

PRELIMINARY MINUTES SUBJECT TO THE MANAGERS APPROVAL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Managers

Turtle Creek Watershed District

January 19th 2021

The Turtle Creek Watershed Board of Managers met at 4 P.M. at the Government Center in Hollandale Minnesota .Following the guidelines of sanitizing tables and chairs before the start of the meeting, Steve and Justin also set up a Zoom meeting at the Government Center with the newly purchased hot-spot device, also offering a phone number for those wishing to participate via phone.

Attending the meeting were Jeff Ravenhorst, Jon Erichson, Michelle O'Connor, Dave Vanderploeg, Peter VanErkel, Steve Penkava, Steve Lawler, Justin Hanson and Att'y Kurt Deter.

The Managers met this month at 4 O'clock P.M. for the annual planning workshop which includes discussion of the goals set from the past year as well as the goals to accomplish in the year 2021. Justin Hanson attended the planning meeting to provide information on the approved and allocated 1W1P budget for water quality projects in the targeted Geneva Lake Watershed. This is the largest allocation of conservation funds likely ever to our Watershed. Steve Lawler will draft a copy of the Work Plan for 2021 for the Managers for the February meeting.

At 5:00 P.M. the regular Board meeting was called to order.

Philip Wacholz participated via phone for a permit application.

Pete made a motion to approve the December 2020 minutes as presented seconded by Dave and carried.

Steve Lawler reported the only correspondence he has received is an Excellence Award Certificate to the Turtle Creek Watershed District from Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust in recognition of an Outstanding loss Ratio under 50% Property and Casualty plan for years 2015-2019.

The Treasurers report showed \$246,375.56 in checking and \$22,188.71 in savings. Pete made a motion to accept this report subject to audit, seconded by Dave and carried. Jon distributed the Financial report and Bank Reconciliation from December 31st, 2020. 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.	\$ 568.00
Jones, Haugh, Smith, Inc.	\$ 10,170.74
Jones, Haugh, Smith, Inc.	\$ 2,365.42
Jones, Haugh, Smith, Inc.	\$ 1,660.00
Patton Hoversten & Berg	\$ 500.00 (Bond)

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

The following bills were submitted for payment by the District:

Hill, Larson & Walth P.A	\$ 158.00
Verizon Wireless	\$ 55.08
CliftonLarsonAllen	\$ 1,050.00
Damel Corporation Inc	\$ 1,105.00
Lance Loverink	\$ 180.00 (Beaver tails)
Mower SWCD	\$ 9,112.09
Rinke Noonan	\$ 950.00

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

An application for permit was submitted by Philip Wacholz to tile in Geneva and Riceland Twsp, Freeborn Cty CSAH 26 multiple locations for tiling, replace tiling, and bridge/culvert replacement. The Contractor for this project is still to be determined. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Dave and carried. Permit # 01-01-21.

An application for permit was submitted by Steven Kraushaar to tile SW section 16 Riceland Twsp Freeborn Cty T103N R20W to install approx. 3000 ft of 4 inch tile to outlet into tile on James Bagley farm. Mr. Bagley has signed this application as downstream landowner. Ellingson Drainage is the Contractor for this project. Jeff made a motion to grant this application seconded by Dave and carried. Permit # 01-02-21.

An application for permit was submitted by HLM, LLC % Kyle Mehmen to tile in NE section 27 Geneva Twsp Freeborn Cty R20W to outlet into JD28 private tile. Hodgeman Drainage is the Contractor for this project. Jeff made a motion to grant this application seconded by Dave and carried. Permit # 01-03-21.

An application for permit was submitted by Tom Dahl to tile in Riceland Twsp NE ¼ section 21 Freeborn Cty R20W to outlet into J18. Freeborn Construction is the Contractor for this project. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Jeff and carried. Permit # 01-04-21.

An application for permit was submitted by Tom Dahl to clean ditch NE of SW ¼ Riceland Twsp section 6 Freeborn Cty R20W to outlet into Riceland Wetland restoration. Freeborn Construction is the Contractor for this project. Terry Kvenwold has signed this application as downstream landowner. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Jeff and carried. Permit # 01-05-21

An application for permit was submitted for Renewal by Bill Wilkie to repair and replace existing tile S 1/2 section 7 Moscow Twsp Freeborn Cty T103N R19W to outlet into Deer Creek. Mr. Wilkie is his own Contractor for this project. Pete made a motion to renew this permit seconded by Jeff and carried. Permit # 01-06-21.

Jon presented the annual Financial audit from CliftonLarsonAllen and discussed the delay in receiving it due the election and outstanding requests with the County. After discussion Pete made a motion to accept the proposal seconded by Jon and carried. Nancy will return the copy signed by Michelle to CliftonLarsonAllen and keep one in her files.

Steve Penkava discussed the Redetermination Hearing and Final Hearing on the Improvement to J12. After discussion Pete made a motion to set the hearing date for February 16th 2021 at 5:30P.M. at the Government Center in Hollandale Minnesota, seconded by Dave and carried. Att’y Deter will draft a copy of the notice. If this meets with Pat Martinson’s schedule she will mail out the notice along with that portion of the Viewers’ Report.

Justin informed the Managers the Mower SWCD was appointed the fiscal agent for distribution of funds associated with the 1W1P grant. If TWCD chooses to administer cost share contracts using 1W1P funds in the future, this sub-agreement clarifies the roles and responsibilities of both parties for reimbursements.

Steve Penkava gave the crop damage reports from Freeborn County for 2021 as follows:

Freeborn County Crop Damage Rate for 2021 (Standing crop)

It is the policy of Freeborn County to set a rate of pay for crop damages 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 “new crop” corn and beans from three local elevators on January 6th 2021.

Corn damage rate 109.9 bushels @ \$3.96 = \$756 per acre

Bean damage rate 52.6 bushels @ \$10.84 = \$570 per acre

Freeborn County Crop Damage Rate for 2021 (Not planted)

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.

In anticipation of an upcoming project the County may occasionally ask a landowner not to plant the area to be worked on. This gives the Contractor more time to complete projects and may also result in better quotes.

The rate of pay for not planted acres is \$400. Per acre. This rate is based off from an average annual rental rate of approximately \$225.

The first year the unplanted acres would have no yield

The second-year yield reduction would be approximately 50% because the soil has been disturbed.

The third-year yield reduction would be approximately 25% because the soil has been disturbed

The fourth year the yield should be back to normal.

These two documents have been signed by 3 Drainage Ditch Viewers and Pat Martinson Freeborn County Auditor-Treasurer. Pete made a motion to accept these reports seconded by Dave and carried.

In February 2020 James Fett from Mower SWCD attended the meeting to discuss Water Monitoring Data. The Managers had requested we determine options to better utilize water quality sampling data collected over the years in the Turtle Creek System. James explained MPCA water quality data management system called EQuiS (Environmental Quality information System). At that time a motion was made for James and the SWCD to enter the data into EQuiS for the district. The Managers requested Steve Lawler arrange to have James attend another meeting in the near future to update the Managers on this process.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy K. Finley,

Recording Secretary