

Sauk River Watershed District

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Regular Meeting

Approved

October 16, 2007

President Kutter called the meeting to order. Managers present: Hetland, Hensley, Kral, Kuseske, Kutter, Rettig Robinson and Mostad. Manager absent: Coughlin. Others in attendance were several concerned citizens, Attorney, Jerry VonKorff; Lowell Enerson, Administrator; Noah Czech, Inspector Technician, Adam Hjelm, Education Coordinator and Starla Arceneau, Recording Secretary.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The minutes of the October 2nd meeting were reviewed. Manager Robinson made a motion to approve the October 2nd minutes with changes for clarification. Manager Mostad seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The board reviewed the treasurer's report. Manager Kuseske made a motion to approve checks 16833 thru 16892. Manager Mostad seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

President Kutter welcomed the public and asked for introduction. Kutter then opened the discussion to the public. Several citizens, from CEO's to Lake Associations, stated their support and the necessity of the Sauk River Watershed District.

Mark Deutchman and Jerry VonKorff gave a presentation on the basic understanding of the Eden Valley Project and how the project could possibly be paid for. The Eden Valley public hearing is scheduled for November 20th at the Eden Valley High School.

Noah Czech reviewed the JD2 Sed Pond Maintenance Plan. Manager Hetland made a motion to approve the maintenance plan. Manager Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

There was discussion on establishing liability forms for hunters to sign before access to the districts land. Manager Hensley will contact International Paper for a copy of their liability form.

There also was discussion on necessity of having written permission to access the district's land. Manager Hensley made a motion to require written approval from the Board for access to the Districts JD 2 Sediment Pond land. Manager Hetland seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The board reviewed a sample letter that will be sent out regarding the ditch assessment. Czech asked for an interest rate for the new ditch assessments. Manager Kuseske made a motion to set the interest rate at 3.5% for two years. Manager Hetland seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Administrator Enerson reviewed two quotes to replace the district's server. Manager Robinson made a motion to purchase the server from Tech Check for \$12,261 plus shipping and taxes. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The board reviewed State Revolving Funds #05-218. Manager Hetland made a motion to approve SRF #05-218. Manager Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The board reviewed the letter of resignation from Noah Czech. Manger Mostad made a motion approved Czech's resignation letter. Manger Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor. Administrator Enerson suggested that Brian Sanoski replace Czech. Manager Hetland made a motion to have Brian Sanoski be the new Inspector and increase his wage to \$14 per hour. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Administrator Enerson mentioned that Mark Deutchman called and has requested a motion to submit the Eden Valley Engineer report to the Department of Natural Resources and the Board of Water and Soil for their review. Manager Rettig made a motion to send the report to the DNR and BWSR for their review. Manager Kuseske seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

After a brief tour of the office building Manager Mostad made a motion to have Managers Hensley and Kral work with Gene Harren to complete the needed maintenance work and to hire an inspector to test the building for mold. Manager Hetland seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The Minnesota Association of Watershed District's Annual Conference will be held November 29 thru December 1st. All registrations should be turned into the office no later than October 31st.

The calendar and activity report was reviewed.

Manager Mostad gave a brief history report on the establishment of the Watershed District and its many accomplishments.

No Budget Committee Report.

No Nominating Committee Report

Manager Robinson gave the Personnel & Salary Committee report. Manager Mostad made a motion to interview the two recommended firms on Wednesday November 7th to perform an assessment on the Administrator's performance. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

No Rules Committee Report.

No Weed Harvest Committee Report.

Manager Robinson gave the TMDL/Water Quality Committee Report. The committee met yesterday with the American Farm Land Trust on financing and funding water quality trading.

No Professional Services Committee Report.

Manager Robinson suggested suspending the board meetings until the evaluator has a chance to talk with the Managers and the Administrator. The board felt that was not an option at this time due to the Eden Valley hearing on November 20th.

Attorney VonKorff handed out the proposed minutes for the closed meeting and his recommended changes to the September 18th minutes. The board will review further at the November 7th meeting.

There was discussion on if the District should have a booth at the MAWD conference. Manager Rettig made a motion to have a booth at the conference. Manager Mostad seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Hensley suggested looking into an 800 number for the District. Manager Hensley then made a motion to have the staff get quotes on an 800 number. Manger Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Hensley asked for permission to access the District's land on Judicial Ditch 2 Sediment Ponds for the deer hunting season. Manager Rettig made a motion to allow Manager Hensley hunting access to the District's land. Manager Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, Virgil Rettig

Recording Secretary, Starla Arceneau