Managers Present: Kristin Tuenge, Tom Polasik, Wade Johnson, Andy Weaver, Eric Lindberg & Paul Richert

Others Present: Jim Shaver (Administrator), Susannah Torseth (Galowitz • Olson Law), Carl Almer (EOR), Mike Isensee (WCD); John Hanson (Barr Engineering); Wendy Greene (BHE Renewables); Christina Morrison (Tiller Corp.); Cecily Harris; and John Goodfellow

President Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

1) a) Approve Agenda as amended
   President Johnson moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.

2) Minutes from November 14, 2018
   Manager Tuenge moved to approve the November 14, 2018 minutes as amended. Seconded by President Johnson. Motion carried 6-0.

3) Treasurer’s Report
   Manager Tuenge presented the Treasurer’s Report.
   Administrator Shaver noted that there was an additional invoice submitted by Roger Rydeen that will also be included in payments.
   President Johnson moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Seconded by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 6-0.

4) Public Comments: None

5) Presentations and Agenda Items subject to Public Comments:
      • Administrator Shaver reported that during the last month there has been a significant amount work done on the site.
      • John Hanson of Barr Engineering has been reviewing the site and reviewing modeling.
      • Administrator Shaver, Engineer Almer, John Hanson and Wendy Greene of BHE Renewables met last week and reviewed the information.
      • Wendy Greene reported that Argo Navis had been working on
         o Have not finished final as-builts.
         o Barr Engineering ran models to confirm that the designs meet the District’s requirements.
         o Recommendation that the EOF be raised and soil be decompacted to a depth of 10’.
         o Barr Engineering is developing the design to accomplish this goal because there has been positive response from Administrator Shaver and Engineer Almer.
Discussion of Agenda Item 7(a)(ii): P17-013 Zavoral (Argo-Navis) Solar Update

- Created draft language for the Maintenance Agreement to address construction phase of the project and monitoring so that there is regular monitoring of infiltration of ponds on the site.
- President Johnson asked for clarification on how decompressing 10’ is accomplished.
  - Barr Engineering is developing the process for that.
  - Engineer Hanson stated that “benching” or terracing may be required to accomplish this.
  - The operation would need to de-compact the soils to ensure infiltration during the process of terracing.
- Manager Tuenge asked what the timing is to implement this idea?
  - Wendy Greene stated that they need to prepare the plans and submit them to the District for approval. They are hoping the plans can be reviewed by the Managers at the January 2019 meeting.
  - The goal is to start work in January 2019, but some of this will depend on both whether the plan is approved by the District, and whether there are contractors available to do the work in January.
- Administrator Shaver commented that Argo Navis’ intention to begin this work addresses his concern of stabilizing the area prior to Spring thaw.
- Manager Richert asked if it would be possible to start the work before January?
  - Wendy Greene thought that would be difficult to accomplish due to the need to approve plans.
  - Engineer Almer pointed out that because the ponds have been drawn-down, there may be some protection against Spring flooding because the ponds may be able to hold Spring runoff.
  - Administrator Shaver asked the Board if it would like a meeting on the 27th of December to look at any submissions by Argo Navis so that information can be reviewed by the Board. There was consensus that the Managers would like Administrator Shaver to post notice of a Special Meeting on December 27, 2018.
- Manager Tuenge asked if any of the scenic easement area on the northern boundary of the site is being used by Argo Navis?
  - Wendy Greene commented that she isn’t sure if any of the area is being used.
    - She expects that if any of the scenic area was used for storage of soil, that area would be re-seeded.
- Administrator Shaver stated that any changes to a permit would be to the existing permit for Argo Navis, it would not be issuance of a new permit.

b) Discussion of Agenda Item 7(a)(iii): Revisions to Tiller Permit 08-003.

- Tiller has a CMSCWD permitted operation on Highway 97.
- Administrator Shaver provided a brief history of the site and operations by both CMSCWD and the City of Scandia.
- Administrator Shaver was contacted Christina Morrison of Tiller in November.
Discussion of Agenda Item 7(a)(iii): Revisions to Tiller Permit 08-003.

