

Pursuant to notice and due call, a regular meeting of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers was held Tuesday November 14, 2023 at the district office located at 211 2nd Street SE in Ortonville, MN. Board members present were Holker, Radermacher and Bork. Members of the public in attendance include: Lon Medberry Sr. and Lon Medberry Jr.

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

BUDGET HEARING

An error was made with the local newspaper which didn't provide the statutorily required time to notify the public of a 2024 Budget Hearing during the intended September Meeting, board delayed until November.

Holker opened the 2024 Budget Hearing at 9:00 am.

TRUTH AND TAXATION

The budget for 2023 was presented and an opportunity for public comment was provided. Revisions were not made to the budget as approved in September for 2023. No comments were made.

Bork made a motion to finalize the budget, seconded by Radermacher. Motion Carried: 3-0

A motion was made by Radermacher, seconded by Bork to approve Minutes from the previous meeting, as well as authorize payment of submitted expenses, as presented by Doschadis. Motion Carried: 3-0

Pheasant Country Mowing at Dam	\$240.00
Sev's Channel excavation upstream of dam	\$8,445.58
Sev's pad repair at dam	\$14,924.01
Sev's Repair area upstream and East of the dam	\$9,845.58
Sev's rip rap repair below the dam	\$1,450.00
Moore Engineering Permit #M-22	\$682.50
Discover	\$405.37
Houston Engineering #67403 Dry Lake	\$4,983.00
Houston Engineering #67839 Whetstone	\$27,171.79
Audio and Security Engineers Dam Cameras	\$1,202.76
Houston Engineering # 67679 1W1P	\$5,916.50
MN BWSR wetland bank fee	\$500.00
MN Watersheds Dues	\$3,993.00
Discover	\$95.70
Independent 1W1P Public Hearing Notices	\$88.00
Houston Engineering # 68025 BV Diversion	\$7,716.00
Houston Engineering # 68024 Beardsley Dry Lake	\$2,489.00

Correspondence

1. Medberry's –Browns Valley diversion channel

Lon Medberry Sr. and Lon Medberry Jr. were in attendance to discuss their impacts from 2023 Spring flooding and express concerns with sediment accumulated in the BV Diversion Channel. Board members asked for their patience as coordination with FEMA continues for a 2024 removal. There will be public hearings on the previous projects and future Toelle Coulee Projects in early 2024, the board asked Medberry's to attend those meetings to express their maintenance and flood water concerns to those involved.

Whetstone River Restoration

1. 404-408 Permit Update was given by Doschadis.

2. NFPP BIL Fish Passage Program. Doschadis reports on a draft application to the program.

Browns Valley

1. Diversion Sediment Removal. Coordination continues with FEMA
2. Diversion Mechanism for Maintenance. Draft Report was presented.

Beardsley Dry Lake

1. Engineers Initial Review of Project is in progress with HEI

One Watershed, One Plan

1. Public Hearing was held. Doschadis will attend the BWSR Regional Meeting on Jan 5th

MPCA Resiliency Grant

1. Proposal for Planning Grant was given by Doschadis. The board agreed that is a good opportunity. Doschadis will keep the board updated on progress.

Administrator's Report was submitted by Doschadis. A motion to approve as submitted was made by Bork, seconded by Radermacher. Motion Carried: 3-0

Bank Signature Cards. A motion to remove Gary Haugen, retired manager, from bank signature cards and add Paul Radermacher, new manager, was made by Holker, seconded by Bork. Motion Carried: 3-0

2022 Audit Results were presented. A motion to approve was made by Radermacher, seconded by Holker. Motion Carried: 3-0

DNR Public Waters Work General Permit 1997-4241. Revisions were made during the renewal process. Bork made a motion to approve the revisions pending legal review, seconded by Holker. Motion Carried: 3-0

UPCOMING EVENTS

Association of Minnesota Watersheds Annual Meeting. November 29 – December 1, 2023
UMRWD Regular Meeting – December 12, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Amber Doschadis, Administrator

Gene Meyer, Secretary