



# LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Board of Managers  
Wednesday, October 24, 2018  
Carver County Government Center, 602 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 7:00 p.m.  
Approved January 7, 2019

## 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

On Wednesday, October 24, 2018, at 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Carver County Government Center, 602 East 4th Street, Chaska, Minnesota, President Hartmann called to order the meeting of the Board of Managers of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) and asked for roll call to be taken. The following Managers were present: Manager Adam Frey, and President Jesse Hartmann. In addition, the following were also present: Linda Loomis, Naiad Consulting, LLC, LMRWD Administrator; Della Schall Young, Young Environmental Consulting Group, LLC, Technical Consultant; John Kolb, Rinke Noonan, Legal Counsel; Dr. Carrie Jennings, Freshwater Society; Lisa Frenette, Frenette Legislative Advisors; and Lindsey Albright, Dakota SWCD

## 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Administrator Loomis requested the removal of the September 17, 2018 regular meeting minutes.

**President Hartmann made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

## 3. CITIZEN FORUM

There were no citizens who wished to address the board.

## 4. CONSENT AGENDA

Vice President Hartmann introduced the item.

**A. Approve Minutes for July 18, 2018, August 15, 2018 & ~~September 17, 2018~~ Regular Meeting**

**B. Receive and file Financial Report**

**C. Presentation of Invoices for payment**

- i. Scott County SWCD - Q3 monitoring services
- ii. Bruce Bergo - 2018 Cost Share Program
- iii. US Bank Equipment Finance - October 2018 copier rental
- iv. Rinke Noonan - July 2018 legal expenses
- v. Star Tribune - Publication of August 26, 2018 public hearing notice
- vi. Carver County Finance Department - Q3 accounting services

**D. Metro-area Watershed Based Funding Grant Agreement**

**E. Lower Minnesota River Dredge Management Grant Agreement**

**F. Approval of replacement copier**

**G. Master Water Steward**

**H. Chimney Pines HOA 2018 Cost Share report**

**I. Bergo 2018 Cost Share report**

**President Hartmann made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the September minutes removed. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Presentation of *Sedimentation Accumulation in the Floodplain of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed* by Dr. Carrie Jennings**

Administrator Loomis introduced Dr. Carrie Jennings from the Freshwater Society.

Dr. Jennings said this presentation is similar to what she presented at the Water Resource Conference held last week in St. Paul.

Dr. Jennings said the region they are interested in is between Jordan and Fort Snelling. She explained the geological history of the Minnesota River Valley, after the Glacial River Warren receded and left the tributaries high dry. She said the formation of this river valley set it up to accumulate sediment.

She noted that as the flows have increased over the past couple decades, has the amount of sediment accumulating increased. She said it certainly looks like it has. She told of her observations with an archeological survey and how that made it seem like the valley is aggrading.

Dr. Jennings walked the Board through the report that was included in the meeting packet. She talked about how they study dated the sediment using plant pollen, which is less expensive than carbon dating would have cost. She said Rice Lake, in Shakopee, and Coleman Lake, in Bloomington, were chosen for the sediment study. Sediments were compared to nearby upland lakes, Round Lake, Lotus and Mitchell. The upland lakes are not subjected to the same sediment inundation as Rice and Coleman, but they should be exposed to the same pollens.

She spoke about the Lac Core lab at the University of Minnesota. She explained how the sediment cores were evaluated and what was looked for in the cores. Half of each core taken will be archived at the University. She said there are lots of questions, like why are the lakes still there, if they have been aggrading over such a long period of time. She said they tried to correlate events to changes in the sediment, such as floods and fires, to better date the sediments. She explained the pollen profiles and what the changes in pollen levels and types of pollen indicate.

Ragweed pollen is indicative of European settlement and Oak and Elm pollen are recent type of pollen, as these trees were planted local residents. She pointed out other events that correlate to sediment. She noted that sediment indicates more frequent flooding. She said what the increase in sedimentation implies for levies in Chaska (about 50 years based on current rates of sedimentation)

She said that on could compare LIDAR with cross section of the river to determine rate of aggradation. She noted some other work and studies that have been done, that might be used to determine the rate of sedimentation. She said we need to work on adaptive management strategies for road crossing and trail placement.

