

Sauk River Watershed District

524 Fourth Street South

Sauk Centre, MN 56378

Phone: (320) 352-2231 Fax: (320) 352-6455

Website: www.srwdmn.org

Regular Meeting

October 7, 2008

President Kral called the meeting to order. Managers present: Coughlin, Hensley, Kral, Kuseske, Kutter, Raeker, Rettig, Rothstein and Mostad. Also present: Bob and Jan Bjork, John Kolb, Attorney; and Starla Arceneau, Interim Administrator and Recording Secretary.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The proposed agenda was reviewed. A motion was made by Manager Rothstein to approve the agenda with additions. Manager Kuseske seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

After reviewing the items on the consent agenda, a motion was made by Manager Kutter and seconded by Manager Raeker carried unanimously to approve the following items on the said agenda: September 18 minutes, Treasurer's Report for September 16 and 7, State Revolving Funds and Appropriations. The motion passed with all in favor.

The minutes from September 2nd were reviewed. Manager Coughlin made a motion to approve with the recommended changes. Manager Kutter seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The board reviewed the Employee Performance Appraisal and Self Evaluation Forms. Manager Coughlin made a motion to adopt the Employee Performance Appraisal and Self Evaluation Forms. Manager Rothstein seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The Activity Report was reviewed. Arceneau reviewed the Todd County Assessment for the Weed Harvester. Manager Rothstein made a motion to certify a \$5 minimum assessment for any parcels under \$5. Manager Coughlin seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The board discussed setting up interviews for the Administrator. The board agreed that they will rank the applications and send them to the office no later than October 15th and to set up the interviews for October 21st.

The proposed budget was reviewed. Manager Kutter made a motion to advertise the proposed budget with the new pay equity figures and to set the public hearing for November 18th. Manager Rothstein seconded it. The motion passed with Manager Hensley opposing.

Manager Kuseske and Attorney Kolb reported on the County Ditch 9 informational meeting. Manager Coughlin made a motion to move forward with the maintenance and to have Dave Bailey complete a design plan and put together a comprehensive bid. Manager Mostad seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Rothstein reported on several landowners who are interested in developing catch ponds to

hold water that can be used to irrigate their fields. There was discussion on the benefit of removing the sediment from the ponds for fertilizer. Manager Coughlin made a motion to direct the staff to collect soil samples for nutrients from the Schaeffer's farm and from the JD2 ponds and meet with the landowners. It was then amended to have up to 5 board members work with the staff on a volunteer basis to collect the samples. Manager Rothstein seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Kuseske reported that landowners on CD 15 and 17 would like to complete ditch maintenance on their portion of the ditch. Manager Coughlin made a motion to table until Attorney Kolb can prepare a hold harmless document.

Attorney Kolb gave the Attorney's Report. Kolb reviewed the letter Manager Hensley requested regarding the buffer strips along JD2. Manager Hensley will contact the County to get a copy of the letter. Kolb reviewed Section 13 of the Data Practice Act regarding the resumes of the applicants. Kolb also reviewed the memorandum on the Districts authority to enter property. Manger Coughlin made a motion to adopt as an interim policy until a new Administrator can be placed. Manager Mostad seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

There was discussion on canceling future board meetings. The board agreed that the president has the authority to cancel any meeting if necessary.

Bob Bjork questioned the Big Sauk Lake TMDL. Arceneau will call Bjork on the details on the TMDL.

Manager Rothstein suggested that after board meetings, a brief description of what occurred be submitted to the local papers. Manager Raeker volunteered to work on a format and gather the other media's information.

Manager Rettig mentioned that Eden Valley had some culverts that need maintenance. The staff will see if there is any cost share dollars available.

Manager Kuseske reported on the TMDL's Conference he attended in Mankato.

Manager Hensley questioned the usage of credit cards and late fees. Manager Coughlin made a motion to have the President and Interim Administrator approve the payment of the credit cards so the District does not incur late fees. Manager Hensley seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The 2008 MAWD Annual Conference is scheduled for December 4-6. Arceneau was asked again to be the conference Secretary. Manager Kutter made a motion to allow Arceneau to attend the conference. Manager Mostad seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, Virgil Rettig
Recording Secretary, Starla Arceneau