

**MINUTES OF THE ROSEAU RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF  
MANAGERS MEETING HELD JANUARY 4, 2023**

**ORDER:** Chairman Carter Diesen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MANAGERS PRESENT:** Tony Wensloff, Jason Braaten, LaVerne Voll, Cody Schmalz, and Carter Diesen.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Administrator Halstensgard, and Watershed Specialist McCormack.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Levi Novacek and Daryl Wicklund, Roseau County Commissioners; Matt Fischer, BWSR.

**CONSULTING STAFF PRESENT:** Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering; Erik Jones, HEI; and Michelle Moren, Attorney.

**AGENDA:** A **motion** was made by Manager Wensloff, seconded by Manager Voll to approve the agenda with the addition of Oak Crest Coulee scope of work and Rock Arch CPL grant under Old Business. Motion carried unanimously.

**BOARD REORGANIZATION:** A **motion** was made by Manager Voll seconded by Manager Schmalz to keep all the officers the same as last year. Motion carried unanimously the 2023 officers are as follows: Chair, Carter Diesen; Vice-Chair, Tony Wensloff; Secretary, LaVerne Voll; Treasurer, Jason Braaten.

A **motion** was made by Manager Wensloff to keep all appointment the same as last year, seconded by Manager Braaten. Motion carried.

	<b><u>2023</u></b>
Official Depository	Bremer Bank, Citizens State Bank and Border State Bank
Official Newspaper	Roseau Times-Region
Legal Council	Moren Law Office
Engineering Firm	No primary engineering firm
Project Team Delegates	Lake Bottom – Braaten & Wensloff Whitney Lake – Wensloff & Braaten All managers are alternates
FSA Representative	Manager Diesen
RRWMB representative	Manager Braaten, Delegate Manager Voll, Alternate
RRIW representative	Managers Voll & Schmalz
Personnel	Managers Braaten & Voll
Land Use / Building	Managers Diesen & Wensloff

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Administrator Halstensgard stated that the Treasurer’s Report in the printed packet is updated and there was an additional receipt from Roseau County in the amount of \$76,424.44 for tax levies. Additional bills were to the Roseau Times-Region for \$137.70 and the Red River Watershed Management Board for \$15,133.48. A **motion** to approve the consent agenda was made by Manager Wensloff and seconded by Manager Voll. The motion carried

unanimously. Adoption of the Consent Agenda included approving the December 7, 2022 regular meeting minutes, January Treasurer's Report, Permits 22-24 & 22-25, and manager and employee expense vouchers as read by Manager Braaten.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Administrator Halstensgard discussed the scope of work for the design and permit of the Oak Crest Coulee project and requested approval from the board. After discussion, a **motion** was made by Manager Wensloff, seconded by Manager Braaten to approve the scope of work. Motion carried.

Administrator Halstensgard stated that the District has been awarded the Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) grant for the Arch Rapids project in the amount of \$489,600. There are several steps needed and information to be provided to the DNR to execute the grant. The Board discussed who would be named the project manager. A **motion** was made by Manager Braaten, seconded by Manager Schmalz to name Administrator Halstensgard as the Project Manager and approve the grant contract provided. Motion carried.

Manager Braaten recused himself from the Board for the CD 16 discussion. Attorney Moren discussed the required hearing to close out the project. Manager Wensloff made a **motion** to set the public hearing for February 1, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Manager Voll and carried unanimously. Administrator Halstensgard stated that the County will be reimbursing the District for the project costs on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Manager Braaten rejoined the Board.

The Board has reviewed the 1W1P Joint Powers Agreement and wants to continue moving forward on an accelerated timeline in the hope of receiving funding this year. A **motion** was made by Manager Braaten, seconded by Manager Voll to approve the Joint Powers Agreement for the Roseau River Watershed Joint Powers Board (RRWJPB). Motion carried. Matt Fischer mentioned the need to appoint members to the RRWJPB. Manager Wensloff made a motion to appoint Managers Voll and Braaten to the RRWJPB, seconded by Manager Schmalz. motion carried.

Engineer Jones presented proposed changes to the online permit application work. The updated framework would also be able to track projects implemented for the Roseau River Water Management Plan which will be required by BWSR for reporting. There was discussion on potentially utilizing Houston Engineering for as-needed permit review when the online system goes live. A **motion** was made by Manager Voll, seconded by Manager Wensloff to move forward with Deliverable 1, Tasks 1 & 2

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Administrator Halstensgard gave an overview of district work and requested board input for prioritization. Tentative timelines and staff time for projects and programs were discussed. There was additional discussion on the Juneberry Flood Resiliency project now that Engineer Slick has resigned as the Roseau County Engineer. Manager Wensloff felt that the project needed to move forward, but should be county driven. Manager Schmalz agreed that issues in that area need to be addressed and additional meeting should be held.

The Board discussed the receipt and review of Specialist McCormack's resignation notice which had been received in December 27, 2022. After discussion, a **motion** was made by

Manager Wensloff, seconded by Manager Braaten, to accept Specialist McCormack's resignation.

**REPORTS:**

**RRWMB:** Manager Braaten stated he would be the RRWMB representative attending a meeting in Bemidji January 6<sup>th</sup> with the DNR to discuss the various drainage topics currently being reviewed statewide, including the DNR's "early coordination" language change to MN Statute 103E. Administrator Halstensgard reviewed the status of the three current topics; early agency coordination for petitioned projects, drainage registry, and adequacy of outlet definition.

The RRWMB will be participating in the MAWD Legislative Event in St. Paul February 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The FDRWG – RRWMB joint conference (formerly March Conference) will be in Moorhead February 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**WATERSHED SPECIALIST:** Along with his written report Specialist McCormack discussed the Spruce 35 Wetland Bank. It was the consensus of the board to develop the bank as needed and continue to use farming practices to manage the remaining acres.

**ADMINISTRATOR:** Administrator Halstensgard and Matt Fischer discussed the modified 1W1P timeline. The plan is out for public comment. The review period ends January 19<sup>th</sup>. The Policy Committee will need to schedule a public hearing for the end of February or early March. Mr. Fischer suggested the District start to look at priority projects to include in the workplan. The Oak Crest Coulee and Hay Creek subwatershed were mentioned as priorities.

There was discussion on investing the money received from the County for the CD 16 project. A **motion** was made by Manager Wensloff, seconded by Manager Voll to authorize the Treasurer and Administrator to invest the funds. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

The next meeting will be February 1, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. After a **motion** by Manager Braaten and seconded by Manager Voll, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



LaVerne Voll, Secretary



Tracy Halstensgard, Administrator