Dr. Jennings said the most updated version of the report is on the Google site.

President Hartmann asked if the Minnesota River Valley is filling in at the same rate as Lake Pepin. Dr. Jennings responded that it is clear that the Valley is 50% higher than it was before European settlement, but it currently is not as high as it was up until the 1990s, if you rely on the data in this report. If you look at the total sediment accumulation, it explains more flooding events. She said that there are still some confusing parts of this record. It is not clear why more

sediment is accumulating, because of more floods and water staying longer after flood events. You would assume that would cause more sediment to drop out of the water column.

**B. 2019 Cost Share Program**

Administrator Loomis said she used last year's program parameters and changed the dates. She noted in checking around with other watershed districts they haven't posted their 2019 programs. Nine Mile Creek is increasing their Cost Share Program up to \$5,000 and will fund up to 75% match. Riley/Purgatory/Bluff Creek Watershed District has put their 2019 program on hold, while they evaluate the program criteria and better match the program to the goals of the District. Minnehaha Creek Watershed District has placed its Cost Share Program on hold.

Administrator Loomis recommended staying with what they have.

**President Hartmann made a motion to approve the 2019 Cost Share Program guidelines. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Dredge Management**

**i. Review Process for funding of maintenance of Navigation Channel**

Administrator Loomis said she doesn't have any more to add other than what was reported in the Executive Summary. She noted that Manager Frey attended the information meeting with the River Terminal Operators

President Hartmann asked for a summary of the meeting. Attorney Kolb said the information meeting was well attended. He said most of those present wanted to know why the LMRWD was proposing this. He reported of the information that was shared with those in attendance.

Della Young, technical consultant for the District, said that another important thing that came out of the meeting was the need for a united front when approaching the state for funding of dredge management.

**ii. Vernon Avenue Dredge Material Management site**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**iii. Private Dredge Material Placement**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**B. Watershed Management Plan**

Administrator Loomis said Plan has been approved by BWSR and is ready for the Board to adopt. Legal counsel prepared a resolution to be adopted.

Attorney Kolb explained the resolution. He noted the resolution implements the capital improvement plan and authorizes staff to adopt rules. He noted that rules would apply to unincorporated areas of the District and MNDOT projects.

**President Hartmann made a motion to approve Resolution 18-14. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

**C. 2019 Legislative Action**

Administrator Loomis introduced Lisa Frenette. She said she is looking forward to helping the board accomplish the goals.

Administrator Loomis said if Managers have specific goals for the upcoming session they should let staff know. Ms. Frenette asked about the level of funding. Ms. Frenette noted there is interest in resurrecting a bill previously introduced by Representative Morrie Lanning.

Attorney Kolb noted that staff will be preparing a list of priorities for the 2019 legislative sessions.

**D. Education and Outreach Plan**

There was no new information to report since the last update.

**E. LMRWD Projects**

**i. Eden Prairie Area #3 Stabilization**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**ii. Riley Creek Cooperative Project with Riley/Purgatory/Bluff Creek WD**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**iii. Seminary Fen ravine stabilization project**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**iv. East Chaska Creek (Carver County Watershed Based Funding)**

Administrator Loomis said the work plans for projects to be funded by the Watershed Based Funding, were provided in the meeting packet. All work plans need to be authorized for the watershed-based funding.

Administrator Loomis noted a timeline was handed out at the meeting for all projects.

