

Minutes of the Meeting of the Managers  
Turtle Creek Watershed District  
May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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 VanErkel, Steve Penkava, and James Fett.

Also attending the meeting was Jeanine Vorland.

Pete made a motion to accept the April 2025 minutes as presented seconded by Dave and carried.

The Financial report from the Accounts was not available at the time of the meeting however Jon gave an unofficial report showing the checking account balance of \$227,521.55 with money market balances of \$204,450.00 and \$195,614.00. These balances will be verified at the June 2025 meeting.

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

Jones, Haugh, & Smith, Inc.	\$ 7,992.00(TBS spraying)
Jones, Haugh, & Smith, Inc.	\$ 1,650.00(routine maintenance)
Jones, Haugh, & Smith, Inc.	\$ 6,204.00(County Ditch J27)
Jones, Haugh, & Smith, Inc.	\$11,550.00(County Ditch 38)

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:

Troy Hawkshead	\$ 225.00 (beaver tails)
Accurant LLC	\$ 187.00(February report)
Accurant LLC	\$ 159.00 (2024 1099 preparation)
Olson Tree Service	\$ 1,544.00
Freeborn County	\$ 51,162.69 (FEMA reimbursement)

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

Jeanine Vorland attended the meeting with the following update: Geneva Lake water management plans were set back by heavy rains in late April. Water clarity is poor with a heavy algae bloom. Further wetland restoration possibilities at the Geneva Wildlife Management Area were discussed. There may be opportunities to provide additional water retention, improve habitats and water quality coming into the lake as the area is partially drained by a network of ditches. However, there is a need for additional feasibility work.

Wetland restorations plans are largely completed for a project on Wo Wacintanka Wildlife Area, but we are awaiting completed plans and cost information for several associated smaller basins. No further updates on the proposed joint powers agreement.

An application for permit was submitted by Freeborn County Public Works dept to replace culvert on CSAH 35 2 miles west of the Freeborn Mower County line. Newry Twsp SW section 11 R19 to outlet into Deer Creek J24. Contractor to be determined. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Dave and carried. Permit number 05-01-25.

An application for permit was submitted by Loren Lair to tile in Riceland Twsp N ¼ section 26 R20W to outlet into private open ditch. Ellingson drainage is the Contractor for this project. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Jeff and carried. Permit number 05-02-25.

An application for permit was submitted by Mn DNR to replace 2 culverts in Newry NE ¼ NE 1/4 S. 16 T 104 N R19 West to outlet into private open ditch. Contractor N/A at this time. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Dave and carried. Permit number 05-03-25.

The Board discussed possible options for another canoe access location to Turtle Creek. This discussion will continue at the June 2025 meeting.

James reported Brett Zimmerman ran models for all 12 sub watersheds that were selected for analysis. He is currently waiting for Steve and James to verify the 5 locations he'll be running a stacked rainfall analysis on. James will bring further reports to the June meeting.

No further business was brought before the managers there Pete made a motion to adjourn seconded by Jeff and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy K. Finley,*

Recording Sec'y

***BE SAFE THIS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND.***