



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 October 9, 2017

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Treasurer Tim Dritz 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 (10:27 a.m.)
Treasurer Tim Dritz
Secretary John Boulton
Public Relations Manager Doug Gregoire

Managers absent: Vice President James Kraus

Others present: Emily Javens, YMRWD Administrator
Brooke Buysse, Yellow Medicine SWCD Shared Services Technician
Jerry Pridal, Petitioner
John Full, Landowner of Watershed Ditch 5
Ben Nath, Farm Manager for Jo's Family Farm & Goody's Family Farm
John Biren, Lyon SWCD/County

Approval of the Agenda

Boulton moved to approve the agenda with no changes. Gregoire seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

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

Treasurer's Report

Javens presented the following reports:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| • Balance Sheet | Total Liabilities and Equity = \$238,352.67 |
| • Profit and Loss Report | Net Income = -\$59,602.43 |
| • Warrants to be Paid | Total Warrants = \$48,033.88 |
| • Ditch Balance Report | Total net Income = -\$47,298.58 |

Outstanding warrants to be paid include:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| • Bankcard Center | Credit Card = \$17.87 (office supplies) |
| • Bolton & Menk, Inc. | Ditch 38 Engineering Services = \$15,961.00 |
| • Century Tel | Phone and Internet = \$116.55 |
| • Jim Wambeke | Rent = \$500.00 |
| • Canby News | Notice for Annual Levy = \$51.76 |
| • Ivanhoe Times | Public Notice=33.00 |
| • Loo Con, Inc. | Ditch 38 Construction = \$30,887.58 |
| • Minneota Mascot | Notice for Annual Levy = \$16.12 |
| • Rinke Noonan | Ditch 39 Attorney Fees = \$450.00 |

Boulton moved to pay the warrants and file the treasurer's report. Gregoire seconded. Motion passed 3-0.



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Old Business – Wergeland 14 Complaint

Javens obtained legal guidance from Smith Partners regarding the Wergeland 14 complaint. **Gregoire moved to table this discussion until all board members were present. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

Old Business – Oshkosh 13 After-the-Fact Ditch Cleaning Permit Fee

At the previous meeting, the board voted to add a \$250 permit fee to the Oshkosh 13 after-the-fact ditch cleaning permit. Javens asked for clarification on whether that fee was to be applied to only the applicant or if it would also apply to the contractor. **Gregoire moved to amend the previous motion to include the contractor as a party to be charged with the \$250 after-the-fact fee. Dritz seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business – WD-5 Petition for Outlet (Jerry Pridal)

Jerry Pridal applied for a tiling permit with an outlet to WD-5. Upon permit review, it was discovered he was not assessed into the drainage system. Javens stated there were two ways to bring Pridal into the system. The first would be for Pridal to petition for an outlet. The second would be to perform a full redetermination of benefits. John Full, landowner on the system was also present. He was potentially in favor of the redetermination of benefits because he has put his land into a permanent easement program and could possibly see a reduction in future assessments if the entire system was reviewed. Discussion was held on the pros and cons of both options. Due to the shortage of viewers right now, the board decided to move on the petition for a single outlet and direct Javens to provide more information to Full regarding the process for requesting a full redetermination of benefits. **Gregoire moved to accept the petition for an outlet and authorize the administrator to hire viewers to determine an outlet fee. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business – Request for Permit: Omro 28 Culvert

Darwyn Bach is looking to add a field crossing and install a culvert. **Gregoire made a motion to approve the permit. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business – Request for Permit: Eidsvold 10 Ditch Cleaning & Replace Culvert

Eidsvold Township applied for a permit to clean a ditch and replace a culvert. **Gregoire moved to approve the permit. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business – Request for Permit: Tyro 32 Connection to WD-18

Javens presented a permit request by Fagen Farms to make four connections to Watershed Ditch 18. **Boulton moved to approve the permit with the condition of an on-site inspection of the tile connections. Gregoire seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business – Request for Permit: Pattern Tiling into WD-8

Javens presented three permit requests for pattern tiling into Watershed Ditch 8. These permits were previously denied by the board due to the ¼" designed drainage coefficient on the ditch system. The applicant provided an engineering study that shows the ditch system actually operates at a 0.56" drainage coefficient. Javens pointed out some of the tile system outlets exceed the 0.5" drainage coefficient and need to be redesigned. One of the permits crosses a downstream landowner's land who wrote to the office withdrawing support from the project until an agreement was in place between the



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two owners. **Boulton moved to approve the permits once landowner agreements are provided and the system designs can be shown not to exceed a 0.5" drainage coefficient. Gregoire seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business- Request for Permit: Wergeland Township Culvert

Wergeland Township replaced two existing culverts with a single larger arch pipe culvert without seeking a watershed district permit prior to construction. The previous culvert was deteriorated and in need of emergency repair. The replacement culvert likely would have met all district rules, but cannot be verified since the existing conditions no longer exist. An after-the-fact DNR permit has been secured by the applicant since the culvert was on a public water crossing. The DNR issued no fines. **Gregoire moved to approve the permit without additional fees based on the emergency nature of the repair. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business-Request for Guidance: Small Project Permit Considerations

Discussion was held on whether one downstream signature was adequate when permit applicants wanted to add minimal lengths of seepage lines to existing tile systems. Currently, all projects require downstream signatures until the outflow reaches a public water or a public ditch. At times, this can be five or more signatures. **Motion made by Gregoire to find one signature to be adequate for permitting 4"-5" seepage lines when less than for 1200' is being added to an existing tile system. Motion also includes permission to allow the watershed administrator to approve field culverts without seeking board approval. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business – Memorandum of Agreement (1W1P)

Javens presented the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) Memorandum of Agreement and stated there have been no changes to it since it was last presented. **Motion made by Gregoire. Seconded by Boulton. Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business – Watershed District Staffing

Javens notified the board she has accepted the Executive Director position at the MN Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD). She plans on phasing out the watershed office and being done toward the end of 2017. **Gregoire moved to accept her resignation. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Gregoire made a motion to open up the position for applications and close it on November 8th, 2017. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

Public Comment, Reports, and Adjournment

Javens provided a written and verbal update of the past month's activities. Boulton gave an update on the Area 2 Meeting. Javens requested to know who would be attending the Area II Legislative Gathering on November 2 in Pipestone and the MAWD annual convention. Boulton and Dritz to attend the Area II event and Dritz, Buysse, and Boulton to attend MAWD event.

At 10:37 a.m. Dritz moved to adjourn the meeting. Boulton seconded. Motion carried 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned.



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Respectfully Submitted,

John Boulton

11/13/2017

Secretary John Boulton

Date

Minutes prepared by Buysse and Javens

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District will be held at 9:00 a.m. on November 13, 2017 at the District Office.