

# Sauk River Watershed District

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Regular Meeting

Approved

February 19, 2008

President Kral called the meeting to order. Managers present: Coughlin, Hetland, Hensley, Kral, Kuseske, Rettig, Robinson and Mostad. Manager absent: Kutter. Also present: Jason Weinerman, BWSR; Bob Bjork, Citizen; Auditor Peggy Mueller, HLB Tautges Redpath; Attorney, John Kolb; Adam Hjelm, Education Coordinator; Brian Sanoski, Ditch Inspector 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 Rettig to approve the agenda with additions. Manager Coughlin seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

After reviewing the items on the consent agenda, a motion was made by Manager Coughlin and seconded by Manager Robinson and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the said agenda: minutes of the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and the Treasurer's Report to approve checks # 17237-17278.

Peggy Mueller from HLB Tautges Redpath attended the meeting to present the 2006-2007 Fiscal Year Audit Report. Manager Robinson made a motion to approve the 2006-2007 Fiscal Year Audit. Manager Coughlin seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor. The Interim Administrator informed the board that HLB Tautges Redpath cost to complete the fiscal audit has well exceeded their bid of \$8100 and they have requested the board consider adjusting their bid to cover the overrun. Manager Robinson made a motion to have Attorney Kolb work with the budget committee and the auditing firm to prepare a comparison proposal for the board to review. Manger Coughlin seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Brian Sanoski reviewed a permit application for a bridge replacement on CR 176 over Getchell Creek. Manager Robinson made a motion to approve the permit with the recommended special provisions. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The Activity Report was reviewed. The Interim Administrator asked for the board's direction on how they would like the Activity Report to be presented. The staff suggested a trial run of a more detailed activity report to keep the lines of communications open with the board. The board really liked the new Mark Your Calendars but suggested adding the staff's important dates to keep them informed of the staff's workload.

The Budget Committee Report was given by Manager Coughlin. The committee will meet after the board meeting.

The Nominating Committee Report was given by President Kral. Manager Kutter will be the new chair for the Nominating Committee.

The Personnel and Salary Committee Report was given by Manager Robinson. Manager Robinson informed the board that the meeting with Sharon Klumpp is now scheduled for March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Freeport City Hall from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

The board reviewed compensation and reimbursements for the Managers per diems and extra per diems.

Managers Coughlin and Hensley, along with the Interim Administrator, met with Kathleen Murphy on Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> to start the process of the Pay Equity and Comparable Worth Study. Manager Coughlin made a motion to pay the Interim Administrator double pay for the time she worked on Presidents Day. Manager Mostad seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Coughlin also suggested that the Interim Administrator be temporarily compensated for the extra responsibilities until a new Administrator is placed. Manager Hensley made a motion to have the Personnel Committee meet to review any extra compensation that would be retroactive to February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Manager Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Kuseske gave the Rules Committee Report. The Rules Committee will meet with the Local Agencies, Cities and Townships on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Manager Coughlin gave a friendly reminder that the board previously adopted a motion that directed the Attorney to review the existing rules and give the board direction on how to combine with the NPDES rules.

No Professional Services Committee Report.

No Weed Harvest Project Committee Report.

Manager Robinson gave the Water Quality Trading Project Report. Managers Coughlin, Kuseske and Robinson reported on the Water Quality Meeting they attended at the Stearns County SWCD office. Manager Robinson also handed out a letter of commitment that states "The Sauk River Watershed District (SRWD) is in full support of the Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) project proposal entitled: *Starting it local: Transferable Market Infrastructure for Trading Water Quality Credits & Ecosystem Services in the Upper Mississippi River Basin*". Contingent on the award of the CIG project, SRWD will commit a cash match of \$22,500 and an in-kind match of \$66,400 over the three-year project. After considerable discussion, Manager Mostad made a motion to sign the letter of commitment. Manager Coughlin seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Attorney's Report was given by John Kolb. Kolb reviewed Lowell Enerson's counter offer for 4 months severance instead of two. Manager Robinson made a motion to approve the additional two months in Lowell Enerson's severance package with Manager's Coughlin amendment to designate the unrestricted reserve funds as the source of the severance. Manager Hensley seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor. Attorney Kolb then asked for a motion to allow President Kral to sign the new agreement. Manager Robinson made a motion to allow President Kral to sign the new agreement. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Bob Bjork asked how long the Pay Equity Report will take before it is completed and how it will affect the temporary staff. Manager Coughlin mentioned that the board has approved an additional 9 months for the temporary staff and that the first phase of the report is due by February 27<sup>th</sup> and the final report is alternatively scheduled for the end of April.

The board reviewed sending Brian Sanoski to the 2008 Agricultural Drainage Design and Water Management Workshop on March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in Willmar. Manager Robinson made a motion to send Brian Sanoski to the Drainage Workshop. Manager Coughlin seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, Virgil Rettig  
Recording Secretary, Starla Arceneau