



# LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

## Minutes of Regular Meeting

### Board of Managers

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Carver County Government Center, 602 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 7:00 p.m.

Approved June 19, 2019

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

On Wednesday, May 15, 2019, at 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Carver County Government Center, 602 East 4th Street, Chaska, Minnesota, President Hartmann called to order the meeting of the Board of Managers of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) and asked for roll call to be taken. The following Managers were present: Manager David Raby and President Jesse Hartmann. In addition, the following were also present: Linda Loomis, Naiad Consulting, LLC, LMRWD Administrator; Della Schall Young, Young Environmental Consulting Group, LLC, Technical Consultant; Jeff Weiss, Barr Engineering, Engineering Consultant; Joe Magner, Watershed Recovery LLC and University of Minnesota Professor ; Lindsey Albright, Dakota County SWCD; and Krista Spreiter, Mendota Heights;

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Administrator Loomis said she did not have any additions or changes to the agenda. President Hartmann asked to add the proposal from Tierney, regarding remote participation in meetings by Managers to the agenda as Item 6. I., under Old Business.

**President Hartmann made a motion to approve the Agenda, as amended. The motion was seconded by Manager Raby. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### 3. CITIZEN FORUM

There were no citizens who wished to address the board on non-agenda items.

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

President Hartmann introduced the item.

##### A. Approve Minutes April 17, 2019 Regular Meetings

##### B. Receive and file April 2019 Financial reports

##### C. Approval of Invoices for payment

- i. Daniel Hron - April & May 2019 office rent
- ii. Pace Analytical Services, LLC - March sample testing of Ike's Creek for Chloride
- iii. Frenette Legislative Advisors - April 2019 lobbying service
- iv. Rinke Noonan - February & March 2019 legal services
- v. US Bank Equipment Finance June 2019 copier lease payment
- vi. Young Environmental Consulting Group, LLC - February 2019 Technical Services
- vii. Scott County - Report for 2018 Audit
- viii. Young Environmental Consulting Group, LLC - March 2019 Technical Services

**Manager Raby made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended. The motion was seconded by President Hartmann. The motion carried unanimously.**

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Presentation of geomorphic assessment of trout streams project

Ms. Della Young introduced, Mr. Jeff Weiss, Barr Engineering and Mr. Joe Magner, Watershed Recovery, LLC and a professor at the University of Minnesota. Della provided an overview of the project. The recent changes to the LMRWD Watershed Management Plan addressed High Value Resources. As the LMRWD went through the Plan amendment process, we realized that the LMRWD did not have much baseline information to develop management strategies for the trout waters within the District. This project will look at trout streams and fill in the data gaps.

Jeff Weiss spoke about the desktop assessment to characterize the watershed and streams. The desktop assessment delineated the watershed for each stream, but also looked at sub-watersheds that contribute to each of the tributaries. They looked at watershed slopes, the latest histories and changes over time. He explained the different parameters that were looked at, sinuosity, topography, vegetation longitudinal profiles and more. This work will help to prepare for going out into the field to perform the actual surveys.

Professor Joe Magner spoke about the actual assessment work. Interns will be used to conduct the field work and manage the data. They will focus on critical areas for trout habitat. They will look at hydrology, geology and hydrogeology to determine the best way to manage for the future in terms of trout resources. Work is aligned with requirements of the Minnesota DNR, so that future work will meet state permit requirements. Increasing precipitation will be considered and at risk reaches will be identified for protection and stabilization.

Manager Raby asked if we were considering assessing all of the tributaries in the LMRWD. Ms. Young explained that all of the trout streams will be assessed. Ms. Young then went on to explain the timeline for the project and tasks and training that will be conducted with the interns.

### B. Cost Share application 1437 Valley Drive - Burnsville

Administrator Loomis explained that this applicant received a grant last year from the LMRWD for a rain garden in the front of the home. This application is for a rain garden in the back of the home. She asked the applicant if pictures were available of the project completed last year. Administrator Loomis shared pictures of the previous project with the Board.

Administrator Loomis noted the applicant has been working with Dakota SWCD for technical assistance. The applicant is asking for \$785 in cost share. Lindsey Albright, Dakota SWCD told the Board the estimate of cost is comparable with what other projects they assist with. Administrator Loomis noted the request does not include any labor and is only for 50% of plants and materials.

**Manager Raby made a motion to receive and file the monitoring report. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Dredge Management

#### i. Review Process for funding of maintenance of Navigation Channel

No information to report other than what was included in the Executive Summary.

**ii. Vernon Avenue Dredge Material Management site**

Administrator Loomis visited the dredge site and noted Vernon Avenue is in pretty rough shape due to flood water. She recommended that the District document the condition of Vernon Avenue now that flood waters have receded.

