

Pursuant to notice and due call, a regular meeting of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers was held Thursday January 20, 2022 at the district office located at 211 Second Street SE in Ortonville, MN. Board members present were Holker, Bork, Haugen, Meyer and Gillespie. Staff member present was Administrator, Amber Doschadis. Big Stone County Commissioner Wade Athey was also present. No members of the public attended this meeting.

Holker called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Minutes and Disbursements from December 2021 were presented and a motion was made by Haugen, seconded by Gillespie to approve as submitted. Motion Carried: 5-0

### DISTRICT OPERATIONS

1. Designation of Officers. A motion was made by Meyer, seconded by Haugen to appoint officers as follows: Wanda Holker, Chair; Gary Haugen, Vice-Chair; Terry Gillespie, Treasurer; Gene Meyer, Secretary, Jon Bork, Manager. Motion Carried: 5-0
2. Designation of Depositories. A motion was made by Bork, seconded by Gillespie to designate CenBank and MinnWest as our financial institutions for 2022. Motion Carried: 5-0
3. Designation of Official Newspapers. A motion was made by Holker, seconded by Bork to designate the Ortonville Independent and Northern Star as the two official newspapers. Motion Carried: 5-0
4. A motion to designate the District Engineer as Houston Engineering and Attorney as Rinke Noonan was made by Haugen, seconded by Meyer. Motion Carried: 5-0
5. A motion to approve the 2022 Board Meeting Dates was made by Holker, seconded by Meyer. Motion Carried: 5-0
6. Employee Review/Employee Handbook Committee. A motion was made by Bork, seconded by Haugen to appoint Holker and Meyer as the designees. Motion Carried: 5-0
7. Policy Handbook Revisions were presented by Doschadis. Staff will coordinate changes as discussed and will present at the February meeting.
8. 2022 Reimbursement Rates were discussed. Holker made a motion, seconded by Bork to remain at the same rates from last year, rates are as follows: Manager Daily Per Diem- \$125, Manager Hourly Rate- \$25, Viewers Rate of \$40/ hour for main viewer and \$32/hour for secondary viewer. Motion Carried: 5-0
9. District Logo and Website. Doschadis presented cost estimates for a new website layout and hosting as well as logo design work. A motion was made by Bork, seconded by Gillespie to move forward with these updates. Motion Carried: 5-0. Doschadis will present changes for board approval once complete.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Browns Valley. Doschadis noted that Representative Backer plans on going back in the 2022 session for remaining \$2 million to complete BV flood protection projects.  
The County Road 4 and 24 Bridge agreement was sent over to Roberts County. Doschadis will meet with them in person after they respond.
2. Big Stone Lake/ Minnesota River. MN River gage is reading at 100 cf/s. Flows are coming from the Whetstone and over the silt barrier from Big Stone Lake.
3. Whetstone River Restoration. Doschadis reports that the USACE has reviewed our permit. Doschadis will coordinate with HEI on responses to some of their inquiries. Once we work through the next few steps, we will move forward with other requirements including a public meeting on the project.
4. Kleindl Wetland Bank. Doschadis presented a current spreadsheet noting that most of our credits are pending approval before final sales. Remaining credits are as follows: Standard, 5A- .3399 acres and Standard, 5E, Ag- .1 acres.

5. Northern Boundary. BWSR regional meeting was held virtually on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Doschadis attended and reported that the region did approve our request. This will now go to the BWSR Board on January 26, 2022.
6. One Watershed, One Plan. Grant Agreement with BWSR for planning was presented by Doschadis. A motion to enter the agreement was made by Meyer, seconded by Gillespie. Motion Carried: 5-0 Doschadis will finalize the grant in E-Link and the first Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2022 at Ortonville Library.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Administrator's Report was presented by Doschadis. No action was required on this report.
2. Johnson and Roggenbuck. 2021 Audit Commitment was presented. A motion to approve was made by Bork, seconded by Meyer. Motion Carried: 5-0
3. MAWA/ MAWD Meeting Update. Both meetings were held week of Jan 10<sup>th</sup>. Doschadis noted that Legislative Days will be held in person this year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UMRWD Regular Meeting – February 8, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.  
MAWD Legislative Days – March 16-17, 2022- MN State Capitol

Holker adjourned the meeting at 10:40 am.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Approved by,

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Amber Doschadis, Administrator

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Gene Meyer, Secretary