

**LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2009, 7:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Kremer called the regular meeting of the Board of Managers of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, April 15, 2009 in the Council Chambers at the City of Chaska, Chaska, Minnesota.

2. SWEARING IN CEREMONY MR. DON MCCREEDY, DAKOTA COUNTY MANAGER

The District's attorney, Mr. Malkerson, performed the swearing in ceremony for Mr. Don McCreedy, appointed by the Dakota County Commission to serve a three-year term as a Board Manager.

3. ROLL CALL

Managers Present: Len Kremer, Ed Schlampp, Larry Samstad, Kent Francis

Also Present: Districts' Attorney Bruce Malkerson, staff members Terry Schwalbe and Joan Ellis

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Manager Schlampp requested that Subject Matter be added to the agenda at New Business 10.e.

Mr. Schwalbe requested that the National Park Service, May 6, 2009 be added to 14. Upcoming Meetings and Tours. **It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as amended. VOTE: Ayes 4; Nays 0.**

5. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. **VOTE: Ayes 4; Nays 0. Abstentions 1.**

6. OPEN FORUM

No one spoke.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The March 2009 minutes were approved under the Consent Agenda.

8. PRESENTATIONS

a. Scott County SWCD Monitoring Report, Jaime Rockney

Ms. Rockney gave her annual report to the board. Ms. Rockney said the DNR could perform a survey to measure at mean sea level between the wells and would look into it. She recommended that a meeting be held with the District's web master and staff to take a look at revising the monitoring portion of the District's web site. Ms. Rockney said there is quite a bit of buckthorn at the Savage Fen Creek. Mrs. Ellis suggested a "Friends of the Savage Fen" be started up this year.

b. Willow Creek and Fen Wells Monitoring Report, Travis Bistodeau, Dakota County

Mr. Bistodeau gave his annual report to the board. He recommended monitoring in the winter not be included in the contract as the wells are frozen. He recommended stopping providing monitoring reports but rather have the District web site link to the Minnesota Climatology Work Group web site as they have the most complete data available.

9. PRESENTATIONS FOR BOARD ACTION

There were none.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Riverview Road, Eden Prairie Bank Erosion, T. Schwalbe

Mr. Schwalbe said the City of Eden Prairie's consultants are developing a plan on how to proceed. He said he has contacted the USACOE to look at Stimulus Funding potential.

The board said that the City of Eden Prairie has the right to petition the District for further assistance. Manager Schlampp went on record of not being involved in any decision related to this subject. The board requested a copy of the technical report when completed and reviewed by the city and also to get the date the feasibility report was done.

b. Fernholz Well Sealing cost-share request with Scott SWCD, T. Schwalbe

Mr. Schwalbe explained Scott SWCD's request. **After board discussion it was moved and seconded not to participate in well sealing. VOTE Ayes 5; Nays 0.**

c. Courthouse Lake, T. Schwalbe

Mr. Schwalbe received information from Carver County Environmental Services that the DNR was contacted by emergency diving teams swimming in Courthouse Lake that observed many dead trout. Darryl Ellison, DNR, indicated that the oxygen levels drop in winter months. The DNR is going to fund and place an aeration machine in the lake just before freeze up. Carver County and the City of Chaska will get electric service to the lake. The board indicated that they would partner on a project to use an alum treatment of the lake but not until 2010.

d. Scott County 2009 Bike Ride May 16, 9-11 PM funding request, J. Ellis

Mrs. Ellis explained the bike ride along the MN River from Shakopee to Carver and back. The county is requesting a donation to support the event. **It was moved and seconded to approve a 400.00 donation to promote citizen involvement in promoting the Minnesota River. VOTE: Ayes 5; Nays 0.** Also, the District will have a table during the ride with a display about the District and the MN River.

e. Officer Elections, Manager Schlampp

Manager Schlampp moved and Manager Samstad seconded to vote in a slate of officers as follows: President Larry Samstad, Vice-President Kent Francis, Treasurer Ed Schlampp, Don McCreedy Vice-Treasurer. Roll Call Vote: Samstad yes, Schlampp yes, Kremer no, Francis no, McCreedy abstained.

Manager Francis said the board should give Don McCreedy a chance to get to know the board. He said when he came on board he had no knowledge of the District and said there is a lot of learn about the District and the board members. **It was moved and seconded to table the subject. VOTE: Ayes 4; Nays 0; Abstentions 1.**

11. OLD BUSINESS

a. Flood update

Mr. Schwalbe said the Ft Snelling gauge read 14.6 cfs and increased temperature + 8 in a week.

b. Coleman Lake

Mr. Schwalbe said a floodplain lake in Nine Mile Creek empties into Coleman Lake. In the past Nine Mile Creek Watershed District has done bank stabilization. Erosion to the lake has formed a delta. The DNR survey says there are still the rare frog species and is still native on the endangered list.

12. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

a. Seminary Fen/Assumption Creek negotiations and mapping

Mr. Schwalbe handed out a detailed map of the fen properties and gave an update about Clean Water funding and said Peggy Booth didn't know if the fen was SNA qualified. The Hess property is still in estate process.

b. Update on legislative resolution implementing a MN River Valley Basin Commission and for federal and state funding

Mr. Schwalbe said we are ready for next session. **It was moved and seconded authorizing Terry Schwalbe and Jeff Davidman to work with the MRB President, Judy Hanson and Shannon Fisher to take a detailed look at the bill and see how the MRB fits. VOTE: Ayes 5; Nays 0.**

c. Dredge Sites

The USACOE is working on setting federal funding for the Nine Foot Channel through the Mississippi River funding program. Mr. Davidman is looking at Washington D.C. lobbyists and after the USACOE meeting on April 23 will draft a letter.

d. 509 Plan Update

Mrs. Della Young, HDR, looked at the budget and she is comfortable with the process.

e. Hennepin Conservation District (HCD) Forum report

Mr. Schwalbe said the HCD got all water entities together to look at Clean Water Funds. Their minutes will be in next months' packets. 1.5 million dollars was introduced in legislation for restoration projects. Dakota/Scott counties are looking for 1.5 million dollars for trails along the river. The board suggested they go to the Heritage Fund.

f. J. Ellis annual review

Mr. Schwalbe gave his review of Mrs. Ellis. He indicated he couldn't find what the current COL is. President Kremer and Manager Francis said they would check with their HR departments to determine the COL. This item was postponed to the May 2009 meeting

DISTRICT ATTORNEY REPORT

There was nothing to report.

ADJOURN

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9.25 PM. VOTE: Ayes 5; Nays 0.