

PRELIMINARY MINUTES SUBJECT TO THE MANAGERS APPROVAL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Managers

Turtle Creek Watershed District

March 15th, 2022

The Turtle Creek Watershed Board of Managers met at 5:00 P.M. at the Government Center in Hollandale, Minnesota. Present were Jeff Ravenhorst, Michelle O'Connor, Dave Vanderploeg, Peter VanErkel, and Steve Lawler. Att'y Kurt Deter attended via Zoom. Jon Erichson and Steve Penkava were absent. Also attending the meeting was Dave Finley

Pete made a motion to accept the February 2022 minutes as presented seconded by Jeff and carried.

In Jon's absence Steve Lawler presented the January 2022 financial report which the Managers had not received earlier from the Accountants showing \$234,388.11 in checking and \$ 22,189.07 in savings. Dave made a motion to accept this report subject to audit seconded by Pete and carried.

The February 2022 financial report showed \$ 221,460.38 in checking and \$ 72,190.44 in savings. Dave made a motion to accept this subject to audit seconded by Pete and carried.

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

Jones, Haugh, Smith	\$ 11,377.65 (Ditch #31)
Jones, Haugh, Smith	\$ 4,970.00 (Ditch J27)
Jones, Haugh, Smith	\$ 5,607.86 (routine Maintenance)
Rinke Noonan	\$ 740.50 (CD J27)

Pete 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	\$ 301.00
Verizon Wireless	\$ 55.30
Jeff Ravenhorst	\$ 300.00
Dave Vanderploeg	\$ 400.00
Peter VanErkel	\$ 400.00
Rinke Noonan	\$ 950.00
Nancy Finley	\$ 2000.00

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

There was no public input or permit applications at the March 2022 meeting.

Att’y Deter provided the Finding of Fact and Order approving the Preliminary Engineer’s report and Appointment of Viewers from the February 2022 hearing. Chairperson Michelle signed the copies and returned to Steve Lawler who will distribute to the appropriate persons.

After discussing the updated 2022 Work Plan Pete made a motion to accept the Plan seconded by Jeff and carried.

Weed control along the ditches was again discussed. Internally we will be looking at any statutory limitations on mowing but, at this time the Managers will continue to remind landowners to continue to control noxious and nuisance weeds within the ditch easements.

The Managers discussed the severe gulleying occurring in the head slope immediately upgradient from CD #8 along 310th Street in Section 21 of Bath Twsp. Erosion from this gulley is contributing to significant maintenance costs in CD #8 as reported by the Freeborn County Ditch Authority. The Managers will meet at this site at 4 P.M. prior to the April 19th 2022 meeting to view this area for further discussion.

Steve reports he has not been contacted at this time from the County Commissioners for our annual update, when the Commissioners reply with their agenda availability Steve will let Dave and Jon know the dates.

The BWSR has recently issued a Request for Proposal for the selection of eligible projects that will provide upland storage. This funding opportunity would provide funds for design and construction of storage practices. Though the eligibility for 2022 projects has already expired, we will have the opportunity to apply in 2023 and should search for potential project sites this year.

Steve has contacted all the Advisory committee members and confirmed they are willing to serve on the Advisory Board. Steve will schedule a meeting with them for the end of March to discuss their role and answer any questions they have.

Steve has invited Chad Billet to attend the April 2022 meeting with project updates and Jim Fett will attend the meeting with Water data updates.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy K. Finley

Recording Secretary