

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Managers
Of the Two Rivers Watershed District
Held: September 30, 2014 @ 8:00 a.m.**

The Board of Managers of the Two River Watershed District held their regular meeting beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 30, 2014 at the District Office located in the Kittson County Courthouse in Hallock, Minnesota.

Managers present included President Roger Anderson, Secretary Jon Vold, Treasurer Darrel Johnson, Allen Brazier, & Daryl Klegstad. Vice President Jim Kukowski and Paul Olsonawski were absent.

Others present included District Administrator Dan Money, District Technician Matt Thompson, Engineer Nate Dalager, Engineer Blake Carlson, Attorney Jeff Hane, Kelly Turgeon (Kittson FSA office), Mike Hjeldness, Ken Kalin, Craig Halfmann, and Arlen Dalager.

The meeting was called to order by President Anderson. Anderson called for any additions or corrections to the proposed meeting agenda and also the meeting minutes from September 3, 2014, the preliminary resolution hearing minutes from September 3, 2014, and the preliminary resolution hearing minutes from September 12, 2014. Today's meeting agenda and the minutes of the September 3 regular meeting and September 3 and 12, 2014 preliminary resolution hearings were approved upon a **motion** by Brazier, **second** by Klegstad, and **unanimous vote** of the Managers.

Treasurer's Report:

Money presented the treasurer's report including the fund balances, accounts listing, and checks and deposit detail.

The treasurer's report was then approved upon a **motion** by Johnson, a **second** by Brazier, and a **unanimous vote** by the Board.

Administrator's Report:

District Administrator Money gave a report on the following and distributed a handout:

Legal Ditches & WD Projects; Technician Thompson updated the Board regarding the following ditch systems:

- JD 10 B - ditch maintenance and sediment removal has been completed bringing the ditch back to its original grade and cross section.
- Springbrook PL566 Prj #10 - repair of damages from spring runoff, installation of one side water inlet, lowering of one side water inlet, various diversion ditch work, installation of one field crossing, and seeding has been completed.
- Dewey #5 Improvement – lowering of culverts and ditch maintenance sediment removal has been completed to bring the ditch to its approved grade and cross section.
- SD 49 – work has started on ditch maintenance, sediment removal, and lowering of a culvert to bring the ditch back to its approved grade and cross section.
- Surveys are being completed on Kittson Co. Ditch #7, Judicial Ditch #10 main, and several surveys requested by landowners.

- Middle Branch Project - due to severe erosion of a soy bean field, a large amount of sediment has been deposited in about a ½ mile long segment of the channel. One box culvert is fairly full of sediment. Money was authorized to hire a contractor to do some removal of the sediment. The Board noted that the landowner should be notified that he needs to take care of the erosion on his field to prevent future problems.
- Horseshoe Lake – stop logs have been installed to raise the pool elevation according to the operating plan. The pool will be drawn down prior to freeze up.

Tallgrass Aspen Parkland Birding Trail: Heidi Hughes, Public Information Specialist with the Middle Snake Tamarac Rivers Watershed District and the RRWMB is working on the birding trail to link watershed district projects. She would like to have area schools construct information kiosks to be placed at each project site. If these were to be done, the District would need to prepare a location to place the kiosk and for parking. Upon a **motion** by Johnson, **second** by Klegstad, and **unanimous vote** it was decided to direct the administrator to hire a contractor to put in a crossing and construct a parking area in the NW ¼ section 28 Springbrook Township on land owned by the District. Money will coordinate with Hughes.

Big Swamp Project Work Team: The work team will need to be reassembled in order to discuss the Klondike Clean Water Retention Project #11. The last PWT meeting was held in February 2011, and since that time there has been new people hired by state agencies and organizations. Therefore, the Board of Managers looked at the appointment list for the PWT and upon a **motion** by Johnson, **second** by Brazier, and **unanimous vote** approved appointments. A listing is attached to these minutes. The next meeting is scheduled for October 8th and will be held in Badger, MN.

Quick WRP Project: Discussion was held regarding the Quick impoundment. The NRCS has paid Mr. Quick, and the District has closed the land sale. The next step is to work with NRCS on the design. It appears that the proposed structures the TRWD would like to build may not fit the program requirements, and a waiver request would have to be submitted to the NRCS. To do this an engineer needs to be involved with the preliminary design. Upon a **motion** by Brazier, **second** by Vold, and **unanimous vote** of the Managers, Engineer Blake Carlson was hired to work on a preliminary design for the Quick Project and to work with District staff and NRCS on a potential request for a WRP program waiver.

