

Pursuant to notice and due call, a regular meeting of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers was held Tuesday September 13, 2022 at the district office located at 211 Second Street SE in Ortonville, MN. Board members present were Holker, Haugen, Bork and Gillespie. Staff member present was Administrator, Amber Doschadis.

Members of the public in attendance: Doug Nelson, Brian Athey, Doug Folkens and Travis Sandberg.

Holker called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. A motion was made by Haugen, seconded by Bork to approve Minutes from September Meeting as submitted. Motion Carried: 4-0.

Disbursements will be presented at the November Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. One Watershed, One Plan. Doschadis presented two HEI invoices. A motion to approve payment was made by Bork, seconded by Holker. Motion Carried: 4-0.
2. Big Stone Lake/ Minnesota River. Doschadis reports that with the warmer forecast, we will hold on the fall drawdown until November.
3. Browns Valley. Diversion. Doschadis has contacted Big Stone County Highway to see if they can now volunteer trees in the low flow channel of diversion.
4. Beardsley Dry Lake. HEI assessment of groundwater in the area was presented. The memo from HEI did not note a direct correlation between water levels in Dry Lake and the increase in discharge needs from the City of Beardsley's waste ponds. The memo did suggest that the City look at the age and state of their current infrastructure.
Doschadis reports that Ridgeview Excavating has been out to look at the break in the 2020 repair to the tile in Jerome Schwagerl's field. It appears that the pipe settled, and joints between two pipes seems to have failed. Ridgeview will work to repair/ replace the break as soon as possible.
5. Dam Operations.
HEI Task Order- 2022- 002. Doschadis presented the Bid Tab and HEI recommendation on bids that came in for Dam Maintenance this winter. A motion was made by Haugen, seconded by Gillespie to move forward, contracting the work with Minger Construction. Motion Carried: 4-0.
6. Whetstone River Restoration. A motion was made by Gillespie, seconded by Bork to separate the maintenance and Whetstone accounts into two separate bank accounts at Minn West Bank in Ortonville, MN. Motion Carried: 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS- Financial Report/ Audit completed by Johnson and Roggenbuck was reviewed. A motion to approve the report as submitted was made by Holker, seconded by Bork. Motion Carried: 4-0.

COORESPONDENCE

9:00 am **Permit # 54-22.** Moore Engineering Recommendation. Downstream Notification Sent.
Gary Haugen removed himself as a Manger of the UMRWD and noted that he'd be speaking as a downstream landowner of this permit. The Board of Managers agreed that in order to look at the project area as a whole, it would be best to combine the discussion on Permit # 54 and 53 as this time. Discussion took place on existing tile downstream of the proposed project and the Engineer's Review from Moore Engineering. The board discussed permit #54 and the need to increase tile size downstream to prevent overland erosion. Doschadis will discuss the option of extending the main on permit #54 to the existing main on the SW ¼ of Big Stone 5 (Doug Nelson) , and will work with Doug Nelson on permit #61-22 that would place another tile in the SW ¼ of Big Stone 5, parallel to his existing tile. The board

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agreed that if the main tile in permit #54-22 is extended downstream and additional tile is placed in Big Stone 5 the board could approve this permit as revised. A motion to approve with outlined conditions was made by Bork, seconded by Holker. Motion Carried: 3-0 with Haugen abstaining.

Permit #53-22 was then discussed. Doschadis noted that with the tile size increases proposed in the conditions of permit #54-22, that main tile would likely handle the additional water from permit #53-22. Doschadis will work with the applicant to see if they'd hook the tile into permit #54-22 instead of going west into the NE ¼ of Big Stone 8. The board agreed that this would clear up concerns with water running across Big Stone 8. A motion was made by Holker, seconded by Gillespie to approve with revisions outlined above. Motion Carried: 3-0 with Haugen abstaining. Doschadis will contact the applicant to see if they agree to this change.

Doug Nelson left the meeting following discussions on permits 53-22 and 54-22. Holker left the meeting at 10:00 am, Haugen took over the meeting.

9:15 am

Permit # 55-22. Moore Engineering Recommendation. Downstream Notification Sent.

Downstream landowners attending to discuss their concerns with the proposed permit were Brian Athey, Doug Folkens and Travis Sandberg. The District apologized for the mistake they made previously when they allowed tile to be placed in the SW ¼ of Big Stone 4 as this crossed a subwatershed boundary when it outlets into Molton Lake. Downstream landowners expressed concerns that two sloughs in Big Stone 4 continue to rise impacting their surrounding cropland. This water then runs overland through the SW ¼ of Almond 33, impacting cropland as the tile previously placed there cannot handle this extra water. A motion to deny the permit as there isn't an adequate outlet was made by Bork, seconded by Gillespie. Motion Carried: 3-0

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

1. Administrator's Report. A motion to approve as submitted was made by Haugen, seconded by Gillespie. Motion Carried: 3-0.

MANAGER UPDATES

Gary Haugen and Wanda Holker both plan to attend the MAWD Annual Meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UMRWD Regular Meeting – November 8, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

UMRWD Regular Meeting – December 13, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

MAWD Annual Meeting – December 1-2, 2022

Haugen adjourned the meeting at 10:11 am.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Approved by,

Amber Doschadis, Administrator

Gene Meyer, Secretary