

Minutes of the meeting of the Managers
Turtle Creek Watershed District
April 18th, 2023

The Turtle Creek Watershed Board of Managers met at the Government Center in Hollandale, Minnesota. Present were: Jeff Ravenhorst, Jon Erichson, Michelle O'Connor, Dave Vanderploeg, Peter Van Erkel, Steve Penkava, and James Fett. Att'y John Kolb attended remotely

Also attending the meeting were Pat Martinson, Tom Butler and John Angell.

Michelle called the meeting to order.

Pete made a motion to accept the March 2023 minutes as presented seconded by Dave and carried.

The Treasurers report showed \$181,464.04 in checking and \$ 150,986.68 in the Money Market account.

Pete made a motion to accept this report subject to audit seconded by Jeff and carried.

The Bank Reconciliation and Financial reports were not available for April 2023.

The following bills were submitted for payment by the district:

Troy Hawkshead	\$ 360.00 (beaver tails)
Jeff Ravenhorst	\$ 200.00
Nancy Finley	\$ 55.97 (Verizon reimbursement)
Rinke Noonan	\$ 118.50

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

The following bills were submitted for approval and forwarded to Pat Martinson-Freeborn Cty Auditor:

Jones, Haugh, Smith Inc.	\$ 4,675.00 (Cty Ditch J27)
Jones, Haugh, Smith Inc.	\$ 1,350.00 (Routine Maintenance)
Rinke Noonan	\$ 90.00 (CD J27)
Rinke Noonan	\$ 1,263.00 (J30)
Drainage Ditch Viewer	\$ 1,417.40 (CD 31 & CD J-30)

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

The following bill was submitted for approval and forwarded to Pat Martinson-Freeborn Cty Auditor:

Donnelly Law Office	\$37,023.00 (Cty Ditch J27)
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Pete made a motion to approve and forward this bill seconded by Jon and carried.

The following bills were submitted. After discussion these bills were **RECEIVED BUT, NOT AUTHORIZED FOR PAYMENT:**

Jones, Haugh, Smith Inc.	\$ 7,200.00 (Ditch 31)
Donnelly Law Office	\$ 11,729.33 (Ditch 31)
Rinke Noonan	\$ 5,423.50

Pete made a motion to accept but NOT AUTHORIZE payment on these bills until final resolution, seconded by Dave and carried. Nancy will keep the originals until time of payment.

Att'y Kolb gave the Board an update regarding the current status of the CD#31 situation including what would happen if the Petitioners do not make a decision on the project or do nothing. After discussion Jon Erickson made a motion to direct Att'y Kolb to notify Att'y Dan Donnelly the Board will expect a decision by the May 16th 2023 at the regular Turtle Creek Board meeting or the TCWD Board will dismiss the Petition and call for cost conditions of the Petitioners. Motion seconded by Pete and carried.

Pat Martinson attended the meeting and provided a Bond summary to the Board of bond amounts vs expenses incurred on all public ditch projects within the TCWD.

Att'y Kolb discussed with the Board an Attorney-Client Privileged Memorandum and requested the Board to honor his request to keep this memorandum for Board knowledge only not public data.

James presented options to the Managers regarding Water Quality monitoring and ask if the Board would like CRWD to continue monitoring TCWD sites in conjunction with their monitoring run. After discussion including continuing each year, every other year, and the importance and usage of the information Pete made a motion to continue with the Water Monitoring seconded by Dave and carried.

Pete, aye, Dave, aye, Jeff, aye, Jon nay.

Att'y Kolb discussed challenges he is having adjusting his schedule to attend the meetings in person when he receives short notice due to existing clients. Options include attending remotely, changing time of meeting for TCWD or his other Client etc. he just requests the Boards patience during this transition while schedules are being worked out. Thanks, John, for keeping us informed.

James and Jon report Olson Tree Service began removing trees in Turtle Creek now so Jon and James have been busy triaging phone calls and citizens concerns.

The Summer Tour was discussed. Pete has generously offered to host a tour stop at his Maple Island wash plant on Wednesday June 21st, 2023 and will be giving two different presentations to two different groups through the day. The dinner will be held at Wedgewood Cove in Albert Lea, Mn on Tuesday June 20th at 5 P.M. James has not received reservation information yet at this time.

Dave made a motion to have the regular TCWD Board meeting the 4th Tuesday which is June 27th 2023 at 5 P.M. due to the summer tour dinner on the regular board meeting day seconded by Jon and carried. Nancy will check to see that the Government Center is available that day for the meeting.

Jeanine was unable to attend the meeting but, has emailed Nancy this update:

Geneva update: The lake has been averaging about 7-8 inches over the normal run-out elevation since ice out last week. Department of Resources staff have begun gradually removing stoplogs to keep the lake from going higher and, hopefully, begin lowering the level. The plan remains to lower the lake during the growing season to regenerate habitats.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy K. Finley
Recording Secretary