

**MINUTES OF THE ROSEAU RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT BOARD OF
MANAGERS MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2021**

ORDER: Chairman Carter Diesen called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MANAGERS PRESENT: In person: Jason Braaten, LaVerne Voll, Tony Wensloff, Carter Diesen, and Cody Schmaltz.

STAFF PRESENT: In Person: Watershed Specialist McCormack; Via WebEx, Administrator Halstengard.

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 by via WebEx. Carter Diesen, as the Chairman of the Roseau River Watershed District Board of Managers, determined that an in-person meeting could take place at the Roseau City Center observing all CDC guidelines including social distancing and masks being required.

OTHERS PRESENT In Person: Randy Prachar, MN DNR; Roger Falk, County Commissioner; Mitch Magnusson, Matt Magnusson, landowners

OTHERS PRESENT via WebEx: Andrew Graham, MN DNR; Keith Weston, RRRRA; Rob Sip, Red River Watershed Management Board; Chad Reese and Melanie Benit, Institute for Justice; Landowners Terry Kveen, Deb Stone, Kurt Kveen, Norm Kveen, Tim Kveen, and James Johnson. Others, Rachel Williams and David Losson.

CONSULTING STAFF PRESENT: In person, Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering; Via WebEx, Michelle Moren, Attorney; Hannah Rollin, Houston Engineering.

AGENDA: A **motion** was made by Manager Wensloff, seconded by Manager Voll 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 Schmaltz. The motion carried unanimously. Adoption of the Consent Agenda included approving the February 3, 2021 regular meeting minutes, the Treasurer's Report, and manager and employee expense vouchers.

PERMITS: There were no permits for this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Specialist McCormack provided an update on the proposal to trap a culvert on the east side of CR 3, south side of the river. It appears that culvert is a part of the Ditch 17 system so it would have to go through a hearing process as an improvement/maintenance issue.

OLD BUSINESS: Administrator Halstengard updated the Board on the counties and SWCDs who have elected not to participate in the One Watershed One Plan process. Those counties and SWCD's have agreed to write letters or resolutions of support for our application.

Manager Voll stated he had not heard back from the timber harvesting company but would report back to the board at a later meeting.

REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATOR: Administrator Halstensgard discussing the following:

- Certificate of deposit due for renewal at Border State Bank in the amount of \$208,628.75. After discussion and recommendation by Manager Wensloff, Board Treasurer, a **motion** was made by Manager Braaten, seconded by Manager Voll to transfer funds from the Certificate of Deposit to the checking account.
- MAWD virtual legislative conference – March 17, 2021. – Board members will inform Administrator Halstensgard if they are interested in attending.
- An appraiser was located that is willing to work with the District on land value for projects. After discussion, Manager Braaten made a motion to authorize the Landuse Committee to offer landowners in project areas two options to choose from for valuation. Option One – Market Value plus a multiplier of 15%, or Option Two – appraised value. The Watershed District will choose the appraiser and pay for said appraisal. The motion died for lack of second. After further discussion, Manager Braaten made a **motion** to authorize the Landuse Committee to offer landowners in project areas two options to choose from for valuation. Option One – Market Value plus a multiplier of 15%, or Option Two – appraised value. If the landowner chooses the appraisal option, the Market Value option is no longer offered. The Watershed District will choose the appraiser and pay for said appraisal. The motion was seconded by Manager Schmalz. After additional discussion on valuation, Manager Braaten amended his motion to increase the multiplier to 25%. Manager Schmalz agreed with the amended motion. Chairman Diesen called for the vote. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- Roseau Lake mitigation update
- Ditch abandonment request to the County. A **motion** was made by Manager Braaten to adopt resolutions to proceed with the partial ditch abandonment proceedings for SD 61 and SD 87 pending attorney review, seconded by Manager Wensloff. Motion Carried Unanimously
- A **motion** was made by Manager Braaten, seconded by Manager Wensloff to petition the SD 51 weir construction pending attorney review. Motion carried unanimously.
- WD 4 wetland delineation report update
- Norland maintenance
- Hay Creek grazing proposal COE requirements. The board will revisit when Mr. Michal submits a grazing plan.
- Palmville update
- Wetland mitigation proposal for CD 16 and WD 4 projects
- A **motion** was made by Manager Wensloff to continue to allow Nick Robertson to hay the West Interceptor project, seconded by Manager Voll. Motion carried unanimously.
- Monitoring equipment purchase and site selection. A **motion** was made to purchase equipment for six stations by Manager Schmalz, seconded by Manager Wensloff. Motion carried unanimously.