Hallock Dam: Money attended a meeting with DNR, City of Hallock, Two River Golf Club, Kittson Co. Highway Dept., and area sportsmen to discuss options for the Hallock dam. DNR would like to see alterations made or the dam removed, primarily to address fish passage and erosion. The city owns the dam and noted that there is a need to maintain the pool for golf course irrigation and for recreation. The group will continue to meet to look at options and to see if a project will materialize.

Klondike Clean Water Retention Project #11: The Red River Watershed Management Board has approved a loan to the District to be used for land acquisition. Money has applied to the RRWMB for their step 1 funding, and the RRWMB will tour the site after their October 21st meeting, which will be held in Karlstad. The impoundment committee has met with Engineer Dalager, who will be getting underway with project design in the coming months. Discussion was held regarding the project components and project timelines.

Permit appeal hearing:

A hearing was convened at 9:30 a.m. regarding the appeal of a permit issued to Craig Halfmann. Mr. Halfmann constructed a dike in section 17 of Springbrook Township without a permit, and consequently was issued an after the fact permit requiring that the dike be lowered to an elevation ½ foot lower than the existing township road. Mr. Halfmann is opposed, stating that he lowered the

dike in one location but does not feel he should have to lower the entire ½ mile of dike. He stated that he has talked to the township board, and they are OK with it in its current state. He also asked if the District has received a written complaint. He said the intent of the dike was to contain the water to prevent erosion to his field.

Mike Hjeldness, a neighboring landowner who was impacted by the dike stated he is opposed to the dike. He also stated that several years ago he installed a dike and stated he was required to remove it and questioned why this dike can now be allowed. He would like the dike to be lowered according to the terms of the permit.

Manager Brazier indicated that District had not received a written complaint, but a verbal complaint was received. He stated that it is the duty of the District to follow up on any complaint that is received.

General discussion was held on the dike, what is generally acceptable for dike construction, and specific site conditions in section 17. It was noted that by constructing a dike one cannot transfer a problem from one location to another, and it is generally not a good idea for dikes to be higher than public roads.

Upon a **motion** by Vold, **second** by Brazier, and **unanimous vote** of the Managers, the original permit and the conditions placed upon the permit were upheld, and Mr. Halfmann was instructed to lower the entire length of dike to an elevation ½ foot lower than the top of the township road. The work must be completed on or before October 31, 2014 and an as-built survey must be submitted to the TRWD when complete.

Attorney's Report:

Attorney Jeff Hane of Brink, Sobolik, Severson, Malm, & Albright, P.A., gave an Attorney's report regarding the following items:

Klondike Clean Water Retention Prj. #11: As directed by the Board of Managers, Hane has been preparing purchase agreements and discussing purchase with the various landowners. Regarding land located in the East ½, E 1/2, section 2, Klondike Township, a purchase agreement has been done for 159.966 acres at a price of \$750.19/acre, for a total cost to the District of \$120,000. Upon **motion** by Johnson, **second** by Klegstad, and **unanimous vote** the purchase was approved and the President and Secretary were authorized to sign the purchase agreement. The Attorney and Administrator were directed to complete the transaction.

Updates were given regarding several other parcels within the project footprint. Kelly Turgeon of the Farm Service Agency presented information regarding the federal Conservation Reserve Program. The Board of Managers authorized Hane to prepare purchase agreements and make specific offers to buy on behalf of the District with various landowners for the purchase of parcels in sections 2, 10, 11 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, and 24 of Klondike Township and section 31 of Juneberry Township and report back at the November meeting.

Landowner Arlen Dalager was in attendance to address the Board of Managers regarding a ditch plug that was placed in an existing ditch by the MN DNR. He stated the ditch is located on land owned by the DNR but it is a ditch that has been in place since the 1980's and has always served as an outlet for his field drainage. The District will contact the DNR to see if this drainage can be restored to resolve the issue.

Permits:

Several permit applications were received and referred to the permit committee for review as follows:


| <i>App. #</i> | <i>Applicant</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Action</i> |
|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| 2014-40 | Ron Mooney | Dewey 4-5 | culverts & ditching | |
| 2014-43 | Kittson Co Hwy Dept. | Richardville 5 | ditching & culverts | |
| 2014-53 | Tegner Twp. S. Nelson | Tegner 28 Poppleton 5-7-8 | 30" cmp / drainage re-design tile | |
| 2014-58 | Davis Twp. | Davis 34-35 | texas crossing | |
| 2014-59 | Davis Twp. | Davis 34 | field crossing | |
| 2014-60 | Deere Farms | Granville 32 | culverts to slow water | |

With no other matters to come before the Board of Managers, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:



Jon Vold, Secretary



Roger Anderson, President