

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

There were no members of the public in attendance for this meeting.

Holker called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. A motion was made by Meyer, seconded by Gillespie to approve Minutes from November Meeting, as well as the October and November Disbursements as submitted. Motion Carried: 4-0.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. One Watershed, One Plan. Doschadis reports that the plan remains on schedule and the Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet later this month.

Manager Jon Bork entered the meeting at 9:10 am

2. Browns Valley.

Doschadis presented the State of MN JPA on Fish Passage and outlined the changes made by Rinke Noonan per the boards request. A motion to approve entering the JPA as revised, was made by Gillespie, seconded by Bork. Motion Carried: 5-0.

HEI Task Order # 2022-3 was discussed. A motion to approve the task order as submitted was made by Gillespie, seconded by Haugen. Motion Carried: 5-0.

3. Beardsley Dry Lake. Doschadis reports that she will continue to monitor the system and work with surrounding landowners.

4. Dam Operations.

Doschadis reports that all eight slide gates were successfully removed and have made it to Maguire Iron in Sioux Falls, SD. Gates will be painted in January and reinstalled shortly thereafter.

Doschadis submitted a few photos of the gates and electrical components that were protected inside the 8 gates when in position. This cavity houses the gate heaters and Conroy Electric was onsite during removal to view these components and their current state. The board discussed some visual wear and build up of dirt/ dust inside the gates, general board consensus was to have Maguire Iron do a basic internal wash only of these components and the cavity that holds the components.

5. Whetstone River Restoration.

Doschadis reports that the comment period for the EA- EAW will end on Jan 5, 2023. Comments will be compiled and addressed after the comment period ends, the Board can then discuss holding public hearing.

Doschadis presented an opportunity for funding a portion of construction in SD through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. A motion was made by Haugen, seconded by Bork to have Doschadis submit a Letter of Interest to the program that funds projects that improve fish passage.

Motion Carried: 5-0.

6. Kleindl Wetland Bank. Doschadis reported that Wayne Pelzel accepted the purchase price determined by the board during the November Meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Employee Evaluation.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Bork, seconded by Meyer. Motion Carried: 5-0.

Employee Review conversation took place among the board.

A motion to open the meeting was made by Haugen, seconded by Gillespie. Motion Carried: 5-0. The board presented Administrator, Amber Doschadis with their 2022 Employee Review Form, noting their appreciation for work and communication with the Board throughout the last year. A motion was made by Bork, seconded by Meyer to advance Doschadis to a Grade 11 Step 2 as outlined in the 2021 adoption of RUS wage scale system and Administrator job description. Motion Carried: 5-0.

2. Administrator's Report was presented. A motion to approve was made by Holker, seconded by Meyer. Motion Carried: 5-0.

MANAGER UPDATES. Doschadis reported on the DWG Correspondence and MAWD vacancy emails that were recently sent out.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UMRWD Regular Meeting – January 10, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

UMRWD Regular Meeting – February 14, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

Holker adjourned the meeting at 10:25 am.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Approved by,

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Amber Doschadis, Administrator

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Gene Meyer, Secretary