



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 March 15, 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*
 Vice President James Kraus
 Treasurer Tim Dritz
 Public Relations Manager Doug Gregoire

Managers absent: Secretary John Boulton (excused for Lincoln SWCD meeting)

Others present: Emily Javens, YMRWD Administrator
 Gary Crowley, Lyon County Commissioner
 Allen Deutz, Lyon Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Supervisor
 Hollis Weber, Yellow Medicine SWCD Supervisor*
 Terry Schreiber, Eidsvold Township Supervisor*
 Allan Telste, Nordland Township Supervisor*
 Bruce Jeremiason, Nordland Township Supervisor*
 Lucas Youngsma, MN Department of Natural Resources Hydrologist*
 Kerry Netzke, Area 2 MN River Basin Projects Executive Director*
 Joe Deschepper, Area 2 MN River Basin Projects Engineering Technician*
 Amanda Engels, Engels Law Offices, Notary Public*

*Partial Attendance

Oath of Office

New Manager Doug Gregoire took the oath of office and Amanda Engels signed as the witness.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

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

Treasurer's Report

Javens presented the following reports:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Balance Sheet (March 15, 2017) | Total liabilities and equity = \$224,173.15 |
| • Profit and Loss Report | Net Income = -\$36,382.99 |
| • Warrants to be Paid | Total warrants = \$6,422.19 |
| • Ditch Balance Report (March 15, 2017) | Total net income = \$20,311.86 |



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Outstanding warrants to be paid include:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| • Antony Desmet | Beaver Bounty = \$30.00 |
| • Bankcard Center | Credit Card = \$27.30 |
| • Brian’s Tree Service | Tree Removal on Yellow Med River = \$1,695.00 |
| • Centurytel | Phone and Internet = \$116.39 |
| • Jim Wambeke | Rent = \$500.00 |
| • Lincoln County Highway Dept | Ditch 38 Road Crossing Permit = \$100.00 |
| • Rinke Noonan | Attorney Fees (Ditches 38 and 39) = \$3,953.50 |

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

President Buysse arrived and took over conducting the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

New Business – Nordland 6 Road Retention Project

Kerry Netzke presented updated cost and design information for a proposed road retention project in Nordland Township 6, located just upstream of an existing road retention project in Eidsvold 31. The cost of the project is estimated to be \$109,445 and would provide 61 acre-feet of peak flood storage during a 100-year event. Additional storage could be gained by making minor modifications at the Eidsvold 31 culvert. Area 2 MN River Basin Projects has bonding money that can pay for 75% of the project costs and were seeking additional funding from the Watershed District.

Dritz moved to approve \$10,000 for the project, contingent on the Eidsvold 31 modifications being made at the same time. Kraus seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

New Business – Alta Vista 5, 8 Retention Project

Javens presented data collected as part of researching the feasibility of building a flood retention structure on the North Branch of the Yellow Medicine River in Alta Vista 5 or 8 per the request of Manager Boulton and an interested landowner. A number of factors pointed to it not being worth pursuing further and the board directed no further action to be completed on this project.

New Business – Permits for Tiling across Watershed Boundaries

Lucas Youngsma, DNR Hydrologist, presented his findings on whether or not a permit was required from the DNR when landowners want to tile their land in one subwatershed, but outlet it into another. The YMRWD has two permit requests currently under review that cross DNR Level 7 subwatershed boundaries. Youngsma had reviewed those permits and determined DNR permits were not needed because they were not large enough to change the course, current, or cross-section of the river systems. The Board discussed both projects and determined they did not cause a water resource concern and otherwise met the criteria in Section 4.01 of the district rules. They also thought it would be prudent to seek legal guidance on the best way to evaluate similar permits in the future.

Dritz moved to approve a tiling permit (with diversion) for Brian Doom in Omro 18. Gregoire seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Kraus abstained from the vote.



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Dritz moved to approve a tile permit (with diversion) for Scott Wintz in Swede Prairie 3. Kraus seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Dritz moved to approve the Administrator seek a legal opinion from Smith Partners. Kraus seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

New Business – Request for Lakeshore Stabilization Permit on Lake Stay

Javens presented a permit application from the Arco Sportsmen’s Club to stabilize a section of shoreline on Lake Stay.

Dritz moved to approve the permit. Kraus seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

New Business – New Tiling Permit Application

Javens presented a new version of a tiling permit application that she believed would be easier to fill out for the applicant and provide better direction on the materials that needed to be submitted with it.

Kraus moved to approve the new application. Dritz seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

New Business – Lincoln County Ditch 38 Resolutions

Javens presented three resolutions related to funding the Lincoln County Ditch 38 Improvement Project.

Dritz moved to approve the Bonding Term, Interest Rate, and Deficiency Resolution for the matter of the petition of Hauschild, Jerzak and others for the improvement of Lincoln County Ditch 38. Gregoire seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Dritz moved to approve the Reimbursement Resolution in the matter of the petition of Hauschild, Jerzak and others for the improvement of Lincoln County Ditch 38. Kraus seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Dritz moved to approve the Financing Request and Authorization in the matter of the improvement of Lincoln County Ditch 38. Gregoire seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

New Business – 2017 Board Assignments

The board reviewed 2017 board assignments and made the following additions:

- One Watershed One Plan Policy Committee – Buysse is delegate, Dritz is alternate
- Lyon County Parks – Buysse is delegate
- Yellow Medicine County Buffer Law Committee – add Gregoire as alternate
- Yellow Medicine SWCD – Gregoire is delegate, Krause is alternate

Kraus moved to approve the board assignments. Dritz seconded. Motion carried 4-0.



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New Business – Shared Services Contract with Lincoln SWCD

Javens presented a contract and scope of services to hire staff from Lincoln SWCD to provide financial and other clerical services in the YMRWD office one day per week.

Kraus moved to authorize Javens to enter into the agreement. Gregoire seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

New Business – Liability Coverage Waiver

Javens reported the Board needed to decide whether or not to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established Minnesota Statutes, Section 466.04.

Kraus moved not to waive the municipal tort liability limits. Gregoire seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

New Business – 2017 Student Intern

The board discussed whether or not to hire a student intern, predominantly for the summer months, but could be extended to the end of the year if desired by both parties.

Kraus moved to authorize the Administrator to hire an intern at \$12/hr and not to exceed 500 hours Dritz seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Comment, Reports, and Adjournment

Allen Deutz, Lyon SWCD, requested input from the Board on ideas for how the SWCD could implement their portion of the new buffer law when they determine which streams and ditches should go on the “Other Waters Map” and under which circumstances alternative practices should be approved.

Javens provided a written and verbal update of the past month’s activities that were not on the agenda. Javens had received a request for \$200 to offset costs of a soil health workshop being held on March 29th in Marshall.

Dritz moved to approve \$200 for the workshop. Kraus seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Dritz update the board on the ditch inspectors meeting that he attended in Willmar.

At 11:55 a.m., Dritz moved to adjourn the meeting. Kraus seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Boulton

4/10/17

Secretary John Boulton

Date

Minutes prepared by Javens

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