She noted that the improvements to the dredge site that were planned for this fall will be difficult to get done. The site has been extremely wet and if wet weather continues, the site will not be dry enough to begin construction. Manager Raby asked about the expiration of the grant. Administrator Loomis said she will get in touch with BWSR to tell them that we may not be able to get the grant funds spent before the expiration of the grant.

Ms. Young noted that the application to amend the Conditional Use Permit has been submitted to the City of Savage.

**iii. Private Dredge Material Placement**

No information to report other than what was included in the Executive Summary.

**B. Watershed Management Plan**

Administrator Loomis reported that a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting was held yesterday (May 14, 2019). MS. Della Young and Mr. John Kolb were there to walk TAC members through the draft rules, explain the general permit process the LMRWD will implement and give the TAC the timeline for rules approval and general permit application.

The meeting was well attended. The TAC was asked to provide comments to the LMRWD by the end of the month. The city of Chanhassen has requested a meeting with LMRWD staff. Staff will schedule a meeting with Chanhassen and with any other city that may request a meeting.

**C. 2019 Legislative Action**

Administrator Loomis reported that she was at the legislature last week and spoke to Senator Ingebriksen, who is chair of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee. She reminded him that the LMRWD did pull the bill we had drafted this year, once we found that we were included in the base funding for BWSR. He said that he would support the base funding at the full amount and he said he would be interested to come see the dredge site.

She also spoke with Representative Peter Fischer, who had asked questions at the hearing of the LMRWD request when the bill come before the House Environment and Natural Resource and thanked him for his support. He is also interested in visiting the dredge site.

Administrator Loomis asked the Board if they received the MAWD Legislative updates. The Board indicated that they did get them.

**D. Education and Outreach Plan**

Administrator Loomis reported that she had attended the Eden Prairie Arbor Day Walk & Green Fair. She reported that some people stopped by from the Chimney Pines Neighborhood and wanted to be sure that she let the Board know how much they appreciated the cost share program that has allowed them to improve the pond in the middle of the neighborhood. Manager Raby reported that he and his wife attended.

She reminded the Board that the LMRWD will be at the Bloomington Public Works Open House.

She noted that she is working to arrange a tour for the Savage Chamber of Commerce. She has contacted Upper River Services to see if it would be possible to get a barge and has not heard

back from them. She noted that she would contact the Padelford Packet Boat Company or the Magnolia Blossom.

**E. LMRWD Projects**

*(only projects that require Board action will appear on the agenda. Informational updates will appear on the Administrator Report)*

The Board briefly discussed the denial by BWSR of the grant payment for Seminary Fen.

**F. Local Water Management Plan Reviews**

**i. City of Shakopee**

The LMRWD has not received a response from Shakopee to the comments.

**G. Project/Plan Reviews**

*(only projects that require Board action will appear on the agenda. Informational updates will appear on the Administrator Report)*

**H. MPCA Soil Reference Values - no change since last update**

No new information since last update.

**I. Quote from Tierney Brothers**

The LMRWD received a quote from Tierney Brothers to put together a plan for the LMRWD in order to allow Managers to participate in Board meetings from a remote location. The Board thought the quote was confusing and asked Administrator Loomis to find out if Rice Creek Watershed District implemented a system and what the system cost.

The Board discussed whether a system needed to be hard wired. Manager Raby noted that if the LMRWD goes ahead with the design the District would get a credit toward the implementation of the design.

**7. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Administrator Report:** Administrator Loomis asked if the Board received notice of the MAWD Summer Tour. Managers said they received notice. Manager Raby thought the Summer Tour looked interesting. Manager Raby asked how well attended Summer Tours usually are. Ms. Young said she has been at a Summer Tour in the Red River Basin and it was well attended. Manager Loomis noted that people that need to see what has been done in the Red River Basin are not part of Watershed District's, such as the Greater Blue Earth River Basin Association, the Le Sueur River Watershed Alliance, Area II, and Watonwan River group. These groups do not receive invitations to come on tours such as this.

The Board discussed how late information for the Summer Tour was available. It was noted that the date was not readily apparent at the MAWD website, if it was there at all.

**B. President:** No report

**C. Managers:** No report

**D. Committees:** No report

**E. Legal Counsel:** No Report

**F. Engineer:** No report

**8. ADJOURN**

**President Hartmann made a motion to adjourn. Manager Raby seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm. The next meeting of the LMRWD Board of Managers will be 7:00, Wednesday, June 19, 2019 and will be held at the Carver County Government Center, 602 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN.**

LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
WEDNESDAY, May 15, 2019  
MEETING MINUTES

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Dave Raby, Secretary

Attest:

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Linda Loomis, Administrator