Minutes of the Meeting of the Managers
Turtle Creek Watershed District
February 17th, 2026

The Turtle Creek Watershed Board of Managers met at the Government Center in Hollandale, Minnesota at 3:30 P.M. for the annual workshop followed by the regular board meeting. Attending the meeting were Tony Dahl, Jon Erichson, Michelle O'Connor, Jeff Ravenhorst, Peter VanErkel, Steve Penkava, James Fett, Arlen Schamber, Mike DenHerder, Dean Reed and Tim Ruzek. Atty John Kolb and Bret Zimmerman attended remotely.

The meeting was called to order with James welcoming everyone and explaining the purpose of the workshop. He then introduced Bret Zimmerman of Houston Engineering, Inc. who explained the Stacked hydrograph analysis summary, the purpose, results, Turtle Creek outflow relative to Cedar River and summary with a slide presentation answering questions from the Board and having discussion throughout the presentation. Bret said we should know by next month if our grant application was selected for funding.

Following Bret's presentation, a short break was taken for treats provided by Nancy then continued with a presentation from Tim Ruzek of the Cedar River Watershed District regarding One Watershed One Plan Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (CWMP) priorities which again followed discussion from the Board and Advisory group in attendance.

Following this James addressed the Managers regarding any other goals for the new year and asked the Managers opinions regarding updating the rules. After discussion it was decided to organize a subcommittee to review the current rules and possible changes to coordinate with CWMP. Tony and Jon volunteered to work on this subcommittee with James.

At 5 P.M. the regular meeting was called to order.
Jeff made a motion to accept the minutes from January 2026 as presented seconded by Pete and carried.

The Treasures report showed $241,750.12 in checking. Jon discussed the balance is getting close to FDIC limit where we will need to open another Money Market account or savings account in the near future, however after discussion the Board agreed to hold off for a short time. Jon will keep the Managers informed on the options at the next meeting.

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

Jones, Haugh, Smith, Inc.	$ 2,712.50 (routine Maintenance)
Jones, Haugh, Smith, inc.	$ 11,757.50 (County Ditch J27)
Thomas Wayne	$ 2,000.00 (Bond)

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

The following bill was submitted to be paid by the district:

Nancy Finley	$ 80.91 (Grinders Deli snacks for workshop)

Jon made a motion to pay this bill seconded by Pete and carried.

James reports DNR sent $5000.00 reimbursement for Steve's time bidding out the project. James hosted an online meeting with all parties involved with the project and found NRCS has additional funding to cover the difference between the BWSR engineer's estimate and the lowest bids we received. James and Steve will collect more information before asking the board to proceed with approving a bid and selecting a contractor.

Steve Penkava discussed the CD J27 project. The project will be advertised in March and the project awarded at the April meeting. Construction will be completed by the end of 2026.

Steve reported on Freeborn & Mower Counties joint County Ditch No. J24 2026 brush control quote and summary. Steve reports TBB spraying is the company we used last year and was very satisfied with their work and lower bids. After discussion Jon made a motion to accept Steve's recommendation to hire TBB Spraying for 2026 with the bid of $6,630.00 seconded by Jeff and carried.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy K. Finley
Recording Secretary