



# Yellow Medicine River Watershed District

122 N Jefferson St | P.O. Box 267 | Minneota MN 56264-0267  
[admin@ymrwd.org](mailto:admin@ymrwd.org) | (507) 872-6720 | [www.ymrwd.org](http://www.ymrwd.org)



## Regular Meeting Minutes August 14, 2017

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice President James Kraus at 9:00 a.m. at the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District (YMRWD) Office at 122 North Jefferson Street in Minneota, MN.

Managers present: President Tim Buysse (arrived at 9:49 a.m.)  
Vice President James Kraus  
Treasurer Tim Dritz  
Secretary John Boulton  
Public Relations Manager Doug Gregoire

Others present: Emily Javens, YMRWD Administrator  
Brooke Buysse, Yellow Medicine SWCD/Watershed  
Gary Crowley, Lyon County Commissioner  
Kerry Netzke, Area 2 Executive Director  
Kurt Gillund, Rite Way Drainage LLC  
Chuck Hoffman, Landowner  
Don Regnier, Landowner

### Approval of the Agenda

**Boulton moved to approve the agenda with no changes. Dritz seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

### Approval of Past Meeting Minutes (July 10, 2017)

**Boulton moved to approve the minutes. Gregoire seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

### Approval of Special Meeting Minutes (July 27, 2017)

**Dritz moved to approve the minutes. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

### Treasurer's Report

Javens presented the following reports:

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| • Balance Sheet          | Total Liabilities and Equity = \$113,765.33 |
| • Profit and Loss Report | Net Income = -\$218,608.42                  |
| • Warrants to be Paid    | Total Warrants = \$210,851.50               |
| • Ditch Balance Report   | Total net Income = -\$20,330.91             |

Outstanding warrants to be paid include:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| • Bankcard Center     | Credit Card = \$136.14                           |
| • Bolton & Menk, Inc. | Ditch 38 & 39 Engineering Services = \$40,962.50 |
| • Century Tel         | Phone and Internet = \$116.55                    |
| • Duane Bendixen      | Ditch 39 Viewing=\$881.65                        |
| • Jim Wambeke         | Rent =\$500.00                                   |
| • Lincoln, SWCD       | Ditch 4 & 5 Seeding= \$4,287.50                  |
| • Loo Con, Inc.       | Ditch 38 Construction= \$158, 607.04             |
| • One Office Solution | Copier Charges = \$17.90                         |



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- Rinke Noonan
- Rite-Way Drainage

Legal Services for Ditch 39= \$4865.50  
Ditch 4 Repairs= \$ 476.72

**Boulton moved to pay the warrants and file the treasurer's report. Gregoire seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

## Old Business

No old business was discussed.

## New Business – Request for Watershed Diversion Permit (Wergeland 22)

Javens presented a request for a tiling system that would pump water from DNR watershed 25113 into DNR watershed 25112. The applicant, Chuck Hoffman, and his contractor, Kurt Gillund, were present to discuss the project. Discussion was held to determine the impacts this permit would have on neighbors downstream. The proposed outlet has known flooding concerns when the Lac qui Parle River overflows into the Yellow Medicine watershed. The board discussed putting a stipulation on the system to limit its use to times when flooding in watershed 25112 was not problematic. The MN DNR releases weekly flow information that could be used as the threshold for when the pump would need to be turned off.

**Boulton moved to approve the watershed diversion permit. Gregoire seconded.**

**Dritz amended the motion to include the condition of shutting off the pump when Mud Creek is in its highest flow of 10% or water is backed up the Hoffman property. Seconded by Kraus. The amendment to the motion passed 4-0. Motion passed 4-0.**

## New Business – Request for Permit: Culvert (Chuck Hoffman)

Javens presented a request for a culvert crossing for a new field approach in Wergeland 30.

