

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Managers
Of the Two Rivers Watershed District
Held: March 2, 2016 @ 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 Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at the District Office located in the Kittson County Courthouse in Hallock, Minnesota.

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

Others present included District Administrator Dan Money, Head Technician Matt Thompson, Engineer Blake Carlson, Kittson County Commissioner Leon Olson, and landowner Martin Enoksen.

The meeting was called to order by President D. Johnson. Johnson called for any additions or corrections to the proposed meeting agenda and also the meeting minutes from February 8, 2016. Today's meeting agenda and the minutes of the February 8, 2016 regular meeting were approved upon a **motion** by Brazier, **second** by Olsonawski, and **unanimous vote** of the Managers.

Treasurer's Report:

Money presented the treasurer's report including the fund balances, accounts listing, and deposit detail. It was noted that checks written for the month include check numbers 7814 through 7837 and electronic funds transfers to PERA, MN Dept. of Revenue, and Electronic Federal Tax Payment System, as reported and contained within the report.

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

Administrator's Report:

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

Program Report:

Watershed Restoration & Protection Plans;

- **Lower Red River WRAPS** - Houston Engineering is working on the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy report, and also a Total Maximum Daily Load report. Information from the monitoring and modelling that was done is being analyzed and strategies are being developed to help identify sources of pollution in order to reduce pollutants that are entering waterways and protect water bodies. Meetings will be scheduled for later in April or May, and the process is scheduled to be completed by July, 2016.
- **Two Rivers WRAPS** – MPCA is finalizing their Stressor ID report, and Houston Engineering is beginning the process of creating the WRAPS and TMDL reports, similar to the Lower Red WRAPS process. The process is scheduled to be completed sometime in 2017.

Project Report:

Klondike Clean Water Retention Prj. #11: Discussion was held regarding how to move the project forward and what steps will be necessary to do so.

- Funding – The NRCS has provided a grant agreement for the TRWD signature. Under this grant, a maximum of \$500,000 will be provided by NRCS and will need to be

matched by the TRWD with up to \$214,286. The funding is provided to develop a watershed plan and environmental assessment under the federal PL 566 program rules. It is anticipated that this will also provide the necessary information needed for the state required Environmental Assessment Worksheet and for several permits that will be needed. Upon a **motion** by Brazier, **second** by Anderson, and **unanimous vote** of the Managers, approval was given to enter into the grant agreement with the USDA-NRCS. The Administrator was authorized to sign any documents necessary relative to the grant agreement.

- Engineering Report – it was noted that the funding agreement through the Red River Watershed Management Board states that we must proceed to a ‘Step 2’ status by November 2017. This means that a complete Engineer’s report must be done according to MN Statute. Also, the report must be submitted to the DNR and the BWSR for comments. Engineer N. Dalager will provide a detailed cost estimate to do this work and will submit the estimate to the Board at next month’s regular meeting.
- It was noted that District staff will write the state EAW and federal Watershed Plan / Environmental Assessment, and the NRCS funding will be utilized to help with preparing this planning document to provide details regarding the project goals of addressing water quality, protecting, restoring, and enhancing the rich fen, and providing moist soils management strategies, as well as any other natural resources enhancements.
- Land Management – several parcels of land that the District owns came out of the CRP program in 2015. Therefore, the District has advertised for bids regarding rental of these lands for agricultural purposes. The deadline for bids is March 15th, and any bids received will be reviewed and presented at the next board meeting.
- The Impoundment Committee reported that they met with the DNR to provide project updates, review the land exchange proposal and status, discuss permitting and project planning. Pre project groundwater and surface water monitoring will begin in 2016 and continue indefinitely in order to collect data that can be used in the EAW document.
- Timelines – It was noted that the Engineer’s Report, the EAW, and the Watershed Plan / EA will be worked on simultaneously over the next one to two years. The goal is to complete each of them by the end of 2017.

Audit: Auditors will be in the office on March 7-8 to complete the annual audit for 2015. The firm of Brady-Martz will be performing the audit.

RRWMB March Conference: The annual March Conference is hosted jointly by the Red River Watershed Management Board and the Flood Damage Reduction Work Group. It will be held in Moorhead on March 23-24. Managers D. Johnson and A. Brazier expressed interest and were authorized to attend. D. Money will attend the second day of the conference and give a TRWD report.

MAWD Legislative Breakfast: The MN Association of Watershed Districts will hold its annual Legislative Reception and Breakfast on March 30 and 31, 2016 in St. Paul. Managers D. Johnson and Anderson and Administrator Money were authorized to attend.

Legislative issues were discussed. It was noted that there will be several bills related to last year’s buffer legislation that will attempt to clarify the language. Also, Representative Fabian has notified the District that he wishes to introduce legislation that will donate state land to the District regarding the Klondike Clean Water Retention Project. Other issues will be funding for flood control projects within the Red River Valley.

Engineer Report: Blake Carlson was present to discuss the following:

FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map update - FEMA initiated an update of their maps in 2011-2012, and draft revisions were produced for public comment. In June of 2013 the TRWD

submitted a formal appeal to the maps, citing several issues. The TRWD had not heard any reply until recently. Money participated in a conference call with FEMA and a draft FEMA response to the appeal has been received. Money and Carlson went over the FEMA replies with the Board of Managers, and another conference call will be scheduled to discuss with FEMA.

M. Enoksen: Martin Enoksen was present to discuss with the Board a water issue he is experiencing in section 29 of Deerwood Township. He explained what is happening, and submitted a permit application for consideration. The application was referred to the permit committee.

Permits:

The following permits were referred to the Permit Committee for review.


<u>App. #</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Action</u>
2016-02	V. Langaas	Lind 9	place 36" cmp in xing	to committee
2016-03	Kittson Co Hwy Dept.	CSAH 6	road grading, culverts	to committee
2016-04	BNSF	NE ¼ Skane 13	bridge replacement	to committee

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

Attest:



Daryl Klegstad, Secretary



Darrel Johnson, President

