

Sauk River Watershed District
Approved Minutes
August 16, 2005 meeting
Cold Spring City Hall

Present: Managers Chub Hensley, Roger Hermanutz, Jim Kral, Allan Kuseske, Sharen Kutter, Bob Mostad, Virgil Rettig, Ken Robinson, and Kay Cook. Also present was Administrator Julie Klocker, District Technician Amy Trisko, District Inter Derek Pemble, Jeff Hrubes from MPCA, Stearns County Commissioner Vince Schaefer.

The meeting was called to order by President Hensley.

Approval of Agenda made by Manager Kuseske, seconded by Manager Robinson, motion carried.

Minutes of the August 2 meeting were reviewed and Manager Robinson motioned approval, Manager Hermanutz seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer's report was reviewed with questions on check 14368. Manager Kral motioned approval of checks 14347 thru 14386. Manager Rettig seconded motion carried.

Derek Pemble, summer intern, gave a presentation to the board of work done this summer by Melissa Gettel and him. Melissa was unable to attend. They thanked the District for the opportunity. Administrator Klocker further explained their value to the watershed district as they allowed for two monitoring teams to do monitoring on 19 stream stations and 11 lakes. Nitrates were discussed. The shoreland restoration project on Lake Osakis is doing well.

The proposed 2006-07 budget was presented by Administrator Klocker on behalf of the Budget Committee. In the future there is a goal to lay projects out as an addendum to the levy budget. There was discussion as to the need for an engineer and legal services on a consultant basis; decreasing proposed wages. Manager Robinson motioned levy be set at \$310,000, Manager Mostad seconded; motion carried with Manager Cook dissenting. The Budget Committee will meet after this meeting to make the changes.

Board members per diem rate was discussed as it affects Manager Kuseske when he acts as the ditch inspector for the District. Manager Mostad motioned that as Ditch Inspector he be paid \$20 per hour with a maximum of \$75 per day. Manager Kutter seconded, motion carried. Manager Kuseske abstained.

Personnel Committee met at Charlie's to discuss employee compensation recommendation. Their recommendation was to give \$1000 to each employee to use as they wish including payment of insurance. A question for the auditor is can money be allocated for insurance without it being taxed. Administrator Klocker protested because all the staff did not have the same amount of responsibility nor did they perform equally. Questions raised are to be addressed in the revision of the handbook. Manager Kutter

motioned the board approve the Personnel Committee's recommendation, Manager Rettig seconded resulting in a roll call vote: Managers Rettig, Mostad, Kutter, and Kral voting yes; Managers Robinson, Kuseske, Hermanutz, and Cook voted no. President Hensley cast the tie-breaker vote as a yes.

The Weed Harvester Committee will be meeting next month. Manager Hermanutz requested a memo be sent to the Weed Harvest Committee and the bids for storage of the harvester equipment be obtained and reported at the next meeting. This is to make certain that Manager Mostad is receiving a fair rate for storing the equipment.

President Hensley appointed Managers Hermanutz, Mostad, Kuseske and Cook to the Summer Tour Committee.

Manager Kuseske reported that culverts for JD1 were coming in the next day to go on Butch Dean's property.

Administrator's Report:

Manager Cook motioned purchase of a refridgerator, Manager Kutter seconded, motion carried.

Benchmarking: Manager Cook will bring back to the board some ideas for improving Board understanding for next year's review.

Staff Conference: Manager Mostad motioned three staff be sent to conference, Manager Hermanutz seconded, motion carried.

SRF for Big Sauk: Manager Cook motioned approval of \$5000 for a septic project, Manager Mostad seconded, motion carried.

There was no attorney's report just the information that John Kolb's Reserve Unit has been called up again and that Kurt Detter will be attending one meeting per month in his stead.

Manager Mostad requested approval of his donation of a flag. He applied to his congressman and received one that was flown over the capitol on July 27, 2005. Manager Cook moved acceptance, Manager Kutter seconded, motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted for Manager Rettig by Manager Cook