

OFFICIAL MINUTES
Clearwater River Watershed District
Board of Managers Meeting
December 9, 2015 - 6:30PM
City Hall, Annandale, MN

*Denotes partial attendance

Chair Schiefelbein called the regular meeting to order at 6:33pm. Managers Paul DeGree, Kathy Jonsrud, Robert Rocheleau, Robert Schiefelbein, and Chris Uecker were present. Also in attendance were: Jack Gleason*, Chris Husom, Engineer Rebecca Kluckhohn, Advisor Merle Anderson and Administrator Cole Loewen.

Motion #15-12-1: Jonsrud/Uecker, moved to adopt the agenda, with the removal of updates on the Cedar Lake Watershed Protection & Improvement and Watkins Area Stormwater Treatment Projects from the consent agenda, to be covered at the end of old business. **All Managers voted aye.**

Presentation - None

Consent Agenda

Motion #15-12-2: Jonsrud/DeGree, moved to adopt the consent agenda. **All Managers voted aye.**

December 9, 2015 Financial Report

Motion #15-12-3: Jonsrud/Rocheleau, moved to authorize payment of pay app #2 from Peterson Companies (\$113,736.68) for the East Swartout component of the Cedar Lake Watershed Protection & Improvement Project, and to pay bills of \$248,516.97 in 32 payments, subject to audit. **All Managers voted aye.**

OLD BUSINESS

Clearwater Harbor & Hidden River Sewer Systems' NMAP Implementation & Sand Filters

Engineer Kluckhohn gave an update on current status of this project.

Enrollment requests for CRWD Agricultural Incentive Program

Administrator Loewen presented one enrollment in the No-Till to spring ag. incentive program.

Motion #15-12-4: Jonsrud moved to accept enrollment from Hilltop Acres in the CRWD No-Till to spring ag. incentive program. During discussion, it was noted the CRWD had already approved this enrollment under the financial report. **Motion died for lack of second.**

It was clarified that in the future the Administrator has authority to enroll eligible citizens into CRWD incentive programs, and the CRWD Board of Managers will review as part of the monthly financial report.

Cedar Lake Watershed Protection & Improvement (CLWP&I) Project Update

Engineer Kluckhohn went over issues related to dewatering overages, questions on the outlet control, and update on overall project budget. The Board directed the engineer and staff to negotiate with the contractor on the dewatering overages, and to not deviate from the current plan regarding outlet control, and to pull "Red Osier Dogwoods" from the construction bid for East Swartout to reduce costs.

Watkins Area Stormwater Treatment Project Concept

Engineer Kluckhohn presented updated designs for the Watkins Area Stormwater Treatment Project.

NEW BUSINESS

Potential maintenance at Watkins Wetland Isolation Unit

Motion #15-12-5 Uecker/Jonsrud, moved to authorize staff and engineer to develop plans and a RFQ to clean out necessary portions of the southern diversion channel at Watkins Wetland Isolation Unit back to original specifications. **All Managers voted aye.**

Potential issue re: Plan holder Lists & MN Data Practices Act

Administrator Loewen reviewed a received information memo from CRWD attorneys' Smith Partners regarding this potential issue. After review, the Board decided the risk posed by this noted issue is minimal, and elected to take no further action.

Vegetation management of existing CRWD projects

Administrator Loewen reviewed the increasing portfolio of CRWD projects with native vegetation that require ongoing, precise management techniques. The Board directed staff to solicit quote from native vegetation management firms for management of said CRWD projects.

Review of CRWD Incentive Program

Administrator Loewen informed the Board this review is still in progress.

Potential adult education opportunity via SRWD and Community Education in Annandale

Administrator Loewen reviewed the proposal from Sauk River Watershed District to provide adult educational opportunities via Annandale Community Education on environmental topics related to water quality.

Motion #15-12-6 Jonsrud/Uecker, moved to authorize expenditure of up to \$1,500 for Sauk River Watershed District to provide adult education opportunities on the topic of water quality through Annandale Community Education classes on the CRWD's behalf, and for the CRWD's funding of said opportunities to be noted on the class descriptions. **All Managers voted aye.**

Administrator Loewen – Other Business

Potential to change sign locations for CLWP&I from Old Highway 55 to East Swartout, where there is better visibility. The Board directed staff to move forward with placing signage at East Swartout.

Request received from Lake Caroline resident for CRWD Board to provide comment on petition to vacate a portion of Bradford Road. The Board took no action on this request.

Idea to investigate the surveying of rough fish populations on targeted CRWD lakes with the MN DNR and/or local commercial fisherman. The Board directed staff to work with MN DNR and/or local commercial fisherman on said surveying.

Informal request received from Cedar Lake Conservation Club (CLCC) for CRWD to work directly with CLCC's AIS treatment vendor in order to achieve favorable pricing through the state cooperative purchasing venture, of which the CRWD is a part. The Board directed staff to work with CLCC to formulate a draft agreement to this effect.

Noted check #12829, issued June 2015 (\$83.22), has still not cleared. As such, Administrator Loewen requested authorization to stop payment and void this check, as the fiscal year is ending.

Motion #15-12-7 DeGree/Jonsrud, moved to stop payment and void check #12829. **All Managers voted aye.**

Information received and confirmed that MN DNR is in informal discussions with a property owner(s) out at Kingston Wetland to purchase land for public benefit. Staff has informed the MN DNR about the

existing CRWD permanent easements for the Kingston Wetland Project. Staff will continue to monitor this.

Advisor Anderson – Other Business

Advisor Anderson noted the current litigation between Des Moines Water Works and three counties re: costs to treat water high in pollutants from agricultural drainage for drinking water purposes, and praised/encouraged the CRWD to continue to offer agricultural incentives to protect water quality.

Advisory Committee assignments are:

1. No-wake “flag” notices
2. AIS Issues

Items noted for the January 13, 2015 regular meeting are:

- Presentation – SRWD summary of educational activities
- Appoint official newspaper(s) and depositor(ies)
- Project Updates
- Clearwater Harbor/ Hidden River – NMAP Implementation & Sand Filter Issues
- Wenck Associates’ professional services agreement
- RFQ for vegetation management
- Review of CRWD Incentive Programs

Managers’ Reports

Manager Jonsrud gave a summary of the 2015 MN Assoc. of Watershed Districts conference last week.

Motion #15-12-8: Jonsrud/Rocheleau, moved to adjourn at 9:12pm. **All Managers voted aye.**

THESE MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE AT: www.crwd.org.

CRWD AUDIT REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE ANNANDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Chair, Bob Schiefelbein

Secretary, Paul DeGree