



**Sauk River Watershed District Regular Meeting
 MINUTES**

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Located at: Sauk River District Office, Sauk Centre, MN, 6:00 p.m.

Managers Present:	Bill Becker, Paul Hartmann, Lee Bautch, Scott Wittkop, Kevin Lahr, David Zerr, Scott Klatt, Donavon McKigney, Curt Botner
Staff Present:	John Kolb, Attorney; Sarah Jo Boser, Water Resource Manager; Jon Roeschlein, Administrator and Interim Ditch & Permit Coordinator
Guests Present:	Randy Neumann, Cody Rogahn, Jerry Rapp, Tim Kalina, Jason Weinerman
Manager’s Absent:	

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** – The meeting was called to order by President Becker at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. **Additions/corrections to the agenda items** – President Becker asked for corrections or additions to the agenda. There were none. **Manager Klatt made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Manager McKigney. The motion passed with all in favor.**

3. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Financial Reports/Meeting Minutes
 1. Checks for January
 2. Receipt Book
 3. Revenue Guideline
 4. Cash Balances
 5. Expenditure Report
 6. January 18th, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
 7. Permit Status Summary

President Bautch made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Manager Lahr. The motion passed with all in favor.

4. **Reports – Action Items, Reports and Project Updates** – *Administrator Roeschlein and staff*
 - a. Projects
 - i. JD 2 Project Team Update - Sarah Jo Boser, Water Resource Manager, presented an update on the JD 2 Project Team. The last meeting was held on Monday, January 24th, 2022 using a hybrid format. The project team recommended the District conduct a sonar survey on JD 2 from upstream of the sediment ponds all the way to Osakis Lake, as well as collecting sonar data on the sediment ponds and Miller Bay. The data will be used to generate maps and put together a core sampling plan. The survey data will need to be compiled and put together by the engineer or another consulting firm. The next item that would need to be done for the project team is getting quotes on sediment core sampling and analysis, and putting together a request for proposals for a feasibility study to

evaluate the existing project concepts. Staff will follow up with State Representatives to clarify whether any of these items are eligible for bonding.

- ii. Grant Opportunity Exploration – Boser explained two new grant opportunities that she’s discovered that may fit some of our project team work. One of the grant opportunities would be with the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) Watershed Grant under the public law 83-566 Watershed Operations. The other grant opportunity would be through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. They have a couple of grant programs. The first being the planning assistance grant. The other is an aquatic ecosystem restoration grant program (also known as section 206 grant). All of these programs are federal grants and some appear to fit well with the Comprehensive Water Management Plan work and potentially the JD 2 project team feasibility work.

b. Administration

- i. Sauk CWMP Update – Sarah Jo Boser, Water Resource Manager, gave a report on the Sauk River Comprehensive Water Management Plan. The implementation team continues to meet on a monthly basis. At this time, the main focus of the group is to develop a biannual work plan. The policy committee had their first quarterly meeting on Monday, January 31st. Due to several members of the committee being absent, some meeting content was postponed to the second quarter meeting. The advisory committee has not met yet but will meet after the implementation team has finished the draft workplan. Watershed District staff have started meeting with other partner groups to have preliminary discussions on implementation items in Chapter 6 Watershed Wide Programs Implementation Schedule. Two of the groups that staff met with include the Drainage Inspectors within the Watershed and the City of St. Cloud Stormwater Department.
- ii. Ditch and Permit Manager-Position Vacancy – Administrator Roeschlein reported on the Ditch and Permit Manager Position. He noted that the position has been posted and advertised with the application deadline being Friday, February 18th. Roeschlein asked for 2 managers to serve with him on an interview committee. Managers Klatt and Wittkop volunteered to do so. Roeschlein will circulate all of the applications received to the committee the week of February 22nd. The committee will then discuss those applications, select applicants to interview and then schedule the interviews for the position.
- iii. March Workshop Topic – Manager Lahr gave a brief presentation to the board in regard to the Comprehensive Water Management Plan and some of his concerns with the plan. He indicated that there are technologies available now to assist with implementation of the Comprehensive Water Management Plan from an agricultural perspective. After significant discussion with the board, it was agreed that Manager Lahr would work with Administrator Roeschlein to discuss the potential for a board workshop on the Comprehensive Water Management Plan. The March workshop subject will be the 2021 Monitoring Report presented by the Monitoring Coordinator Allison Lightfoot. The workshop on the Comprehensive Water Management Plan would be held sometime in April.