**v. Schroeder Acres Park (Scott County Watershed Based Funding)**

The work plan for this project was included in the meeting packet and should be authorized by the Board

**vi. Shakopee Downtown BMO Retrofit (Scott County Watershed Based Funding)**

The work plan for this project was included in the meeting packet and should be authorized by the Board

**vii. PLOC ( Prior Lake Outlet Channel) Restoration (Scott County Watershed Based Funding)**

The work plan for this project was included in the meeting packet and should be authorized by the Board

**viii. Dakota County Fen Gap Analysis and Conceptual Model (Dakota County Watershed Based Funding)**

The work plan for this project was included in the meeting packet and should be authorized by the Board

**ix. Hennepin County Chloride Project (Hennepin County Watershed Based Funding)**

The work plan for this project was included in the meeting packet and should be authorized by the Board

**x. Vegetation Management Plan**

This project is in the LMRWD Watershed Management Plan's capital improvement program. A work plan was included in the meeting packet and should be authorized by the Board.

**xi. Sustainable Lake Management Plan - Trout Lakes**

This project is in the LMRWD Watershed Management Plan's capital improvement program. A work plan was included in the meeting packet and should be authorized by the Board.

**xii. Geomorphic Assessment of Trout Streams**

This project is in the LMRWD Watershed Management Plan's capital improvement program. A work plan was included in the meeting packet and should be authorized by the Board.

**President Hartmann made a motion to authorize all work plans. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

**F. Project/Plan Reviews**

**i. MN Valley State Trail - EAW (Environmental Assessment Worksheet)**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**ii. Hennepin County - CSAH 61 - Flying Cloud Drive**

Administrator Loomis said the site was inspected and reported that the contractor underestimated the amount of erosion control would be needed on the project. Staff is recommending doing periodic inspections biweekly, after major rain events and after the ground is frozen and button up for the season, begin again after work commences.

**President Hartmann made a motion to authorize staff to inspect the project as recommended by staff. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

**iii. MNDOT - I494/TH 5/TH 55 Mill & Overlay project**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**iv. MNDOT - I35W Bridge Replacement**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**v. MNDOT - I494 from TH169 to Minnesota River**

Administrator Loomis said the District was notified about a project for improvements on I494 from 169 to the MN River. The goal is to increase the capacity on 494. The project is schedule to begin in 2019 with completion in expected in 2021.

She noted managing stormwater from the project will be a challenge

**vi. City of Shakopee - Amazon Fulfillment Center drainage**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**vii. City of Eagan - Stormwater Management Plan, Water Quality & Wetland Management and Comprehensive Plan**

Administrator Loomis said staff reviewed the local surface water plans and comprehensive plans. She noted that the cities have been provided with the LMRWD comments and staff is recommending approval of the Local Surface Water Management Plans for the cities of Eagan, Eden Prairie and Lilydale. Resolutions approving the Plans have been prepared and can be adopted in one motion.

**President Hartmann made a motion to approve Resolution 18-15. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

**viii. City of Eden Prairie - Aspire Eden Prairie 2040 Draft Plan**

**President Hartmann made a motion to approve Resolution 18-16. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

**ix. City of Lilydale - 2040 Draft Comprehensive Plan**

**President Hartmann made a motion to approve Resolution 18-17. The motion was seconded by Manager Frey. The motion carried unanimously.**

**x. MAC/LMRWD/MCWD boundary realignment**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**xi. Fort Snelling - Dominion Housing**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**xii. USACOE/USFWS - Bass Ponds, Marsh & Wetland**

No information other than what was reported in the Executive Summary.

**G. MPCA Soil Reference Values - no change since last update**

No new information since last update.

**7. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Administrator Report:** Administrator Loomis reported on MAWD's response to the request from the Heron Lake Watershed District regarding statements made by speakers at the Minnesota River Boat Tour.

**B. President:** No report

**C. Managers:** No report

**D. Committees:** No report

**E. Legal Counsel:** No report

**F. Engineer:** No report

**8. ADJOURN**

**Manager Hartmann made a motion to adjourn. Manager Frey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm. The next meeting of the LMRWD Board of Managers will be Monday, November 19, 2018 and will be held at the Carver County Government Center, 600 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN.**

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Dave Raby, Secretary

Attest:

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Linda Loomis, Administrator