

**MINUTES OF THE ROSEAU RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF
MANAGERS MEETING HELD JULY 1, 2020**

ORDER: Chairman Jason Braaten called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MANAGERS PRESENT: in office, Jason Braaten, LeRoy Carriere, and Carter Diesen.

STAFF PRESENT: in office, Administrator Halstensgard and Watershed Specialist McCormack

OTHERS PRESENT: Roseau County Commissioner Roger Falk; Richard Foss, Mitch Magnusson, Brad Blawat, Brent Haugen, John Harder, Mark Weirschke, Kevin Johnson.

CONSULTING STAFF PRESENT: Nate Dalager and Jake Huwe, HDR Engineering; Michelle Moren, Attorney

DELEGATIONS PRESENT: Keith Weston, RRRA; Brent Haugen, Landowner; Brad Blawat, Landowner.

AGENDA: A **motion** was made by Manager Carriere, seconded by Manager Diesen to approve the agenda as handed out. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA: A **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Manager Carriere and seconded by Manager Diesen. Adoption of the Consent Agenda included approving the June 3, 2020 regular meeting minutes with corrections, the updated Treasurer's Report, and manager and employee expense vouchers, and Permit #20-08 (Richard Magnusson). Motion carried unanimously.

DELEGATIONS: Brent Haugen addressed the board concerning maintenance and repair issues in the WD #3 system. There was discussion on the work that has been done in the past, what is scheduled to be completed this year and what the fund balance is currently. Mr. Haugen stated he felt funds were better spent on cleaning and repairing the trouble spots rather than additional engineering and survey.

Manager Schmalz called in to the meeting at 8:20.

There was extensive discussion on what work needs to be done and how best to prioritize that work. Administrator Halstensgard discussed the fund balance, ditch levy and offered to provide an accounting of expenses to Mr. Haugen and Richard. Foss. Specialist McCormack discussed some of the areas where water currently overtops roads during frequent rain events.

Mr. Foss addressed an issue with a Moose Township road over-topping along Lateral 2 of WD #3. Specialist McCormack reviewed the history of the site and what the situation is currently. Moose Township stated to Watershed Staff at a meeting in the office that they had concerns about public safety with water running over the road so frequently. The Watershed does not have authority over the road beyond what is prescribed in the original WD#3 plans. There was discussion on the relevance of permits issued in the past for work done to the road. The Board directed Attorney Moren to provide an opinion on permit president for subsequent work.

Keith Weston of the Red River Retention Authority (RRRA) addressed the Board via WebEx. Mr. Weston discussed the closing out of the RCPP agreement for the Beltrami project, RCPP exemption and NRCS PL566 sign-up. Administrator Halstensgard asked about the extension and additional funds for the Whitney Lake project. Deb Walchuk addressed those questions and will follow-up with Administrator Halstensgard.

Rob Sip, Executive Director of the Red River Watershed Management Board (RRWMB), went through their Year in Review.

PERMITS: Specialist McCormack discussed permit #20-09 (Dieter Township). A **motion** was made by Manager Diesen, seconded by Manager Carriere to approve the permit as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATES:

Administrator Halstengard provided a written update and stated that Houston Engineering will be giving an update to the board on the Hay Creek report at the August meeting. Other projects continue to make progress. Randy Prachar will be giving a presentation on the Roseau Lake Project at the August meeting. Engineer Dalager stated that the Whitney Lake project will address many of the issues that were brought up earlier in the meeting. Administrator Halstengard addressed the need to purchase video and audio equipment for the conference room. A **motion** was made by Manager Diesen to purchase the equipment with a \$1,200 budget, seconded by Manager Carriere. Motion carried unanimously. The District will also need to acquire their own WebEx subscription. Administrator Halstengard also noted that the copier has started to malfunction and the copy quality is decreasing. The Board may have to look at purchasing a new one in the near future.

Specialist McCormack informed the board that the work truck needs new tires. A **motion** was made by Manager Carriere, seconded by Manager Diesen to purchase new tires. Manager Diesen requested that the tires be heavy duty, eight or ten ply. Motion carried unanimously. Specialist McCormack updated the board on various small local projects that are ongoing this construction season.

Mitch Magnusson asked about weed management efforts on the West Intercept Restoration site. Specialist McCormack will follow-up.

NEW BUSINESS: The Moose Township Road over-topping issue was addressed during the discussion with Delegates.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The office still has not received the bond for the new ditch petition
- Administrator Halstengard discussed the status of the Wikstrom Easement.

OTHER ITEMS:

- A **motion** was made by Manager Diesen, seconded by Manager Carriere to approve the District's Covid-19 Preparedness Plan. Motion carried unanimously.
- Brent Haugen asked about changing the side of a side-water inlet, adding additional inlets and reusing the culvert from the one inlet for another. Staff will review and see if this is disqualified because of the funding used for the original installation.

A **motion** by Manager Diesen and second by Manager Carriere, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cody Schmalz, Secretary

Tracy Halstengard, Administrator