Regular Meeting Minutes
July 8th, 2019

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by President Tim Dritz at 9:00 a.m. at the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District (YMRWD) Office at 122 North Jefferson Street in Minneota, MN.

Managers present:   President Tim Dritz
Vice President John Boulton
Secretary Elmo Volstad
Treasurer Tim Buysse
Public Relations Bill Briggs

Others present:   Michelle Overholser, YMRWD Administrator
Mike Luke, YMRWD Project Assistant
Gary Laleman
Ed Laleman
David Loe
Kerry Netzke
Doug Gregoire
Tony Buysse
Cory Buysse
Dennis Heggeseth
Kyle Boe

Set Agenda
Buysse moved to approve the agenda with addition of 2.2 Tony Buysse. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes (June 10th, 2019)
Volstad moved to approve the minutes. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 4-0

Treasurer’s Report
Overholser presented the following reports:
- Profit and Loss Report   Net Income = $67,608.19
- Balance for 1W1P   Total Expenses = $29,290.18
- Ditch accounts balance
- District Account Balance

Outstanding warrants to be paid:
- Century Tel   Phone/Internet=$127.76
- One Office Solution   Copier/Copies=$13.12
- Netpoint   Web hosting=$8.95
- Bankcard Center   Credit Card=$382.52
- Jim Wambke   Rent=$700.00
- Payroll/PerDiems   Salaries/periderms=$6965.80
- Payroll Liabilities   Taxes/Benefits/Retirement=$1842.34
- Board and Staff   Mileage/expenses=$655.91

Buysse moved to approve the treasurer’s report. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
Permits – Tony Buysse
Mr. Buysse applied for a permit to tile in Yellow Medicine County (Eidsvold 17). Downstream landowner does not want to sign the application. Overholser proposed sending out a map of the project to all downstream landowners instructing them to contact the district if they have any concerns before the next meeting and then reopen the discussion at that time.
Buysse moved to table the permit. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Permits – Harold DeSmet
Harold is requesting to construct a berm along side of his field to prevent flooding. The board would like Harold to seek assistance through the SWCD or NRCS and see if there is some sort of designed conservation practice that could be done in this location. They do not feel that diking the field if the best option here.
Buysse moved to deny the permit. Volstad seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Public Comment, and Reports
Tim Drietz reflects on summer tour, recapping the major projects in the area

Michelle Overholser, Administrator, reported the following activities:

- Wednesday July, 10th bus tour area where she and Netzke will be leading the conversation. Thursday July, 11th is a continuation of the event with workshops, including a 45-minute presentation on 1W1P implementation that Overholser will be giving.
- Permits are still coming in pretty steadily

Mike Luke, Program Assistant reported that he has been working on permitting, shadowed Area 2 specialists for dam inspections, and completed the ditch 1 inspection with the two ditch overseers (Jelen and Stienessen).

Old Business – Laleman violation
A letter was sent to Ed Laleman instructing that the rocks blocking the private ditch must be removed. Mr. Laleman attended the meeting and stated that he had pushed the rocks into the ditch in order to get the Districts attention. He believes that the dam on Heggeseth land has been removed. Overholser stated that when she was out there to document the violation on Laleman’s land, she also looked at the Heggeseth dam. Overholser reported that the water levels were high, but it did appear that the structure was still in place. Mr. Laleman is insistent that the structure was removed.

The Board addressed the fact that even if Heggeseth had removed the structure on his property, that does not give Laleman the right to violate district rules and to back up water on to an upstream landowner. If another individual violates District rules that is separate enforcement issue.
Buysse moved to give Laleman until July 16th to have rock pile removed. Overholser will check for other alterations along the ditch. Boulton Seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Old Business – Ditch 4
Overholser received estimates on the two crossings that need repairs. The cost estimates are approximately $4,000 and $2,000.
Buysse moved to repair the crossings. Boulton seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
Old Business – Biennial Summit/ Board Meeting/ Advisory
Schedule for next board meeting is tentatively set for 1pm on August 12th, with 1W1P biannual summit meeting set for 6pm the same day.

Old Business – David Loe, Lucas 8
Mr. Loe is proposing to add more tile to an existing system. The existing system outlets into a private ditch that runs through the Cottonwood golf club. A Club representative was present, and expressed concerns that the project would not benefit the courses, especially what is being proposed on the east side. No agreement was established.

Buysse moved to table the permit while an agreement is trying to be reached. Briggs seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Old Business – Ditch 1
Inspection was completed on Ditch 1. Overholser will be putting together a summary of the work needed and sending it out to area contractors for bids.

New Business – Hydro seeding- Action
Kerry Netzke, Area 2 Exec. Director, gave a dam inspection summary report highlighting the following:
- Porter dam has a Russian olive that needs removed
- Lake John has a few trees needing removed, and ruts from spring traffic. Recommending a gravel truck to even out the road.
- Sonstegard has some leafy spurge in approximately 20 x 20 ft area.
- Hauschild dam has lost a significant amount of vegetation via surface water erosion. Different seeding options were discussed including hydro seeding

Bolton moved to carry out investigation of other options that will be more cost effective and for Kerry and Michelle to consult and make the best decision. Volstad seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

New Business – Resolutions- FYI and Discussion
If anyone has resolutions they feel we should submit we need to be working on them now and pass at the September meeting.

New Business – 2019 Periderms- Discussion
As of July 1, 2019, the District could choose to raise their per diems to $125.00.

New Business – Expense reports and conference attendance- Discussion
Overholser gave reminder to turn in expense reports.

New Business – Governance 101- September 12-13- Bloomington- Action
If anyone is interested in attending the training, please let Overholser know so she can get you registered.
1W1P Cost-Share
None

Other Business – Future Events
Regular Meeting  Monday August 12th  1 p.m.
Drainage Workshop  July 10th-11th Marshall
1W1P  August 12th  6 p.m

Adjournment
Dritz called the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary Elmo Volstad  Date

Minutes prepared by Michael Luke

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District will be held at 1:00 p.m. on August 12, 2019 at the District Office.