

Sauk River Watershed District

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Regular Meeting

Approved

February 4, 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; Keith Pilgrim and Brian Huser, Barr Engineering; Bob and Jan Bjork, Jim Zilka and Tim Weir, Sauk Lake Residents; Auditor Peggy Mueller, HLB Tautges Redpath; Attorney, Kurt Deter; Lowell Enerson, Administrator; Lynn Nelson, BMP Coordinator; and Starla Arceneau, 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 Hetland 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 Rettig and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the said agenda: minutes of the January 7th and 15th regular meeting, Treasurer's Report to approve checks # 17140-17236 and to purchase a Spectra Precision Laser GL 412.

The purchase of an additional GPS unit was reviewed. Manager Robinson made a motion to purchase the GPS unit. Manager Mostad seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Adopt-A-Highway was reviewed. President Kral suggested that the staff look for an area along a County Road instead of I-94 for safety reasons. Manager Hensley made a motion to table until staff can research County Road areas. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Peggy Mueller from HLB Tautges Redpath attended the meeting to inform the Board that the 2006-2007 Fiscal Year Audit will be given at the February 19th board meeting but wanted to make known a few findings that will need to be addressed.

Keith Pilgrim and Brian Huser from Barr Engineering gave a power-point presentation on the findings of the Sauk Lake Sediment Core Study completed in 2007. The Board thanked Pilgrim and Huser for an informational presentation.

Administrator Enerson mentioned that Kathleen Murphy recommended three Managers work with her on completing the Pay Equity and Comparable Worth Study. President Kral appointed Managers Coughlin, Hetland and Hensley.

Administrator Enerson reviewed a permit application for a bridge replacement on CR 176 over Getchell Creek. Manager Rettig made a motion to approve the permit. Manager Robinson seconded

it. After considerable discussion regarding erosion issues the earlier motion died and then Manager Coughlin made a motion to table until more information can be obtained from the Engineer. Manager Kuseske seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for March 13th at the Kelly Inn in St. Paul. Managers attending are: Coughlin, Kuseske and Mostad. Manager Kuseske mentioned that the MAWD board recommended that all Legislative Districts meet together with their Local Legislatures to address their concerns at one time.

The Activity Report was reviewed. Administrator Enerson reviewed the proposed By-Laws and the District's 2008 Work Plan that the board can review and address at a later date. Manager Robinson had several comments on the activity report and suggested that more information is necessary and that the staff should proof their reports prior to sending them out.

President Kral appointed Manager Coughlin as the Chair of the Budget Committee. There was discussion on how to obtain future funding for Best Management Practices. The board suggested that the staff continue to write grants but also have the Budget Committee address future funding options.

No Nominating Committee Report.

The Personnel and Salary Committee Report was given by President Kral. President Kral had asked the Assistant Administrator to set up a meeting with Sharon Klumpp and the Board to review the District Mission. The meeting was scheduled for February 16th at the Freeport City Hall. There was discussion that not all Managers were informed prior to setting up the meeting so Manager Robinson will contact Sharon to reschedule the meeting for either February 26 or March 25th.

Manager Kuseske gave the Rules Committee Report. The board reviewed a letter from the Stearns County Municipal League. The Rules Committee will meet with the Citizen Advisory Committee on February 13th and then meet with the Local Agencies, Cities and Townships on February 28th. Manager Coughlin resigned from the Rules Committee due to the lack of communications between the staff and the appropriate committee members. President Kral appointed Manager Rettig to replace Manager Coughlin on the Rules Committee.

A very frustrated Hetland gave notice that he is submitting his letter of resignation to the Stearns County Commissioners on Tuesday, February 5th.

Manager Kuseske left due to another commitment.

The Professional Services Committee met on January 31, 2008 and recommends that the District hire John Kolb as the primary attorney and keep Jerry VonKorff on as a Human Resources Attorney and to hire Barr Engineering as the Primary Engineering Firm with Wenck Engineering as the Secondary Firm. Manager Hensley made a motion to obtain John Kolb as the Primary Legal Attorney and Jerry VonKorff as the Human Resources Attorney and to send a letter of appreciation to Attorney VonKorff. Manager Coughlin seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor. Manager Coughlin then made a motion to appoint Barr Engineering as the Primary Engineer and Wenck as the Secondary Engineering Service. Manager Hensley seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

No Weed Harvest Project Committee Report.

Manager Robinson gave an update on the Water Quality Trading Project.

Manager Robison opened the conversation of where the Board really wants to go from here. Manager Coughlin made a motion to remove his motion for consideration in regards to the employment of Lowell Enerson from the table. Manager Rettig seconded it. A role call vote was taken: Coughlin-aye, Rettig-aye, Hetland-aye, Robinson-aye, Hensley-aye and Mostad- nay. The motion passed. Manager Coughlin then made a motion to cease the employment relationship between the Sauk River Watershed District and Lowell Enerson effective immediately. Manager Robinson seconded it. A role call vote was taken: Coughlin-aye, Rettig-aye, Hetland-abstained, Robinson-aye, Hensley-aye and Mostad- nay. The motion passed.

Manager Coughlin made a motion to have Attorney Deter stay until the Administrator departs and obtain the keys, passwords and any other important documents. Manager Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

For clarification, Manager Mostad made a motion to appoint the Assistant Administrator as the Interim Administrator. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, Virgil Rettig
Recording Secretary, Starla Arceneau