

Minutes of the Meeting of the Managers
Turtle Creek Watershed District
March 19th, 2024

The Turtle Creek Watershed Board of Managers met at the Government Center in Hollandale Minnesota. Present were Jeff Ravenhorst, Jon Erichson, Pete VanErkel, Steve Penkava, James Fett and Att’y John Kolb. Attending remotely were Dave Vanderploeg and Att’y Joe Heinrichs. Michelle O’Connor was absent

Also attending the meeting were Al & Beth Karstens, John Angell, Tom Beenken, Alex Wayne, Brian Wayne, Vietor, Tom Butler, Greg Wayne, Larry Lestrud, John Forman, Mark Behrends, Gary Viktora, and Dana Walz .

Secretary Pete VanErkel chaired the meeting in Dave and Michelle’s absence.

Jeff made a motion to accept the February 2024 minutes as presented seconded by Jon and carried.

The Treasurers report showed \$202,878.15 in checking and \$154,117.63 in the Money Market. Jon made a motion to accept this report subject to audit seconded by Jeff and carried.

Jon distributed the Bank Reconciliation and Financial reports ending February 28th, 2024, there was no discussion.

Jon explained that TCWD received a payment in error from the State of MN Management and Budget (MMB) office for the amount of \$5,214.00. James investigated with MMB and found that the payment was sent by the MN Department of Corrections, and was supposed to be sent to Freeborn County. After looking into the issue further MMB asked that TCWD issue a check for the amount of \$5,214 to the Minnesota Department of Corrections. After discussion Jon made a motion to have James write a letter of explanation to accompany a check in the same amount and forward it to MN Department of corrections, seconded by Jeff and carried.

Jon made a motion to transfer \$50,000.00 from the checking account to the Money Market at Home Federal for audit purposes and FDIC guidelines seconded by Jeff and carried.

The following bills were submitted for approval to be forwarded to Freeborn County Auditor-Treasure:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Drainage Ditch Viewer Bruce Ness | \$ 275.00 |
| Drainage Ditch Viewer-Mark Behrends | \$ 1,246.72 |
| Rinke Noonan | \$ 561.00 (CD #8) |
| Jones, Haugh, Smith, Inc. | \$ 1,395.00 (routine Maintenance) |
| Jones, Haugh, Smith, Inc. | \$ 6,304.30 (J#27) |

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

The following bills were submitted for payment by the district:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Accurant LLC | \$ 295.91 |
| Troy Hawkshead | \$ 120.00 (Beaver tails) |
| Jeff Ravenhorst | \$ 400.00 |
| Peter VanErkel | \$ 300.00 |
| Jon Erichson | \$ 806.28 |
| Rinke Noonan | \$ 306.00 |
| Nancy Finley & Verizon | \$2,460.84 |

Jon made a motion to pay the bills seconded by Jeff and carried.

A revised permit application was submitted by Ben Anderson of Scattered Acres LLC for the south end of the field west of Mud Creek ditch in Freeborn County, Geneva Township, SE 1/4 of section 14 to fill and re-construct a ditch that outlets into Mud Creek. This application approved to proceed with the following conditions:

The work must be completed during the 2024 construction season, and the berms on the west side of the property must be removed. The old ditch will be filled with the original spoil and track packed with a bulldozer. The new ditch will be excavated with a 2-3-foot-wide bottom, 2:1 side slope, and hydroseeded with mulch after Turtle Creek Watershed District staff approve the excavation. The new ditch will also be constructed as far as the

furthermost point to the north where the berm on the western edge of the property is being removed. Mr. Anderson is his own Contractor for this project. Jon made a motion to grant this permit seconded by Jeff and carried. Permit # 03-01-24.

An application for permit was submitted by Allan Ravenhorst to tile in Geneva twsp section 34 Freeborn County to outlet into JD #24. Ellingson Drainage is the Contractor for this project. Pete made a motion to grant this permit seconded by Jon and carried. Jeff abstained. Permit # 03-02-24.

An application for permit was submitted by Dennis Kuhn to tile SE ¼ section 20 T104N R20W Geneva twsp to outlet into private tile with pump installation. Ellingson Co is the Contractor for this project. Jeff made a motion to grant this permit seconded by Jon and carried. Permit # 03-03-24.

At 5:17 Secretary VanErkel recessed the regular meeting and called to order the public hearing In the Matter of the Petition for Improvement of Freeborn County Ditch 8.

Att'y John Kolb presented the Purpose of the Preliminary hearing, verified the notice requirements and examination of Petition. Followed by the Engineer's Preliminary report by Steve Penkava. After questions ceased from the crowd in attendance Att'y Kolb read the DNR Advisory Report.

The floor was again open for public comment from the petitioners and their Attorney.

After discussion Manager Erichson requested that the Board have time to review the DNR report in more detail.

Att'y Kolb suggested a Continuance hearing. Manager Erichson made a motion for a Continuance hearing at the April 16th 2024 Turtle Creek Watershed Board meeting at 5:15 P.M. at the Government Center in Hollandale Minnesota for the purpose to Consider the Order and findings of the Proceedings seconded by Jeff and carried.

Secretary VanErkel closed the public hearing and resumed the regular board meeting.

Steve Penkava reported on tree removal on the John Angell property.

James met on site with NRCS and BWSR engineers along with Jeanine Vorland and Chad Bilat and other representatives from the 3 agencies on Friday March 1st 2024 regarding flood storage where all parties agree to design the 30+ acre basin to allow 6 inches of bounce with rain events with one foot of absolute maximum bounce. BWSR is starting the design process. James will continue to work with all parties involved to see if he can work more changes into the design to incorporate more storage and larger and deeper basin.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy K. Finley
Recording Secretary