserve fund for all the ditches. It was proposed that the open ditch systems have a minimum of \$1000/mile and that tile systems have a minimum balance of \$2500.

Dritz moved to adopt ditch levies with these guidelines for minimums. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Meeting Resumed

Permits to Approve – Wayne Pederson – Norman 25

The downstream landowner had a concern about the proposed project, he was afraid a project he signed off on may affect the sale of his property. Pederson would like the board to consider approving the permit without the downstream landowner's consent. The Board discussed that the proposed outlet does seem to be a reasonable outlet. It was suggested that a letter be sent by certified mail to the downstream landowner detailing what the proposed project entailed. The letter is to advise the landowner that he has 10 days to contact the watershed district if he has any concerns with the project. If he does contact us with concerns the board will take those into consideration at the next meeting and make a final decision.

Boulton moved to send the letter. Kraus seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Public Comment, and Reports

Crowley provided a report

Administration and Managers provided reports

Old Business – Hoffman Update/Action

Overholser talked with the attorney a few days before the meeting. She had received and reviewed permit #61014 that Mr. Hoffman's attorney sent over. Even though the board gave a clear motion on how Overholser could proceed, the attorney felt it was best to bring the newly submitted permit to the board, especially since the next meeting was in a few days. The map attached to permit #61014 was the same map the District had in its files but attached to permit #151213. Overholser presented the board with a flow path map that demonstrated that the southern part of the tile system was diverting water and out-letting it in a direction that does not follow the natural surface flow of water. There was nothing in the permit that Mr. Hoffman submitted indicating a line had been approved to cross the sub-watershed and divert water from the natural flow path.

Dritz moved to proceed with a cease and desist. Volstad seconded. Motion passed 4-0.



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Old Business – Hauschild Dam-Update

A contract was presented for Thompson to clean up the tree debris for \$2500. After consulting with the attorney, it is clear that the District is not financially responsible for the maintenance or up keep of the private land subject to the flowage easement the District holds. The board discussed paying for the clean-up this one time in order to prevent substantial damage to the structure, which would result in a much higher cost. If there is a similar situation in the future, the issue will need to be addressed between the private landowners.

Volstad moved to hire Thompson \$2500.00 to address the tree debris as line out in the signed contract. Kraus seconded. Motion passed 4-0

Old Business –Kaczmarek/Cherp

Overholser located multiple older permits belonging to these two landowners. The portion of tile that Kaczmarek first complained about was permitted.

Old Business –Ditch 1 repairs

No stakeholders contacted the office volunteering to be overseer since the last meeting. Discussion was had about whether to hire a contractor or possibly stakeholders to assist/preform inspections.

Dritz moved to offer up to \$15.00/hr to stakeholders for assistance. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Old Business - Lincoln Co. Ditch 39 – Update

Project is complete and final construction report should be presented at the next meeting. November will be the anticipated final acceptance hearing date.

New Business – Swede Prairie 31

Landowners were in about a concern they have with a private ditch which contains a dam. The private ditch is a lateral to a county system. Recently the property with the private ditch was assessed into the county ditch system. The landowner feels that since his entire parcel is benefitted into the ditch system he should not have to have a dam in place that prevents the drainage of half his land. It was decided that Overholser would collect more information on the issue and report back.

New Business – Rule Changes

Some rule changes were brought forward to the advisory committee. Overholser is going to work on the language and meet with Engels about the proposed changes. She will have the proposed changes ready to look through for the next meeting and the rule change hearing can be set at that time.

New Business – Project Assistant

Overholser presented the job description she had developed for the possible new hire.

Volstad moved to allow Overholser the authority to hire a part-time employee. Dritz seconded. Motion carried 4-0.



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New Business – BWSR Academy

Overholser requested permission to attend BWSR Academy in October.

Boulton moved to allow attendance. Kraus seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Cost-Share 1W1P – Elliot Sovell – Royal 16

The board has no concerns with the project.

Dritz moved to approve cost-share contract. Boulton seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Other Business – Future Events

October 8th	9:00am	Regular Meeting-YMRWD in Minneota
September 13 th		Hwy 68 Open House – Minneota
November 1 st		Area II Annual Meeting – Redwood Falls

Adjournment

Dritz moved to adjourn the meeting. Volstad seconded. Motion carried 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary John Boulton

Date

Minutes prepared by Michelle Overholser

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District will be held at 9:00 a.m. on September 10, 2018 at the District Office.