

Sauk River Watershed District

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Regular Meeting

Approved

April 18, 2006

Vice-President Kuseske called the meeting to order. Managers present: Cook, Kral, Kuseske, Hermanutz, Mostad, Rettig and Robinson. Managers absent: Hensley and Kutter. Also present were: Chris Meehan, Wenck Engineering; Jason Weinerman, Board of Water & Soil Resources; Joel Dasher, City of Freeport; Tracy Ekola, SEH; Amy Trisko, Educational Coordinator; Julie Klocker, Administrator; Starla Arceneau, Office Administrator.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

The board reviewed the minutes of the March 21st meeting. Manager Mostad made a motion to have the staff review the tapes to verify Manager Hermanutz's comments before adding them the minutes. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor. Manager Rettig then made a motion to approve the March 21st minutes after the comments have been verified. Manager Kral seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The board reviewed the minutes of the April 4th meeting. Manager Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes with an additional paragraph in regards to Managers asking for their comments to be addressed in the minutes. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

There was no treasurer's report to review. Manager Cook made a motion to approve checks 15036 thru 15062. Manager Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Amy Trisko, the Educational Coordinator gave a presentation on the District's Education programs. The board thanked Amy for an informative presentation.

Chris Meehan gave a presentation on evaluating stormwater for developments. Manager Hermanutz commented that he would like to see more information on how much phosphorus is being discharged from the stormwater ponds before approving new permits.

Manager Kuseske reviewed the memorandum Chris Meehan sent on his review of the MinnCan Project. Manager Kuseske asked the board to review and give comments to the Administrator by April 25th.

Administrator Klocker and Manager Kral did a site inspection on a possible blocking of a natural waterway near Lake Osakis. They requested the landowner remove the blockage and restore the natural flow. Administrator Klocker or <Manager Kral will keep the board informed when more information becomes available.

Administrator Klocker reviewed the River Links Development near Cold Spring. Chris Meehan has reviewed the plans and requested more information on the calculations that will need to be revised. There was considerable discussion on the district's rules on defining the discharge of any pollutants into our lakes and streams.

Administrator Klocker reviewed a contract with SEH Engineering for \$18,600 to help finalize the district's proposed rules. Manager Mostad suggested going out for proposals from the two engineering firms the district has used in the past and to wait until a full board is present to make a decision. Manager Robison commented for the record that "the board cannot operate with a total quorum of nine in our mist to do business and do not believe that all managers will all be here to conduct a meeting". Administrator Klocker reminded the board that last year they approve a pool of engineering firms and knew of SEH work on the rules, Wenck Engineering reviewing permits and Barr Engineering to working on the Lower Sauk Study and Judicial Ditch 2 Sediment Ponds. Manager Cook made a motion to approve the SEH contract. Manager Robinson seconded it. A roll call was taken: Mostad- Nay, Kral-Nay, Cook-Aye, Kuseske-Aye, Rettig-Nay, Hermanutz-Nay and Robinson-Aye. The motion failed. Manager Kral then made a motion to go out for request for proposals from engineering firms for assistance in finalizing the district's proposed rules. Manager Hermanutz seconded it. The motion passed with 3 Managers opposing.

Manager Cook reported on the code of conduct on solicitation of donations from local vendors for the summer tour. The board felt that it was not appropriate for the district to solicitate donations for the tour.

Manager Mostad volunteered to pay for and donate his time for a fly-over to take pictures of the summer tour sites for the handout. The board approved by general consent and thanked Manager Mostad.

Manager Mostad reported on the personnel committee's recommended changes to the approved handbook. They are as follows:

- Change the health insurance reimbursement to \$270 which will be taxed on a separate check instead of a separate line on the payroll checks. Manager Rettig made a motion to reimburse the staff \$270 on a separate check that will be taxed. Manger Kral seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Change the sick leave maximum accrued days to 45 instead of 30. Manager Hermanutz made a motion to change the maximum accrued days to 45. Manager Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.
- Change the resignation period to 2 weeks instead of 30 days. Manager Rettig made a motion to change the resignation period to 2 weeks. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Mostad reported that the committee is still reviewing a change in the vacation portion for clarification.

The budget committee met prior to the meeting and will continue to meet to finalize a draft of the 2007-2008 fiscal year budget for the board to review.

Manager Kral has not heard from the contactor on a price to repair the road.

Manager Kuseske reported the ditches are over run with beavers. Kuseske also recommended the staff collect samples when the US Fish and Wildlife burn off their acres to see what actually runs off into the river.

The Calendar was reviewed. The drainage policy will be reviewed at the next regular meeting and the code of conduct will be reviewed at the May 16th meeting.

The District received a letter requesting permission to abate the interest portion for the Department of Natural Resources special assessment on Judicial Ditch 2 sediment ponds. Manager Cook made a motion to deny permission to abate the interest. Manager Robinson seconded it. The motion passed with Manager Hermanutz opposing.

Administrator Klocker reviewed the preliminary results of the Lower Sauk Study.

The Eden Valley public meeting was a success and addressed several issues that the City Council will review.

The board reviewed the capital purchases that are needed. Manager Cook made a motion to purchase a new computer and monitor. Manager Kral seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor. Manager Cook then made a motion to purchase office furniture for the Administrator's office. Manager Rettig seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Administrator Klocker informed the board that the copier is still under contract and to purchase a new color copier now the district will have to pay the remaining 8 months of the contract. Administrator Klocker will contact Marco and try to work out an agreement on trading the present copier for a color copier for the remaining contract.

Administrator Klocker gave an update on the District's conservation easement for the LakeRidge Development on Sauk Lake. The City of Sauk Centre and their attorney are in the process of determining if a zoning change is needed in the conservation easement.

Tracy Ekola asked that local Agencies be updated on the process of the Lower Sauk Project. Administrator Klocker mentioned that an update was just sent out to the agencies and that they will be invited when the results of the diagnostic are completed.

Manager Mostad informed the board that he attended the Douglas County Commissioners meeting with Administrator Klocker.

Manager Cook made a motion to adjourn. Manager Hermanutz seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Secretary, Virgil Rettig
Recording Secretary, Starla Arceneau