

Pursuant to notice and due call, a regular meeting of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers was held Tuesday July 11, 2023 at the district office located at 211 2nd Street SE in Ortonville, MN. Board members present were Holker, Haugen, Bork, Gillespie and Meyer. Wade Athey attended representing Big Stone County Commissioners. Members of the public in attendance include: Doug Folkens.

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

A motion was made by Meyer, seconded by Gillespie to approve Minutes from the previous meeting, as well as authorize payment of submitted invoices, as presented by Doschadis. Motion Carried: 5-0

Discover	\$638.03
Paulsen Tree Service Weed Control at Dam	\$350.00
Pheasant Country Lawn mowing at Dam	\$240.00
Houston Engineering 1W1P #65610	\$4,073.25
Moore Engineering Assistance with Boundary/ Permit Concern	\$2,505.00

CORRESPONDENCE

Permit #28-23. Doug Folkens attended to discuss his proposed permit in section 4 of Big Stone Township. The board reviewed concerns that downstream landowners expressed at last month's meeting. Folkens and the Board agreed that an Engineer Review should be done. A motion was made by Bork, seconded by Holker to approve the permit, pending a "no significant impact" determination from the Engineer. Motion Carried: 5-0

OLD BUSINESS

1. Whetstone River Restoration
Doschadis and HEI representatives will meet with the UACE later this week to discuss what analysis should be done to determine impacts downstream of the proposed project.
2. Big Stone Lake/ Dam Operations
Doschadis reports that the lake is at 968.20 and discharging minimal flows at the dam.
3. Browns Valley Little MN- Diversion
A survey of sedimentation in the floodway channel after this Spring runoff has been completed. Doschadis is working with HEI on an estimate for sediment removal in the channel. Haanen Family requested information on the Browns Valley Flood Protection Project. Doschadis worked with HEI on a file share to the Haanen Family's Engineering firm. Toelle Coulee Phase 2. No updates/ changes until the bonding bill wording is changed.
4. One Watershed, One Plan
Doschadis gave an update on progress made with the planning grant and stated that the draft plan will go out for comments later this month. After the comment period ends, there will be a public meeting.
5. Beardsley Dry Lake
Doschadis will attend the regional BWSR meeting later this month to present on the project.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Administrator's Report was presented by Doschadis. A motion to approve as submitted was made by Gillespie, seconded by Bork. Motion Carried: 5-0

2. Board Manager Reappointment. Gillespie is seeking reappointment as a representative of the Big Stone County area. Gary Haugen expressed interest in resigning from the board, effective at the end of August. Doschadis will work with Big Stone County staff on filling the position.
3. Bois de Sioux. Petition for Correction to Boundary
Manager Bork introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CHANGE OF BOUNDARY WITH
BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, a result of the recent generation of more precise topographic data, the hydrologic boundaries of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District (the “Upper Minnesota River”) can be more precisely ascertained; and

WHEREAS, these improved data allow for the Upper Minnesota River’s legal boundary to be caused to more closely follow the hydrologic boundary; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Minnesota Statutes Chapters 103B and 103D is to facilitate water resource management on a watershed basis, and that legal boundaries of watershed management organizations should conform as closely as is practicable to hydrologic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, certain land parcels presently within the boundaries of the districts have been identified to flow into the other respective district; and

WHEREAS, these parcels are generally shown on the map, attached as **Exhibit A**, and are proposed on that exhibit to be allocated to either the Upper Minnesota River or the Bois de Sioux Watershed District (the “Bois de Sioux”), as best conforms to hydrologic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the parcels to be allocated to the Upper Minnesota River are contiguous to the Upper Minnesota River, and enlargement of the Upper Minnesota River to include the identified parcels will advance the purposes of Minnesota Statutes Chapters 103B and 103D; and

WHEREAS, the Bois de Sioux and the Upper Minnesota River will notify each affected property owner about the proposed boundary change and opportunities for public input at a public hearing before the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, unless it is determined that a public hearing is not necessary.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Upper Minnesota River supports the submission of a petition to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 103D.251 to change the Upper Minnesota River boundaries in accordance with **Exhibit A** and authorizes the Board President to sign said petition.

The motion was seconded by Gillespie. Motion Carried: 5-0

4. Association of MN Watersheds. The board didn’t have any suggestions in response to their request for resolutions. The group completed a requested survey during the meeting.
5. Policy Handbook Revisions. A motion was made by Haugen, seconded by Bork to revise the Policy Handbook, adding Juneteenth to the UMRWD Recognized Holidays. Motion Carried: 5-0

UPCOMING EVENTS

UMRWD Regular Meeting – August 15, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.* *Please note date change.*

UMRWD Regular Meeting – September 12, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

Holker adjourned the meeting at 10:50 am.