

Sauk River Watershed District

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Regular Meeting

Approved

March 1, 2005

President Cook called the meeting to order. Managers present: Cook, Hensley, Kral, Kuseske, Kutter, Mostad, Schmidt and Rettig. Manager absent: Hunstiger. Others present were Bob Beduhn, HDR Engineering; Bob Bjork, BSLA Association; Andy Nelson and Rick Packer, Westwood Development; Don Otte, Stearns County Commissioner; John Kolb, Attorney; Julie Klocker, Administrator; Starla Arceneau, Office Administrator.

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

The board reviewed the minutes of the February 15 meeting. The minutes were approved by general consent.

The board reviewed the treasurer's report. Manager Kral then made a motion to approve the treasurer's report comprised of checks 13768 through 13801. Manager Schmidt seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Bob Bjork, Administrator Klocker and Attorney Kolb presented the final version of the Big Sauk Lake Aquatic Plant Management Plan to the Board. Klocker and Kolb have both reviewed the final version and recommend approval. Manager Kutter made a motion to sign the management Plan. Manager Schmidt seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

John Kolb reviewed the Resolution to transfer the funds from the Sauk Lake Project to the new Big Sauk Lake Aquatic Plant Harvesting Project. The managers approved by general consent to wait until the 30 day appeal process is over before approving the resolution. The Resolution will be added to the next meeting agenda.

Administrator Klocker gave an update on the search for a new truck for the Big Sauk Lake Aquatic Plant Harvesting Project. Gene Harren is obtaining quotes for the committee to review.

Andy Nelson and Rick Packer from Westwood Development attended the meeting to discuss the proposed Brentwood Hill development outlet to County Ditch 17 and addressed the staff and board concerns regarding flow capacity of the ditch. Attorney Kolb proposed that an evaluation of ditch capacity and recommended the board hire an engineer to evaluate the ditch system. There was discussion about who pays for this type of study and there was no resolution to this issue. It is expected that the developer will pay at least a portion of the expense. Manager Kutter made a motion to hire Houston Engineering with a timeline of April 19th, 2005. Manager Mostad seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor. The Board then directed Klocker and Kolb to meet with Houston Engineering as soon as possible to begin the evaluation process.

Administrator Klocker asked the board for their completed survey for the R.I.V.E.R. award. The 2005 recipient will be given their award at the Pheasant-Forever banquet to be held on March 19th. Managers interested in attending must contact the office no later than Friday, March 18. Manager

Kuseske was nominated to present the award. However, since this is our only opportunity to provide recognition to landowners working in our BMP program, all Managers are encouraged to attend.

Manager Schmidt gave a report on the Eden Valley Committee meeting on Monday, February 28th. The committee was given the task of interviewing and recommending to the Board an engineer to appoint for the Eden Valley Project. Manager Schmidt made a motion to hire Houston Engineering. Manager Kuseske seconded it. Manager Rettig suggested that there are residents who are not aware of this project and that they might be assessed. There was considerable discussion about whether that is a lack of communication between the City Council and the residents of Eden Valley. Manager Rettig recommended an informational meeting before appointing an engineer. Attorney Kolb and Administrator Klockner informed that Board that Houston Engineering proposed public forums that could help gather information and inform the residents of the upcoming study. A roll call vote was taken on the prior motion. Manager Hensley-Nay, Rettig-Nay, Schmidt-Aye, Kuseske-Aye, Kutter-Nay, Kral-Nay, Mostad-Nay. The motion failed. The Managers stated that the project is a good project but would like to meet with the Eden Valley council members regarding the issue of informing the public of the project before appointing an Engineer. Attorney Kolb commented that it sounds like Madam President, the next board meeting the board wants the next meeting in Eden Valley. And at that time we will go back over the petition and what the petition is all about and the potential costs are going to be. This is what the engineers cost will be and to make sure the city understands that and that the city still wants to proceed with this project.

The Office Administrator gave a presentation on the District's accounting and administration procedures.

Administrator Klockner gave an update on the Lower Sauk Project. The first committee meeting was held on February 24th to review the scope of the future petition. Administrator Klockner has scheduled a meeting with the City of Rockville and is trying to line up a meeting with Cold Spring.

Administrator Klockner reviewed Resolution 05-02 in regards to applying for a Board of Water and Soil Resources Challenge grant. The grant is a result of Klockner's work with Greg Berg, Stearns SWCD Shoreland Specialist, on trying to target BMP's to sensitive areas in the Sauk Lake and Grand Lake watersheds. Manager Kutter made a motion to approve Resolution 05-02. Manager Kuseske seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Kuseske is still reviewing a drainage request for access to the property north of Judicial Ditch 1.

The calendar was reviewed. Administrator Klockner will be working with the City of St. Cloud to give a presentation at the Upper Mississippi River Sourcewater Protection Plan meeting on March 8. She invited the Board to attend. She also will be attending the Spring Hill Township annual meeting on March 8 with Dan Lais, DNR Area Hydrologist, to present the results of the Stony Creek study to the township. Klockner will be attending the MECA conference March 10 and 11 and giving a presentation with Greg Berg on the Melrose Stream Restoration Project. The Legislative Breakfast was changed to March 23rd.

Administrator Klockner and Ray Bohn have been working together on the District's proposed legislation to increase in the District's General Fund. Representative Heidgerken has agreed to get the remaining signatures needed. The signatures on the Senate side have been obtained.

Administrator Klockner gave an update on the Osakis Stormwater Project. She stated that the East Side pond project is proceeding in the planning stages and that she and Lynn Nelson will be meeting with Tom Klemenhagen, Gary Astleford, Gary Nordstrom and Jeff Hrubes to discuss opportunities and plans.

President Cook signed the Contractors Agreement for the Judicial Ditch Sediment Pond Project.

The Attorney's Report was given by John Kolb. Kolb reviewed a bill regarding grass strips that will be introduced in legislation. Kolb also gave an update on the Heid Herges Development.

Manager Kuseske commented that Duinick Brothers Construction is being reviewed by the EPA for the work they were involved in on the Trunk Highway 27 Project in Osakis.

President Cook informed of the board of the merger between the Minnesota Lakes Association, Rivers Council of Minnesota and the Freshwater Society.

Manager Kral made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Manager Kutter seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Acting Secretary, Sharen Kutter
Recording Secretary, Starla Arceneau