The Turtle Creek Watershed Board of managers met at the government Center in Hollandale, Minnesota at 0500 P.M. Present were Jeff Ravenhorst, Michelle Miller, Dave Vanderploeg, Peter VanErkel, Steve Penkava, Steve Lawler, and Att’y Kurt Deter. Jon Erichson was absent.

Also attending the meeting were Jeanine Vorland, Tom Butler, and Mark Gamm.

Pete made a motion to approve the minutes as presented from the March 20th, 2018 meeting seconded by Jeff and carried.

In Jon’s absence Michelle gave the Treasures report showing $86,495.25 in checking and $22,164.90 in savings. Pete made a motion to accept this report subject to audit seconded by Jeff and carried. Nancy 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-treasure:

- Jones, Haugh, Smith Inc. $ 527.70 (Routine Maintenance)
- Jones, Haugh, Smith Inc. $ 1,200.00 (Redetermination of Benefits J24)
- Jones, Haugh, Smith Inc $ 550.00 (County Ditch J27)

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:

- Verizon Wireless $ 53.08
- Hill, Larson & Walth, P.A. $ 158.00
- Albert Lea Tribune $ 181.90 (legal notice--meeting time change)
- Troy Hawkshead $ 900.00 (9 beaver tails)
- Michelle Miller $ 321.50
- Rinke Noonan $ 950.00

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

Mark Gamm attended the meeting to address the Board. Mr. Gamm displayed with the Board a couple of properties and had several questions concerning the potential of these sites as wetland restorations as well as having questions on the permitting process.

Jeanine Vorland attended the meeting to give an update on Geneva lake, she states they returned the 2 stop logs to the Geneva dam so the full complement is in place. The lake level was only up about 0.1 ft. The dam gage read 4.04. Jeanine is planning on having a meeting in the near future but, has not set a specific date yet.

An application for permit was submitted by John Angell to tile in Newry Twsp Freeborn county 17-104-19 to replace 350 feet of old five inch clay tile. Ellingson Drainage is the Contractor for this project. Pete made a motion to grant this permit seconded by Dave and carried. Permit # 04-01-18.

A petition to TCWD for improvement along tile J7 was briefly discussed. Att’y Deter has received a new copy with additions and changes and requested this be tabled until the May 2018 meeting giving him time to review the changes.

BWSR inquired about our Administration of buffers along public ditches. This basically has no effect on Turtle Creek as all buffers are in place at this time. Pete made a motion to adopt and implement the rule pursuant to statutes section 103F.48 in the TCWD rules seconded by Jeff and carried.

Statutory authorization: This buffer enforcement rule is adopted pursuant to the authorization and policies contained in Minn. Stat. 103F.48, the Buffer Law, Minn. Stat 103B.101, subdivision 12a,
authority to issue penalty orders, and the Watershed District enabling legislation in Minn. Stat. chapter 103D.

Dave gave a report on his meeting with the Freeborn County commissioners. He states it went very well and the Commissioners complimented the District on their budget guidelines and thanked Dave for attending the meeting for questions and updates.

The Muilenburg CREP project is pending for additional details and information on the project.

The Cedar River Watershed District was able to land a grant with Conservation Corp. of Minnesota to clean up watercourses in the Cedar Watershed including Turtle Creek. This cleanup opportunity would be available to us around May 19th, 2018. A CCM crew would utilize canoes to pull and collect trash from the channel and inner banks, preferably along the urban sections of Turtle Creek. The crews will also deliver any trash collected to the proper disposal facilities. After discussion Pete made a motion for TCWD to approve up to $2500.00 toward the cost of disposal seconded by Jeff and carried.

Steve Lawler briefly discussed a meeting he had this afternoon with Keith Kuiters and the Christianson Brothers regarding Ditch 30.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy K. Finley
Recording Secretary

We are still waiting