

**MINUTES OF THE ROSEAU RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF
MANAGERS MEETING HELD JUNE 2, 2021**

ORDER: Chairman Carter Diesen called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MANAGERS PRESENT: In person: Jason Braaten, Tony Wensloff, and Carter Diesen.

STAFF PRESENT: In Person: Watershed Specialist McCormack and Administrator Halstensgard.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §13D.021, because of the declaration by Governor Tim Walz on March 13, 2020 of a Peacetime State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting was conducted via WebEx and at the Roseau City Center located at 121 Center Street East, Roseau, Minnesota observing all CDC guidelines including social distancing and masks being required.

OTHERS PRESENT: In Person: Matt Magnusson. Via WebEx: Chad Reese and Melanie Benit, Institute for Justice; Terry Kveen; Deb Walchuk, NRCS; Keith Weston, RRRRA; Deb Stone; Thomas Enright, Mn DNR.

CONSULTING STAFF PRESENT: In person, Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering; Via WebEx: Michelle Moren, Moren Law office; Hannah Rollin and Erik Jones, Houston Engineering; Kerrie Berg, HDR Engineering.

AGENDA: A **motion** was made by Manager Wensloff, seconded by Manager Braaten to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA: A **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Manager Braaten and seconded by Manager Wensloff. The motion carried unanimously. Adoption of the Consent Agenda included approving the May 5, 2021 regular meeting minutes, May 26, 2021 special meeting minutes, the Treasurer's Report, and manager and employee expense vouchers.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Specialist McCormack discussed an issue with water on the east side of Marvin Lake being trapped along Hwy 313 north of Warroad. There are centerline pipes under the highway that allow some water to go east to the lake. Landowners requested that the RRWD work with Warroad River WD and MN DOT to see if the issue can be addressed.

Chairman Diesen asked if there were any public comments on the New Business items. There were no comments.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The board discussed the estimate for culvert replacement in the WD#3 system and lack of funds in the WD#3 system. There was extensive discussion on how best to provide needed maintenance within the funding restrictions. The Board would like to schedule a meeting with WD#3 landowners to discuss a system-wide maintenance approach. Administrator Halstensgard suggested scheduling the meetings in the fall, after harvest. A **motion** was made by Manager Braaten, seconded by Manager Wensloff to replace the critical 24" culverts as part of the Duxby Levee. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Diesen asked if there were any comments on the Old Business item. There were no comments.

REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATOR: Administrator Halstensgard discussing the following:

- WD#4 viewers' meeting with landowners are being scheduled for June 16th & 17th. Matt Fischer has been contacted about applying for CWF grant monies for the side water inlets that partner with the new drainage.
- A draft of the 2020 audit will be ready for the July meeting.
- The first annual audit for the LSOHC funds was completed.
- A letter requesting participation in the Section 319 grant has been sent to MPCA.
- We have reserved our fair booth for this year.

WATERSHED SPECIALIST: Specialist McCormack provided the following update to the Board:

- Gopher bounty: A **motion** was made by Manager Wensloff to pay Jarid Loken for gopher trapped on District properties, seconded by Manger Braaten. Motion carried unanimously.
- ESRI maintenance contract renewal. A **motion** was made by Manager Braaten to authorize Specialist McCormack to renew the agreement, seconded by Manager Wensloff. Motion carried unanimously.
- Roseau Lake project plan survey in the Pine Creek area.
- Lost River options to prevent water crossing from Lost River State Forest to private land.
- WD 4 delineation update.
- Data loggers have been installed for the 2021 growing season.
- Will be inspecting Norland gate maintenance needs.
- Log jam removal
- Sky-hook structure construction.
- Zavoral parking lot quote.

RRWMB: Manager Braaten informed the board that the LiDAR update was approved. The Roseau Lake funding agreement was approved. There is \$21 Million worth of project funding committed.

Chairman Diesen asked if there were any comments on the Reports. Matt Magnusson asked about the Roseau Lake Funding agreement with the RRWMB. Administrator Halstensgard and Manager Braaten explained the statues of the agreement.

PROJECTS:

River Restoration – Engineer Hannah Rollin gave an update presentation to the Board. There was some discussion on how the project would be implemented in phases with each site being unique and requiring varying levels of construction work.

