

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

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

Also attending the meeting were Barry Magnuson, Dennis Magnuson, Jeanine Vorland and Lance Loverink.

Jeff made a motion to approve the October 2024 minutes as submitted seconded by Jon and carried.

The Treasurers report showed \$169,491.56 in checking and \$207,387.05 in the money market. Jeff made a motion to accept this report subject to audit seconded by Jon and carried. Jon distributed the Bank statements and financial reports from both September 2024 and October 2024. There was no discussion.

The following bills were submitted for approval to be forward to Kelly Freeborn County Auditor-Treasurer:

Rinke Noonan	\$ 723.00
Rinke Noonan	\$ 124.50
Rinke Noonan	\$ 150.00
Rinke Noonan	\$ 2,521.00
Rinke Noonan	\$ 705.00
Wesley Dahl	\$ 2,200.00 (Viewer)
Jones, Haugh, Smith	\$ 1,891.40 (Twin Groves)
Jones, Haugh, Smith	\$ 5,147.18 (Deer Creek)
Jones, Haugh, Smith	\$21,698.47 (Knotvold Branch)
Jones, Haugh, Smith	\$25,635.28 (McRae Lateral)
Jones, Haugh, Smith	\$ 4,347.94 (Deer Creek)
Jones, Haugh Smith	\$ 8,060.00(County Ditch J27)
Jones, Haugh, Smith	\$ 3,921.40 (Routine Maintenance)

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

The following bills were submitted for payment by the district:

Troy Hawkshead	\$ 180.00 (beaver bounty)
Lance Loverink	\$ 360.00(beaver bounty)
Accurant LLC	\$ 340.00
Olson Tree Service	\$ 1,808.00
Rinke Noonan	\$ 1,187.50

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

An application for permit was submitted by Dennis Magnuson to clean waterway and fix blowouts in section 35/36 Freeborn Cty Newry twsp. Adjacent landowners have signed this application. Ezra Magnuson is the Contractor for this project. Pete made a motion to grant this application seconded by Jeff and carried. Permit number 11-01-24.

An application for permit was submitted by Lee Loverink to tile in Riceland Twsp section 2 Freeborn Cty to outlet into private open ditch. He is his own contractor. Jeff made a motion to grant this application seconded by Pete and carried. Permit number 11-02-24.

An application for permit was submitted by Allan Ravenhorst to clean ditch in Geneva Twsp, Freeborn cty section 28 T104 N to outlet into private open ditch. Both adjacent landowners have signed this application, Freeborn Construction is the Contractor for this project. Pete made a motion to grant this application, Jon seconded. Jeff abstained. Motion carried. Permit number 11-03-24.

An application for permit was submitted by Pete VanErkel to tile in SW ¼ S ¼ Newry Twsp Freeborn Cty R31. Approx. 30,000 ft to outlet into private tile. Morriem Drainage is the Contractor for this project. Jeff made a motion to grant this application seconded by Jon. Pete abstained. Motion carried. Permit number 11-04-24.

Jeanine Vorland attended the meeting with the following report:

Geneva Lake water levels have increased some with the recent rains. We anticipate initiating winter drawdown shortly.

Wo Wacintanka Wetland Restoration. A proposed Joint Powers Agreement with Turtle Creek is being forwarded through Department of Natural Resources Administrative staff for internal reviews. They will contact James Fett when it is ready to share with the Board. The wetland restoration engineering is in progress through the Board of Water and Soil Resources and will include a hydraulic report to estimate water storage from the project. In addition to wetland restorations the project incorporates outlet modifications to separate dependent drainage with neighbors to the Wildlife Management Area and outlet directly to the Deer Creek Ditch instead of through existing shared tile systems.

James reported he is working with Cody Fox and Adam King (Dodge SWCD District Manager) who are involved both 1W1P committees and they both are in favor of the DNR submitting an application for WBif funding. James is waiting for a final cost estimate and flow reduction numbers from BWSR so he is able to make a Contract to seek approval through TCWD.

James also reported in order to get paid for FEMA disaster funds we need to have a federal UEI#. He is working with the IRS to obtain this number.

Attorney Kolb informed the board that they are authorized to charge inspection fees for time incurred by TCWD staff in dealing with an after the fact permit. Attorney Kolb recommended that we have Kvalvog or his representatives contact the downstream landowners and ask for signature. The board authorized James to continue pursuing Attorney Kolb's recommendations. Attorney Kolb also recommended that the board consider updating the district rules and policy. The board suggested we do so during the annual work group.

Jon received a letter from Peterson Company LTD for an audit bid of \$5,750.00 for the year ending December 31st, 2024. After discussion Jon made a motion to accept this bid seconded by Pete and carried.

James received a letter from the Rinke Noonan firm with the 2025 hourly rate adjustments. Jon made a motion to accept the guidelines seconded by Pete and carried.

Jon reported on his meeting with the Mower County Commissioners and states the presentation went well.

Jon made a motion to authorize 2 delegates and 1 alternate if any Board member are available to attend the annual workshop seconded by Pete and carried.

Nancy reminded the Managers all billing statement for the year are due at the December meeting for Jon to have available for the accountants.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy K. Finley,
Recording Sec'y

Wishing the happiest of Thanksgiving wishes and Blessings to all