

Pursuant to notice and due call, a regular meeting of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers was held Tuesday September 9, 2025, at the district office located at 211 2nd Street SE Ortonville, MN. Board members present were Bork, Holker, Sandberg and Giese. Executive Director of the UMRWD, Amber Doschadis assisted with the meeting in coordination with Board Chair Wanda Holker. Members of the public present: Big Stone County Commissioner Wade Athey.

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

Minutes and Expenses

A motion to approve the previous month's meeting minutes and current expenses was made by Bork, seconded by Sandberg. Motion carried: 4-0.

Big Stone County	mowing at dam	\$420.00
Houston Engineering	#78073 TC 2 Study. DNR Coord.	\$4,637.50
Houston Engineering	# 77649 Whetstone Restoration	\$12,392.00
Houston Engineering	# 77769 Whetstone Waste	\$33,057.29
Soil Engineering Testing	#15976 Whetstone Waste	\$1,395.00
Big Stone County	Dry Lake inlet	\$58.45
Discover	Whetstone USACE Hotel	\$270.32
Discover	office supplies	\$22.88
Ort. Independent	#96646 Budget Hearing Ad	\$64.63

Browns Valley

Benefitted Property Determination for Browns Valley, Diversion Project. A motion was made by Holker, seconded by Bork to approve the task order presented. Motion carried: 4-0.

Portions of the Diversion channel and spoil piles may need to be reseeded as weed growth was prevalent when the tenant mowed hay in August. Following board discussion Doschadis will keep an eye on the area and see how the alfalfa/ vegetation establishes this fall/ next spring before planning a reseeding effort.

Toelle Coulee Phase 1

Doschadis will watch how things dry out this fall if possible, getting someone in with a brush trimmer to mow volunteer trees. However, it has been a wet year and may need to wait until next year.

Toelle Coulee Phase 2

Alternative Analysis – Storage Opportunities. Doschadis presented the feedback from DNR on “dam safety” and will look to meet with landowners over the next few months to discuss potential storage projects upland of the Coulee.

Whetstone

Waste Remediation Project. Following a project update a motion was made by Bork, seconded by Giese authorizing Doschadis to process upcoming Pay Requests as long as they fit within the overall project budget. Motion carried: 4-0.

Doschadis will continue to coordinate with the USACE on which avenue we will need to take for final approval of the overall project.

Administrator's Report

A motion was made by Bork, seconded by Giese to approve the report as submitted. Motion carried: 4-0.

2024 Audit Results

Following discussion on the results, a motion was made by Holker, seconded by Giese to approve/ accept the audit results. Motion carried: 4-0.

Big Stone 4 – Landowner Inquiry

Downstream landowners from a previous permit in Section 4/5 of Big Stone have reached out to Doschadis regarding high water levels in Molton Lake and subsequent concerns in the areas adjacent/ downstream of the lake. Doschadis will coordinate with these landowners and the original applicant to see if a solution can be developed to alleviate the impacts/ concerns downstream.

Manager Reappointments

Holker and Bork have been reappointed by their respective county board to serve the UMRWD, both signed updated oaths of office and manager bonds.

1W1P

Doschadis presented draft revisions to the partnership's cost share policy, primarily increasing cost share rates for landowners in the planning region. A motion was made by Holker, seconded by Sandberg to approve and adopt the revised policy pending Policy Committee review at their meeting late this week. Motion carried: 4-0.

The board managers agreed to move the start time of the October Board meeting to 7:00 am. Doschadis will post this change to the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Amber Doschadis, Administrator

Travis Sandberg, Secretary