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- iv. LMCIT Tort Limits Waiver – Roeschlein presented a board memo in regard to the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust Tort Liability Limits Waiver. John Kolb, Attorney, explained what the waiver meant. **Manager Lahr made a motion that the Sauk River Watershed District waives the monetary limits of the municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statute 466.04 to the extent of the limits of the liability coverage obtained from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust. The motion was seconded by Manager Zerr. The motion passed with all in favor.** The board suggested that staff visit with the insurance company to conduct a risk assessment to make sure the District has adequate coverage and doesn't have anything unnecessary.
 - c. Committees
 - i. Citizen Advisory Committee – No report
 - ii. Water Quality/Projects – Managers Becker, Hartmann, McKigney – No report
 - iii. Rules – Managers Bautch, Klatt, Lahr - No report
 - iv. Public Relations/Education – Managers Botner, Wittkop, Zerr - No report
 - 5. **Items for Upcoming Meetings or of Interest**
 - a. March 15th, 2022 Workshop
 - b. CWMP Workshop TBD in April.
 - 6. **Upcoming Meetings to be Announced**
 - a. Regular Board Meetings
 - 1. Tuesday, March 15th, 2022 – Regular Board Meeting, 6 p.m. Board workshop prior to the regular meeting to discuss the 2021 SRWD Monitoring results.
 - 2. Tuesday, April 19th, 2022 – Regular Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
 - b. Other Meetings
 - 1. None
 - 7. **Adjourn Regular Board Meeting – Manager Bautch made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:38 p.m. The motion was seconded by Manager Hartmann. The motion passed with all in favor.**

**Regular Drainage Authority Meeting
MINUTES**

- 1. **The Drainage Authority meeting was called to order by President Becker at 7:45 p.m.**
- 2. **Additions/corrections to the agenda item** – President Becker asked if there were changes or additions to the agenda. Administrator Roeschlein added discussion regarding a beaver bounty to be paid for JD 1. **Manager Bautch made a motion to approve the agenda as modified. The motion was seconded by Manager Zerr. The motion passed with all in favor.**
- 3. **Drainage Specific Public Comment Period** – Commissioner Rogahn spoke in regard to the Comprehensive Water Management Plan that was discussed at the regular board meeting. He suggested that the District incorporate the entire collaborative with the Comprehensive Plan

into the workshop. He stated that his board members would benefit from the discussion as well.

4. Reports

a. Interim Ditch and Permit Manager

- i. Monthly Report- Administrator Roeschlein provided highlights of the Ditch and Permit Manager monthly report. He indicated that preparations are underway for the spring work on Pope County Ditch 6 and Pope/Stearns JD 1. Staking alignment data sets are being prepared for field use. He also noted that in the coming month, staff will be sending out a mailer to the landowners with an update on the plans for repair this spring so that they are all informed. He also reported to the board that they are exploring a shift in software capabilities for the permitting program. Updates are needed to the Permit database. It seems this would be an appropriate time for a shift in software. Roeschlein recommended to the board that they compensate Dale Wilson \$50 for a problem beaver that he was able to harvest on JD 1. **Manager Bautch made a motion to pay Dale Wilson \$50 for beaver removal on JD 1. The motion was seconded by Manager McKigney. The motion passed with all in favor.**

5. Items for Upcoming Meetings - None

6. Upcoming meetings to be announced

- i. Tuesday, March 15th, 2022 – Regular Drainage Authority Meeting
ii. Tuesday, April 19th, 2022 – Regular Drainage Authority Meeting

7. Adjournment of Drainage Authority Meeting – Manager Bautch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. The motion was seconded by Manager Lahr. The motion passed with all in favor.