- Ms. Morrison commented that when she became involved with the site and became responsible for submitting information per the CMSCWD permit ongoing requirements for permit review, she thought there may be changes that would reduce redundant and possibly unnecessary work.
- Ms. Morrison commented on review the site has historically received, and currently receives annually through the City of Scandia and NPDES.
- Handout provided to the Managers for review of Ms. Morrison’s proposed changes to the CMSCWD permit.
- Manager Tuenge asked if there would be anything significant that could be lost if the District’s oversight is modified or reduced.
  - Administrator Shaver commented that there are some wetland issues on the property.
    - Ms. Morrison explained that one area was “Wetland 8,” which was in the original mining plan, but the plan was changed so there is no mining in the Wetland 8 sub-watershed.
    - Administrator Shaver also mentioned a second issue of mining into the groundwater.
      - Ms. Morrison explained that there is regular oversite and monitoring by multiple agencies to ensure that there isn’t harm to the groundwater.
- Administrator Shaver asked if the Managers would be amenable to himself and Engineer Almer meeting with Ms. Morrison to review the permit and submitting recommended changes to the Managers in the future.
- Manager Weaver commented that removing oversight of the permit by the District concerns him because another entity’s review of the site will not necessarily be a review of the permit or the site by focusing on the same items that the District does. The concerns of the City or another municipal entity are different than the District.
  - Administrator Shaver commented that as part of the review of the permit and considering changes, the City of Scandia will be contacted as well.

c) Discussion of Agenda Item 7(c): Cecily Harris Property Acquisition

- Administrator Shaver explained that selling or gifting of property by Ms. Harris to the City of Marine is going before the City Council tomorrow night. Administrator Shaver recommended that the Managers authorize submitting a letter to the City endorsing the purchase of that property to the City.
- Ms. Harris addressed the Managers about where the property is and some of the unique characteristics of the property that she believes make them desirable for ownership by a government entity concerned with water quality.
  - Ms. Harris provided specific reference to the District’s Management Plan for the property and explained that her desires for the property match those as identified in the District’s Plan.
- Manager Tuenge asked if the site is buildable. Administrator Shaver explained that he can’t say with certainty that it is unbuildable, but he believes it would be difficult to build on the site.
Discussion of Agenda Item 7(c): Cecily Harris Property Acquisition

- General consensus among the Managers is that they would support issuing a letter to the City of Marine endorsing purchase or acquisition of the property. The Managers also generally agreed that it would make the most sense for the City to own the property, if a municipal entity is going to own the property.
  - President Johnson commented that he isn’t convinced that the City of Marine is the best owner of the property for purposes of ecological management of the larger Millstream.
  - Manager Richert commented that before supporting ownership of the property by the City of Marine, he would want to know what the City intended to do with the property.

- **Motion by Manager Weaver to authorize Administrator Shaver to draft a letter to the City of Marine on behalf of the District endorsing protection of the property owned by Cecily Harris by the City emphasizing the District’s recognition of the ecological significance and sensitivity of the property to the watershed.** Seconded by Manager Tuenge. **Motion carried 6-0.**

**d) Discussion of Agenda Item 7(d): Buckthorn and Water Quality Presentation by John Goodfellow**

- John Goodfellow reminded the Managers that he is going through the process of becoming a watershed steward. He is working on his capstone project.
- Mr. Goodfellow presented a document entitled, “An Assessment of Invasive Buckthorn and Water Quality.”
- One question Mr. Goodfellow examined is, “why should the District be concerned about an Invasive Terrestrial Plants (such as Buckthorn)?” Mr. Goodfellow gave a presentation to the Managers regarding this question.
  - Recommended a co-op model and gave a general explanation of this idea as a management practice for invasive terrestrial plants, such as buckthorn.

- Managers and Mr. Goodfellow exchanged ideas/questions regarding proposed models.

6) Project Updates

**a) Six Lake Subwatershed Grant:** The Six Lake Subwatershed Analysis grant is on the Board of Water and Soil Resources list for approval for Clean Water Funding. The grant application is to conduct on-site evaluation of potential water quality practices and development of a report of cost-benefit ranked practices per lake.

**b) Marine Stormwater Phase I:** Meeting scheduled for January.

**c) Marine Stormwater Phase II (Ravine):**

- Administrator Shaver reported that the Pine Cone Trail Association has signed the necessary documents to start design of the Project; the Sullivans and Arnasons have received the documents that need to be signed for the Project to begin.
- Administrator Shaver requested that the Managers authorize EOR to move forward with design of the Project without the Consent to Enter and Waiver of Trespass signed by all
property owners. The Managers were not inclined to authorize EOR to proceed without property owners’ signatures.

- Engineer Almer feels it is critical to speak with MNDOT so that MNDOT funding for this Project is not lost.

\[d\] Goose Lake Landing IESF (St. Sauver): Engineer Almer presented photographs of completed construction.

\[e\] 133rd Street/Panorama: Engineer Almer is ready to meet with May Township when they are ready.

\[f\] Long/Terrapin AIS Filter: Administrator Shaver reminded the Managers that this project is funded by a grant that was set to expire last year. A request was made last year to extend a grant (approximately $9,000.00). The Project is scheduled to occur on property owned by Mary Brown. The Project was delayed because of the time it took for Ms. Brown to sign the easement. Mr. Rydeen started bringing material to site yesterday, and Administrator Shaver was contacted by Ms. Brown today. Administrator Shaver and Engineer Almer met on site with Mr. Rydeen and expressed Ms. Brown’s concerns about the viability of the Project. Based on the conversation with Ms. Brown, Administrator Shaver authorized removal of the project material. The grant funds for this Project will be lost at the end of this month. The Managers directed Administrator Shaver to see if another extension of the grant is possible.

