

Sauk River Watershed District

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Regular Meeting
Approved
August 19, 2008

President Kral called the meeting to order. Managers present: Coughlin, Hensley, Kral, Kuseske, Kutter, Raeker, Rettig, Rothstein and Mostad. Also present: Vince Schaefer, Stearns County Commissioner; Jason Weinerman, BWSR; Jim Egan, SRCL Association; Chris Meehan, Wenck; Clarence Mielke, Osakis Resident; Heather Lehmkuhl, 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 Kuseske seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

After reviewing the items on the consent agenda, a motion was made by Manager Kutter and seconded by Manager Rothstein and carried unanimously to approve the following items on the said agenda: Treasurer's Report, State Revolving Funds and Appropriations. The motion passed with all in favor.

The August 5th, 2008 minutes were reviewed. Manager Rothstein made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Manager Coughlin seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Kathleen Murphy from Murphy Management Consultants reviewed the Pay Equity Act of 1984 and also explained the complete process of the Hay System in developing the three proposals. After discussion, Manager Coughlin made a motion to approve the proposed plan 2 appendix A & B. Manager Kutter seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor. Manager Coughlin then made a motion to approve appendix C & D of the #2 Proposal. Manager Rothstein seconded it. The motion passed with Manager Hensley opposing. Manager Hensley clarified that he supports appendix D but opposes Appendix C.

Manager Coughlin handed out Richmond's Employee Performance Appraisals and Employee Self Evaluation Forms for the board to review and asked that these forms be added to the next agenda for discussion.

The Activity Report was reviewed. President Kral and Arceneau asked for clarification on funeral leave for a great niece, it was the opinion of the board that the handbook was meant for 1st generation only. Manager Kutter made a motion to follow the employee handbook. Manager Hensley seconded it. A roll call vote was taken Coughlin- Nay, Raeker-Aye, Rettig-Aye, Hensley – Aye, Kutter-Aye, Kuseske-Aye, Rothstein-Nay and Mostad-Nay. The motion passed.

Arceneau reviewed a proposal for dollars needed to hire Lehmkuhl and Hjelm as permanent employees and to continue Borgerdering, Gutknecht and Green one or two days a week thru December 2008. Manager Rothstein made a motion to approve Arceneau's proposal with amendments that Lehmkuhl and Hjelm are paid the approved Pay Equity salaries retroactive to July 1st and their vacation be also retroactive back to January 2008. Manager Coughlin seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The board discussed advertising for the Administrator's position. Manager Kutter made a motion to work with Jim Egan, as facilitator, to advertise for an Administrator. Manager Rothstein seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Coughlin made a motion to use the Facilitator to advertise for a Permit/Ditch Inspector.

Chris Meehan from Wenck Associates gave a PowerPoint presentation on Sediment Basins. The board thanked Chris for an informative presentation.

Manager Coughlin suggested that the Budget be reviewed at the September 2nd regular meeting.

Manager Coughlin informed the board that the City of Richmond received \$622,000 (Grant) and \$1.4 million (Loan) to bring their sewer and water extension on the South side of Hwy 23.

Manager Coughlin made a motion to suspend the use of standing committees for the period of one year and for that general issues and items pertaining to budget planning, personnel issues and professional services be considered by the entire watershed board acting as a committee of the whole; and furthermore to rename "committees" dealing with outside entities (weed harvesting, Water Quality Trading, citizen advisory committee, etc.) as board representatives. Manager Kutter seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

Manager Coughlin also made a motion to have the staff compile the last 5 years of adopted policies by the Board. Manager Rothstein seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor. Manager Hensley declined a copy.

No Nominating Committee Report.

No Personnel and Salary Committee Report.

No Rules Report.

No Professional Services Committee Report.

No Weed Harvest Committee Report.

Representation for the Water Quality Trading Program will be Managers Raeker, Coughlin and Kuseske.

Arceneau asked for clarification on if the remaining staff salaries are retroactive to July 1st, 2008. Manager Coughlin made a motion that all staff salaries be retroactive to July 1st 2008. Manager Kuseske seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

There was brief discussion on Ditch Assessment but it was tabled until the September 2nd regular meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, Virgil Rettig

Recording Secretary, Starla Arceneau