CD #16 Improvement – The board discussed the need to delay the bid opening until the July meeting. This delay will also push back the completion date.

WD #4 -- The Viewers' are working on site work and will be meeting with landowners in June.

Whitney Lake: -- Administrator Halstensgard provided an update on the State grant agreement. The Board will hold off on approving the agreement until we hear back from the state on questions we had on the new grant agreement.

Kerrie Berg gave an update on the process for finalizing the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the RCPP plan. The exception letter has been provided to the State Conservationist. A comment response matrix was also provided as well as the draft EA for review. Deb Walchuk provided the expected timeline for the recommendations to be made available. Keith Weston also commented on the project in North Dakota utilizing PL566 funds.

Roseau Lake – Administrator Halstensgard stated components of project development are currently on hold until the EAW Record of Decision is released. Administrator Halstensgard review the funding breakdown for the project. The board authorized release of the funding information to the public.

Chairman Diesen asked if there were any comments on the Projects. The questions from the audience were as follows:

- Jason Braaten recused himself from the board and commented on the CD 16 Improvement project appeal as the petitioner of the project.
- Deb Stone asked how many private land acres are involved in the Whitney Lake project. Engineer Dalager and Engineer Berg answered Ms. Stone stating there were 1400 acres between both sites A and C. Ms. Stone also asked about the terrestrial animals being displaced by the impoundments. Engineer Berg spoke to the benefits to the habitat that will be enhanced by these projects.

Specialist McCormack updated the board on the CD 18 construction being complicated by the fact that Roseau Electric had trenched in fiber optic along the road in the proposed excavation footprint.

The next meeting will be July 7th at 8:00 a.m. at the RRWD office. After a **motion** by Manager Braaten and second by Manager Wensloff, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cody Schmalz, Secretary


Tracy Halstensgard, Administrator

RRWD June 2021 Bills & Receipts

RRWD Checkbook Balance as of May 27, 2021	\$168,309.70
Receipts:	
Citizens State Bank -- interest 4-19-21	\$ 9.62
State of Minnesota -- Roseau Lake reimbursement	\$ 184,436.30
RRWMB -- FY20 Water Quality base funding reimbursement	\$ 17,954.51
Marshall County -- share of taxes	\$ 1,717.68
Total:	\$ 204,118.11
Bills:	
Tracy Halstensgard -- Salary and Insurance	\$5,039.64
Tracy Halstensgard -- reimbursement	\$16.98
Torin McCormack -- Salary and Insurance	\$5,486.64
Torin McCormack -- Mileage / Personal Equipment	\$175.00
Jason Braaten -- Per Diem and Expenses	\$104.67
Carter Diesen -- Per Diem and Expenses	\$330.81
Tony Wensloff -- Per Diem and Expenses	\$277.05
Internal Revenue Service -- Withholding	\$3,925.47
Minnesota Department of Revenue -- Withholding	\$630.00
PERA -- Employer / Employee Contribution	\$1,686.28
Cardmember Services -- software upgrades, supplies & equipment	\$814.30
City Of Roseau -- utilities	\$192.47
Marco -- Copier agreement	\$162.66
Minnesota Energy -- Natural Gas	\$80.81
Patrick Moren Law Office -- Legal Fees	\$2,975.00
Roseau Times Region -- Meeting Notices	\$2,279.70
Roseau Electric Co-op -- Int/phone --	\$154.60
Northern Resources -- gas	\$105.85
At Your Service Lawn Care -- mowing	\$448.88
Verizon Wireless -- Trimble	\$40.01
 	
Smith Partners -- legal fees	\$1,231.90
Jerid Loken -- gopher bounty	\$42.00
Patrick D. Moren -- filing fee reimbursement	\$375.00
Roseau County Ag Society -- fair booth	\$150.00
WSB -- Lost River Forest Peatland Restoration	\$196.00
HDR -- 1-17-21 to 3-27-21 -- Roseau Lake invoice 1200338870	\$61,979.82
HDR -- Invoices 1200343106, 1200343108, 1200344226	\$42,691.45
HDR -- 3-28-21 to 4-24-21 -- Roseau Lake invoice 1200344230	\$30,519.40
Total:	\$162,112.39