

Pursuant to notice and due call, a regular meeting of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers was held Tuesday July 12, 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. Members of the public in attendance: Don Sherman.

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

June 2022 Minutes and Disbursements were presented. A motion was made by Bork, seconded by Meyer to approve as submitted. Motion Carried: 4-0.

Manager Haugen entered the meeting at 9:12 am.

COORESPONDENCE

Lismore Colony. Permit #26-22

Don Sherman was present to discuss the proposed project and his concerns as the downstream landowner. The size of the watershed that drains towards the existing ravine was discussed and the board of managers noted concerns on the proposed outlet of the tile and added volume of water that the proposed tile may bring. The Board of Managers agreed that it is best to hold this permit until an Engineer can review the project and any potential impacts. Doschadis will contact Max Fuxa, representative for the tile company that Lismore Colony has asked to assist with the permitting and work with him on proceeding with an Engineer's review if the applicant chooses.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Browns Valley. Doschadis reports that aside from trees in the diversion channel there does not seem to be much sediment deposited from the Spring run-off and large rain events earlier this Spring.
2. Beardsley Dry Lake. Cal Lillehaug trapped 8 beaver on Dry Lake. Doschadis discussed how any major repair or replacement is now on hold, she will follow up with Senator Westrom on a future bonding bill, replicating the one introduced by Westrom in 2022 that didn't received funding because there was no bonding bill.
3. Big Stone Lake/ Minnesota River. Lake is at 968.40 as of Monday. Doschadis reported on estimates from Silver Springs LLC for tree removal in the debris barrier and rip rap repair needed after the Memorial Day rains and subsequent high-water levels.
4. Dam Operations.
HEI Task Order- 2022- 002. Doschadis gave an update on the Maintenance Timeline for Fall 2022. Conroy is still waiting on the final part needed for remote operations.
5. Whetstone River Restoration. Still waiting on COE permit. Doschadis reported that Houston Engineering plans to attend our August meeting, where we can discuss options to keep this permit moving through the COE.

Drew Kessler joined via Microsoft Teams at 10:00 am

Whetstone Water Quality Study. Drew was present to give an overview on the study and our opportunities for future grants with this new information.

Drew Kessler left the meeting at 10:17 am

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6. One Watershed, One Plan. The Public Kick-Off Meeting will be held at the Clinton Memorial Building on July 28th from 6-8pm.
Invoice # 60018 was presented by Doschadis. A motion to approve invoice for payment once the PC reviews was made by Bork, seconded by Gillespie. Motion Carried: 5-0.
7. Marsh Lake- Ribbon cutting will be held at 11:00 am on-site on July 14th

NEW BUSINESS

1. Administrator's Report was given by Doschadis. Permits 32-22 and 33-22 were added during this time. A motion was made by Haugen, seconded by Bork to approve as submitted.
Motion Carried: 5-0.
2. Draft 2023 Budget was presented at this time. Given there were no concerns from the board, Doschadis will move forward with advertising and finalizing the Budget for the Public Hearing to be held at the beginning of the August 9, 2022 regular meeting.

MANAGER UPDATES

Wanda Holker reported on progress made with MAWD.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UMRWD Regular Meeting – July 12, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
UMRWD Regular Meeting – August 9, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
MAWD Summer Tour – August 23 – 25, 2022

Holker adjourned the meeting at 11:10 am.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Approved by,

Amber Doschadis, Administrator

Gene Meyer, Secretary