

Minutes of the Meeting of the Managers
Turtle Creek Watershed District
March 20th, 2018

The Turtle Creek Watershed Board of Managers met at the Government Center in Hollandale, Minnesota at 0500 P.M. Present were Jeff Ravenhorst, Jon Erichson, Michelle Miller, Dave Vanderploeg, Pete VanErkel, Steve Penkava, Steve Lawler and Att'y Maury J. Noonan in Att'y Kurt Deter's absence.

Also attending the meeting were Harold Bagley, Tom Dahl, and Tom Butler.

Pete made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2018 meeting as presented seconded by Dave and carried.

Correspondence was received via email from Jeanine Vorland as an update on Geneva Lake. Jeanine states she will have a Geneva Lake Advisory meeting either late April or May. *"We will be netting the lake shortly after ice-out, so I'd like to have those results first. April might be a bit early to know if the lake looks like it will have good submersed vegetation. By May we should have better indications of lake conditions."*

As of now it appears we didn't have any significant winter kill in the lake itself. I am hoping the satellite areas may have seen some low dissolved oxygen. Lake levels are a bit higher than I would prefer, but the snow melt has gone well so far. There is on-going fisheries research that will continue this summer that should yield additional management data"

The Treasures report showed \$93,483.12 in checking and \$22,164.05 in savings. Jon explained the \$30.00 adjustment fee and made a motion to accept this report subject to audit, seconded by Jeff and carried. Jon distributed the Bank reconciliation and financial statements. There was no discussion.

The following bills were submitted for approval to be forwarded to Pat Martinson, Freeborn county Auditor-Treasurer:

Jones, Haugh, Smith, Inc.	\$ 4,080.00	(county ditch J27)
Jones, Haugh, Smith, Inc.	\$ 1,800.00	(Redetermination of Benefits J24)
Jones, Haugh, Smith, Inc.	\$ 5,050.70	(Ditch 31)

Pete made a motion to approve and forward the bills seconded by Dave and carried.

The following bills were submitted for payment by the District:

Damel Corp	\$ 925.00
Damel Corp	\$ 1,090.00
CliftonLarsonAllen	\$ 1,500.00
Hill, Larson, & Walth P.A.	\$ 158.00
Verizon Wireless	\$ 53.08
Rinke Noonan	\$ 950.00
Jeff Ravenhorst	\$ 200.00 (Beaver tails)
Dave Vanderploeg	\$ 225.00
Peter VanErkel	\$ 225.00
Jeff Ravenhorst	\$ 225.00
Jon Erichson	\$ 254.24
Nancy Finley	\$ 1,177.55

Pete made a motion to pay the bills seconded by Dave and carried.

An application for a permit renewal was submitted by Dale Wicks to tile in Moscow twsp. to outlet into private tile. Downstream landowner has signed this application. Dale will be his own contractor. Pete made a motion to renew this application seconded by Dave and carried. Permit # 03-01-18.

An application for permit was submitted by Harold Bagley to clean ditch in Riceland Twsp sections 22, 21, 27, & 28 R20. Private ditch outlets in JD 18. Harold Bagley, Dan Matz, Michael McCormack and Bradley Edwards have signed this application. Freeborn Construction is the Contractor. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Dave and carried. Permit # 03-02-18.

An application for permit was submitted by Tom Dearmin to tile in Freeborn county SE section 24 R20W approx. 15,905 ft to outlet into private tile. Boe Bros tiling is the Contractor. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Dave and carried. Permit # 03-03-18.

An application for permit was submitted by David Solland to tile in Moscow twsp, Freeborn County SW 1/4 section 8 T103 R019 to outlet into Smeby Branch. David Solland will be his own Contractor. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Dave and carried. Permit # 03-04-18.

Steve Penkava submitted a copy of the Freeborn County Crop Damage Rate for 2018 as follows:
It is the policy of Freeborn County to set a rate of pay for crop damage that may occur due to repair, improvement, or construction projects. This is done at the beginning of the year for the entire year.

The yield is determined by using a three year average yield for Freeborn county from data received from the USDA (National Agricultural Statistics Services).

The sale price is determined by using an average sale price for corn and beans from four local elevators on January 5, 2018.

Corn damage rate 187.6 bushels @ \$3.10 = \$582 per acre

Bean damage rate 55.9 bushels @ \$8.88 = \$496 per acre

This has been signed by Drainage Ditch Viewers Chris Christianson, Mark Behrends and Robert M. Hanson and Freeborn county Auditor/Treasure Pat Martinson.

Pete made a motion to accept this rate for the year 2018 seconded by Jeff and carried.

Pete made a motion to accept the annual report as Nancy has prepared seconded by Dave and carried. Nancy will forward copies when she receives the annual audit from Jon.

The Board has been meeting at 5 P.M. during the winter hours and discussion was open to the Managers if they wish to continue with the 5 P.M. meeting or revert back to the 7 P.M. After discussion Pete made a motion to continue to meet at 5 P.M. through March 2019 then review the meeting time seconded by Dave and carried. Nancy will make the legal publication in the Austin Daily Herald--Mower County and Albert Lea Tribune-- Freeborn County as per statute.

Steve Lawler reported on the Buffer Law Administration. BWSR inquired about our administration of buffers along public ditches. Steve was able to present them our policies on grass buffer maintenance, inspection schedules and enforcement. Our management of grass buffers was determined to be effective and commendable. The only potential compliance issue is the source of our authority for administration of grass buffers which comes from our policy handbook. It was noted that buffer law will likely require administration by rule which Att'y Deter will be able to guide the Managers through the "rule process".

Steve Lawler discussed the Biennial Budget Request, BWSR is requesting a biennial budget request for fiscal year 20-21. This is an opportunity for local government through the state to identify prioritize conservation projects and practices for these fiscal years. This data informs upcoming budget discussions among state agencies and the legislature. Pete made a motion for Steve to draft what projects and practices the Board will like to have funding for 2019 and 2020 seconded by Dave and carried.

Jon has requested to be on the agenda for the Mower County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday March 27th 2018 to give the TCWD annual report to the Commissioners. Dave is still waiting for a response from the Freeborn County Commissioners to be on their agenda for his report.

Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Jeff and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy K. Finley,
Recording Secretary

Have a happy and Blessed Easter Everyone