RRWMB: Manager Braaten stated that the RRWMB has hired an additional lobbyist to help monitor various legislation. Rob Sip, Executive Director, stated that for every \$1 spent on lobbying, \$182 is brought into the Red River Valley in state funding. The Board is looking at ways to help fund a LiDAR update.

PROJECTS:

Whitney Lake RCPP: -- Engineer Dalager updated the board on the status of the EA. Mitch Magnusson asked about potential funding for the CD 16 project. There was discussion on the process and probability of obtaining federal funding for drainage. Manager Braaten recused himself from the board for discussion. It was stated that the board has ordered the project and it is following the legal process.

Roseau Lake – Randy Prachar gave a presentation on the draft Operating Plan. There were follow-up questions and discussion. A **motion** was made by Manager Braaten, seconded by Manager Wensloff to accept the draft Operating Plan and allow 30 days for the public to provide written comment to the Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Ditch 16 Update – Easements are ready for landowner signature and appointments are being set up with Attorney Moren’s office. A **motion** was made by Manager Schmalz, seconded by Manager Wensloff, to authorize the Board Chair and Secretary to sign the easements once the landowners have signed. Motion carried with Manager Braaten abstaining.

WD 4 Update – The Findings and Order were presented to the board by Administrator Halstensgard. After discussion on the ditch expansion request by Brach Svoboda and the appointment of viewers, a **motion** was made by Manager Braaten, seconded by Manager Wensloff to adopt the Findings and Order. The motion carried with Managers Braaten, Diesen, Schmalz and Wensloff in favor and Manager Voll absent.

OTHER ITEMS: There were no other items for this meeting.

The next meeting will be April 7th at 8:00 a.m. at the Roseau City Center to accommodate social distancing requirements. After a **motion** by Manager Wensloff and second by Manager Schmalz, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cody Schmalz, Secretary


Tracy Halstensgard, Administrator

RRWD March 2021 Bills & Receipts

RRWD Checkbook Balance as of February 19, 2021	\$160,930.97
Receipts:	
Red River Watershed Management Board -- Water Quality reimbursement (base)	\$ 20,989.22
Roseau County -- share of taxes	\$ 22,777.22
City of Warroad -- 2021 outlet fee	\$ 1,800.00
Marshall County -- SD 51 2020 final payment	\$ 80.89
State of Minneosta -- 2016 CWF final payment	\$ 4,622.00
Citizens State Bank -- interest 1-18-21	\$ 5.47
Total:	\$ 50,274.80
Bills:	
Tracy Halstensgard -- Salary and Insurance	\$5,039.64
Torin McCormack -- Salary and Insurance	\$5,486.64
Torin McCormack -- Mileage / Personal Equipment	\$238.08
Jason Braaten -- Per Diem and Expenses	\$104.67
LaVerne Voll -- Per Diem and Expenses	\$225.02
Carter Diesen -- Per Diem and Expenses	\$101.31
Cody Schmalz -- Per Diem and Expenses	\$145.55
Tony Wensloff -- Per Diem and Expenses	\$92.35
Internal Revenue Service -- Withholding	\$3,910.17
Minnesota Department of Revenue -- Withholding	\$630.00
PERA -- Employer / Employee Contribution	\$1,686.28
Cardmember Services -- office supplies, laptop, rivermorph software	\$2,894.71
City Of Roseau --	\$190.99
Marco -- Copier agreement	\$162.66
Minnesota Energy -- Natural Gas	\$151.54
Patrick Moren Law Office -- Legal Fees	\$7,188.00
Roseau Times Region -- Meeting Notices	\$61.20
Roseau Electric Co-op -- internet & phone service	\$218.29
North Pine Services -- snow removal through 1-24-21	\$299.25
Verizon Wireless -- Trimble	\$40.01
Terracon - Roseau lake	
	\$1,620.00
Houston Engineering -- River Restoration through 2-20-21	\$24,048.50
Backwoods Services -- SD 51 debris removal Feb 1-4, 2021	\$9,500.00
Forestry Suppliers, Inc -- monitoring equipment	\$2,306.20
WSB -- Lost River Forest Peatland Restoration	\$984.75
HDR -- invoice #s 1200325350, 1200325350	\$29,520.72
HDR -- invoice #s 1200324916, 1200324913, 1200326989	\$42,017.96
Total:	\$138,864.49