7) New Business

\[a\] Permits

i) Status of Wacker Violation: No update.

ii) Return of Surety – P17-024 Biermeyer: Administrator Shaver provided information regarding this permit and support for recommendation to return the surety funds. Manager Johnson moved to return surety for Permit 17-024. Seconded by Manager Weaver. Motion carried 6-0.

b) Cost Share

i) Cost Share Budget Update: Mr. Isensee presented a Program Summary handout for approved and potential cost-share projects.

ii) Kennedy Buckthorn Management Plan: Mr. Isensee presented the proposed Restoration Plan to the Managers. Motion by Manager Weaver to approve 50% cost share not to exceed $1,375.00 for the Kennedy Woodland Stream Buffer Restoration Project. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.

iii) Goodwin Management Plan: Mr. Isensee presented the proposed Goodwin Prairie, Savanna, and Woodland Restoration Plan to the Managers. Motion by Manager Weaver to provide 40 hours of technical assistance by the Washington Conservation District to develop a property specific management
plan for Paul Goodwin for his property on Stonebridge Trail North. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.

iv) **Prairie Restoration Reimbursements:** Mr. Isensee presented requests for payment and reimbursement for Lee 1-acre Prairie Filter Strip, and request for reimbursement for the Keller Prairie Restoration on St. Croix Trail.

Motion by President Johnson to approve partial payment of $560.00 for the Lee native prairie buffer restoration installation. Second by Manager Tuenge.

Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Manager Tuenge to approve partial reimbursement of $2,216.25 for the Keller prairie restoration installation. Second by President Johnson. Motion carried 6-0.

v) **Ecklund Reimbursement:**

Motion by Manager Tuenge to approve final payment of $4,218.90. Second by President Johnson. Motion carried 6-0.

e) **Consultant’s Request for Qualifications and Appointments for 2019-2020**

President Johnson moved to approve the following consultants for the two-year period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2020:

- Accountant: Dave S. McCord, Ltd.
- Auditor: Redpath and Company
- Attorney: Galowitz Olson, PLLC
- Engineer: Emmons and Olivier Resources

Seconded by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 6-0.

8) **Old Business**


i) **Sand Lake IESF Payment:** President Johnson moved to pay Dan Lindgren $1,000.00 per the 2015 Agreement between the District and Dan & Dean Lindgren. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 6-0.

ii) **Goose Lake IESF Payment:** President Johnson moved to pay Ellen St. Sauver $1,000.00 per the 2018 Agreement between the District and Ms. St. Sauver. Second by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 6-0.

b) **Final 2019 Levy Certification:**

President Johnson moved to approve and certify as final the 2019 levy for $590,000.00 approved on September 12, 2018. Second by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.

c) **WCD General Services Agreement:**
• Mr. Isensee presented the Agreement and explained that the Met Council had not increased its lab costs for 15 years, so there is a significant price increase in this year’s contract.

• Managers decided that they want to revisit the information provided by the WCD monitoring when they review the plan.

• President Johnson requested that in future years, this contract be provided to the Managers prior to the meeting where approval is being requested.

• Manager Weaver said he would like occasional, or maybe annual, presentations by the WCD as to trends or other breakdowns in the monitoring and data collected.

• Manager Lindberg commented that data collected as a result of this contract is going to be tremendously valuable for future Managers. He believes the data will be relied upon for future decisions.

d) Planning Updates

i) LSCWP (One Watershed) Update: Administrator Shaver reported that there is a 6-hour meeting scheduled for December 13th to reevaluate the action items for the Plan.

e) Administrator Transition Update: No Report.

9) Other Reports:

• None

10) Bills to Be Paid

President Johnson moved to pay the bills in the amount of $206,471.19 plus an invoice for $11,062.70 to Roger Rydeen. Seconded by Manager Tuenge. Motion carried 6-0.

11) Next Meetings

• Special Meeting is scheduled for December 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Scandia Heritage Room.

• Regular Board Meeting is January 9, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Scandia Heritage Room.

12) Adjourn

President Johnson moved to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. Seconded by Manager Polasik. Motion carried 6-0.

Submitted by: Administrator Jim Shaver