**Kraus moved to approve the permit. Seconded by Boulton. Motion passed 4-0.**

## New Business – Wergeland 14 Complaint

Don Regnier was present to discuss the nuisance conditions that have been created by an adjacent landowner's tile system in Wergeland 14 under permit #091115.

**Gregoire moved to table the discussion until the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting to allow the property owner a chance for rebuttal. Boulton seconded. Motion approved 5-0.**

## New Business – 2018 Proposed Budget Discussion

The board discussed three options to consider when setting the 2018 levy. Option 1: \$232,500 ( 0% increase from 2017), option 2: \$240,000 (3.2% increase), and option 3: set the max levy of \$250,000.

**Boulton moved to propose a levy of \$240,000. Kraus seconded. Motion was approved 5-0.**

## New Business – Public Hearing for 2018 Budget and Property Tax Levy

The board discussed when to hold the public hearing for the Budget and Property Tax Levy.



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**Dritz moved to have the public hearing for 10:00am on September 11, 2017. Boulton seconded. Motion was approved 5-0.**

## New Business – Advisory Committee Meeting

The board discussed potential topics to be reviewed at the upcoming Advisory Committee meeting. Topics include: coordination of buffer enforcement duties, discussion on 2018 budget and levy, consideration of doing a pilot program with Ag Solver, and permit program updates.

## New Business – Shared Services Contract- Yellow Medicine SWCD

A contract was presented to the board for approval of a shared services agreement with the Yellow Medicine Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for the remainder of 2017.

**Gregoire moved to authorize Javens to enter into the contract. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 5-0.**

## New Business – Conditional Permit Approvals by the Administrator

Permit requests has been piling up at the watershed office while applicants have been waiting on wetland determinations from other authorities. It was suggested that the watershed district could issue permits contingent on the applicant receiving appropriate wetland authorizations.

**Boulton moved to allow the administrator to issue conditional permits while wetlands are still under review. Kraus seconded. Motion was approved 5-0.**

## New Business – Watershed Ditch 16 (WD-16) Inspection

The board discussed an inquiry of whether or not a pump could be added to WD-16 to drain a low area out to the Yellow Medicine River. Javens reported that she had verified that adding a pump would be considered an improvement which would also trigger a redetermination of benefits. The board discussed the potential of doing a more thorough inspection that would assess the integrity of the entire ditch system, along with evaluating the concern of the low area not having adequate drainage. Javens suggested she could contact other watershed districts to see what they have done in similar situations.

**Bouton moved for this to be tabled until a future meeting. Kraus seconded. Motion was approved 5-0.**

## New Business – One Watershed One Plan Update

Kerry Netzke provided the board with an update on the last policy committee meeting.

## New Business – Lyon County Buffer Enforcement Update

Gary Crowley provided the board with an update on the process Lyon County is going through for enforcement on buffers. The county Planning and Zoning will develop a strategy and then send to the Board of Soil and Water Resources.

## Other Business – Future Events

August 17      6:30pm      Governor's 25 by 25 Town Hall Summit in Marshall



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August 22	1-4pm	Field Day-Velde Irrigation System in Hanley Falls
August 23	10am-3pm	MN Association of Ditch Inspectors/Ditch Viewers in Alexandria
August 24	6:00pm	Advisory Committee Meeting in Taunton
September 11	9:00am	Regular Meeting-YMRWD in Minneota

**Boulton moved to approved attendance by staff and managers to attend the field day. Kraus seconded. Motion passed 5-0.**

## Public Comment, Reports, and Adjournment

Javens provided a verbal update of the past month's activities.

Dritz gave a brief summary of the Soil & Water field day he attended in Lamberton.

**At 11:28 a.m. Boulton moved to adjourn the meeting. Gregoire seconded. Motion carried 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted,

***John Boulton***

Secretary John Boulton

***9/11/2017***

Date

*Minutes prepared by B Buysse and E Javens*

**The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District will be held at 9:00 a.m. on September 11, 2017 at the District Office.**