

**MINUTES OF THE ROSEAU RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD  
OF MANAGERS MEETING HELD MAY 1, 2025**

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

**MANAGERS PRESENT:** Carter Diesen, Laverne Voll, Jason Braaten, James Johnson, and Cody Schmalz

**STAFF PRESENT:** Administrator Halstensgard, Technician Broten, and Assistant Wensloff

**OTHERS PRESENT:** See attached list

**CONSULTING STAFF PRESENT:** Erik Jones, Houston Engineering; Nate Dalager, HDR; Michelle Moren, Attorney; Jacqueline Mosher, Attorney; Torin McCormack, HDR

**AGENDA:** A **motion** was made by Manager Voll to approve the agenda with changes, seconded by Manager Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** A **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of two permit applications and with revisions to the April 3, 2025 minutes as outlined in red, was made by Manager Voll and seconded by Manager Schmalz. The motion was carried unanimously. Adoption of the Consent Agenda included:

- Approval of April 3, 2025, regular meeting minutes
- April 17, 2025, special meeting minutes as amended
- April Treasurer's Report
- Additional bills for Moren Law Office for \$3,113.75, two bills for Houston Engineering for the River Restoration project for \$10,632.00 and for the Big Swamp North Project for \$10,974.25.
- Permit 2025-07 (Matt Magnusson) & Permit 2025-08 (Brad Blawat)
- Manager and employee expense vouchers as read by Manager Braaten

**DELEGATION:** Erick G. Kaardal, Mohrman, Kaardal and Erickson – Mr. Kaardal spoke on behalf of landowners in the River Restoration Project area and answered some questions. Mr. Kaardal stated the Board has a choice about pre-deprivation compensation under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 117 instead of using the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D or 103E. Mr. Kaardal requested that the Board use Minnesota Statutes Chapter 117. He stated he wanted the hydrological engineers to be scrutinized by Courts and lawyers. He stated will put this in Federal Court, but then suggested he wanted to be a friend of the Board. He stated they are contesting the pre-deprivation procedure. He claimed that proponents of the project are idealistic and misanthropic.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Building insulation quote – Manager Voll made a **motion** to hire Artic Spray Foam & Insulation insulate the entire RRWD office building for quoted price of \$3,570.00. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Policy – After a brief review of the draft presented, Manager Braaten made a **motion** to adopt the Personnel Policy updates. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Spruce 35 Wetland Bank – Mr. McCormack gave a thorough presentation on the wetland banking proposal, costs, and potential credits. Mr. McCormack asked the Board for authorization to submit the prospectus to the ACOE and to BWSR. With additional information from Engineer Jones and Engineer Dalager, Manager Voll made a **motion** to move forward with the submittals. Manager Braaten seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Beaver Trapping policy – The Board reviewed the example beaver trapping policy presented by Administrator Halstengard. After discussion the Board's decision was to not adopt a formal policy.

Payroll & bill authorization – There will be combining of the June and July meeting dates on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Manager Johnson made a **motion** to approve Administrator Halstengard to work with the treasurer to pay the recurring monthly bills and payroll checks for the months of May through July. Chairman Diesen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **PROJECT UPDATES:**

Oak Crest Coulee – Manager Braaten made a **motion** to set the final hearing date for Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. Manager Schmalz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CD 8 FEMA – Administrator Halstengard stated that FEMA authorization the mitigation work for CD8. She gave an update on where we're at in the process and that we are waiting for FEMA to obligate those funds. Scour repair, culvert replacements and brushing the outlet are a few things that need to be done.

Whitney Lake – Administrator Halstengard discussed various challenges for the Whitney Lake project, including landowner opposition and lack of funding opportunities. Manager Braaten made a **motion** to place the project on hold until there is a change of statues with either issue. Manager Voll seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Big Swamp North (Badger Creek) – Engineer Jones spoke about the project stating that the project team was reviewing and providing comment on the draft EAW. Public access and right of way along the main SD 69 channel were important issues being deliberated by the project team. These topics will be discussed more during the next Project Team meeting.

Roseau Lake – Administrator Halstensgard mentioned that she would like authorization to apply for LSOHC funding. Manager Johnson made a **motion** to approve that authorization. Manager Braaten seconded that motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **REPORTS:**

RRWMB: Manager Braaten gave updates on the RRWMB.

Technician: Technician Broten mentioned the need for more gravel to be added to the Norland access. Halvorson's will add gravel, as they did the Norland access project originally. Manager Voll made a **motion** to do so. Manager Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator: Administrator Halstensgard provided a written report and reviewed the following items:

- Summer Tour 25 – We have been coordinating plans with MN Watersheds personnel. We have a rough agenda drafted and have a good start to the summer tour plans and many other plans in motion.
- Rural flood mapping and funding discussion
- River Restoration – Michaelsohn exchange completion
- Joint Powers Board – Update on JPB meeting discussion topics including potential WD3 Lat 2 project, cattle exclusion on Hay Creek, and bank stabilization on ditches 9 & 7
- Board tables – Administrator Halstensgard will get estimates on new table options
- Real estate taxes for 2025 – Manager Voll moved to pay the 2025 taxes in full, Manager Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

After a **motion** by Manager Voll, seconded by Manager Schmalz, the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m. The next meeting will be held June 26, 2025, at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laverne Voll, Secretary



Tracy Halstensgard, Administrator

May 2025 Bills & Receipts

Checkbook Balance as of April 25, 2025	\$486,693.96
<b>Receipts:</b>	
Citizens State Bank -- interest 4-21-25	\$ 135.50
Marco Technologies -- refund	\$ 1,893.39
State of Minnesota -- IRA funding, Juneaberry Project	\$ 44,672.22
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 46,701.11</b>
<b>Bills:</b>	
Tracy Halstensgard -- Salary, Ins stipend & cell reimbursement	\$ 5,956.88
Blaine Broten -- Salary, Ins stipend & cell reimbursement	\$ 3,454.60
Tawni Wensloff -- wages	\$ 2,999.36
Tracy Halstensgard -- Mileage and expenses	\$ 193.90
Jason Braaten -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 261.67
Carter Diesen -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 710.95
James Johnson -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 355.76
Cody Schmalz -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 181.93
LaVerne Voll -- Per Diem & mileage	\$ 421.92
Elan Financial Services -- credit card	\$ 1,237.78
City Of Roseau -- utilities	\$ 184.73
Minnesota Energy Resources -- natural gas	\$ 126.79
Marco Technologies -- Adobe Acrobat Pro renewal	\$ 954.64
Marco -- copier contract	\$ 355.32
Patrick Moren Law Office -- Legal Fees	\$ 3,113.75
Roseau Electric Co-op -- Int/phone --	\$ 126.85
Verizon Wireless -- Trimble	\$ 40.01
Roseau County -- filing fee (Michaelsohn)	\$ 92.00
Roseau County -- deed tax (Michaelsohn)	\$ 267.30
Citizens State Bank -- safe deposit box fee	\$ 24.00
Dot.Com connection -- website maintenance 1st qtr	\$ 385.00
Anderson Bros Construction -- SD 51 debris removal	\$ 30,457.50
Red Barn Laser Engraving -- Tour expense	\$ 216.36
Houston Engineering -- invoice # 76026 & 76027	\$ 21,606.25
HDR -- Inv #1200713181, # 1200713180 & #1200713179	\$ 14,982.55
HDR -- Inv #1200713183 & Inv #1200712564	\$ 22,626.97
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$111,334.77</b>