North Fork Crow River Watershed District
Approved Minutes – April 10, 2017

North Fork Crow River Watershed District
Approved Regular Meeting Minutes
April 10th, 2017

Managers Present: Berndt, Brauchler, Wuertz, Barchenger, Hanson
Managers Absent: None
Staff Present: Cris Skonard, Christine Knutson, Christopher Lundeen
Others Present: Kurt Deter (Rinke-Noonan), Earl Kasper, Steve Notch, Mark Origer, Geoff Kramer, Joe Lewis, Kevin Farnum, Barry Darval, Gerald Olson, Virgil Fuchs, Kevin Bruntlett, Dan Schultz, Roger Lyon, Will Wesbur, Scott Dymock, Ken Radermacher, Bonita Radermacher, Art Marthaler, Jim Weller, Tim Heinze, Dennis Walz, Ken Vogt, Brad Marthaler, others

Call to Order:
Chairperson Wuertz called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Review and Approve Agenda
Added CAC meeting discussion, added BWSR Drainage Engineer Meeting, Added Jerry Olson beaver dam removal, Added Dennis Zimmerman field crossing repair, Added Fischer attorney letter, Remove intern discussion.

Motion to approve the revised agenda as amended made by Manager Hanson, seconded by Manager Brauchler. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda Items
Chairperson Wuertz called for a motion to approve the consent agenda.
1. Treasurer’s Report and Bills to April 10th, 2107
   a. Check Register - 106 Bonanza Checking Accnt
   b. P & L Detail – All Accounts
   c. Balance Sheet – All Accounts
2. Minutes

Motion to approve consent agenda with changes made by Manager Brauchler, seconded by Manager Barchenger. Motion carried.

Open Discussion from the Public
Chairman Wuertz asked for comment from the public.

Kevin Farnum announced two upcoming meetings to discuss the Starry Stonewort infestation. He also discussed the DNR inspection hours and locations. Mr. Farnum also requested the District consider a $1,500 in-kind contribution to the AIS efforts.

Regular Agenda

Staff Reports
Administrator’s Report:
1. MAWD Legislative Days
Skonard updated the Board regarding MAWD Legislative Days. Skonard, Brauchler and Barchenger attended. Skonard also attended the ADA meeting the morning of the first day. Participants met individually with local legislators over the two days. The legislators were interested and attentive while visiting about District issues.
2. Additional Business
Skonard addressed Manager attendance at CAC meetings. Discussion focused on the number of Managers that need to attend and claim reimbursement.

Motion to have one Manager present during the CAC meeting and that no claim be made for reimbursement made by Manager Berndt, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.

Technician’s Report:
1. Activity Report:
Lundeen gave report of his activities. The water quality monitoring season has started. Lundeen reported Earth Day activities will be held on April 22 at the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center. Highlighted activities include a panel discussion with Ag Water Quality Certified participants and an animal presentation by the Minnesota Zoo. AIS training takes place on Saturday, April 15 in Paynesville. Lundeen questioned if a student could ride along during a sampling event in order to evaluate potential career opportunities. Board indicated approval noting that the volunteer would be covered under the District insurance policy. Lundeen discussed AIS efforts and possible DNR grants for AIS inspections.

Motion made to have the District apply for DNR AIS inspection grant made by Hanson, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.

2. 2016 Monitoring: Review
Lundeen presented a slideshow of the 2016 sampling results in relation to the historical monitoring effort of the District as reported in the annual report.

3. Prairie Storm Change Orders
Lundeen presented a modified change order to reflect a different manufacturer of the stop logs. The change order was necessitated by the long lead time to obtain the stop logs from the original manufacturer.

Motion to approve the change orders made by Brauchler, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

4. 21017 Subwatershed Grant Work Plan
Lundeen updated the Board on the plan noting CD36 was in the original application but was replaced with CD5 after BWSR approval.

Motion to amend plan to substitute CD5 for CD36 made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

5. 2016 Annual Report
Lundeen presented the annual.

Motion to accept the 2016 Annual Report made by Brauchler, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

Funds Manager / Administrative Assistant Report:
As reported in Financial Statements.

Program Reports
A. Permit Report:
None

B. Drainage Report:
1. CD 32 Repair: Status Update:
Fischer attorney letter to be discussed in close session.
Geoff Kramer updated the Board as to necessary repairs. Landowners questioned who was paying for repairs. Attorney Deter recommended that all repair expenses should be tracked and presented at the acceptance hearing.

Ken Vogt, Getty Township Board, requested that a 15” CMP culvert be used under the township road instead of 15” HDPE.

Skonard informed the Board that a permit application had been submitted at the Raymond Township board meeting and that a $50 application fee was required. The application specified that “gray” pipe was to be used under the township road. Further investigation revealed the specified pipe is polypropylene (PP) instead of high density polyethylene (HDPE).

Motion to pay the Raymond Township permit application fee in the amount of $50 made by Brauchler, seconded by Hanson. Motion carried. Berndt abstained as a benefited land owner.

2. CD 7 Review Bids:
Mark Origer, ISG, presented the bid results for the ditch repair. Origer indicated that Highline was the low bid, however, requested to pull their bid due to a miscalculation in their estimate. The second low bid was from MBC Drainage.

Motion to accept the MBC Drainage bid made by Brauchler, seconded by Berndt. Motion carried.

3. JD 1 Main and Branches: Status Update:
Joe Lewis informed the Board that cleanup and seeding is in progress. Work on Fork 4 has been completed. Fork 1 is being staking with construction soon after. Field work on the Multi-Purpose Drainage Management Plan is to begin soon identifying the type and number of wetlands. Roger Lyon asked if JD1 BR12 FK6 SP1 was part of the plan. Board consensus was to add that to the plan.

4. CD21: Status Update:
Joe Lewis presented a report on the repair. Lewis also provided repair options upstream of the culvert under the township road. Dennis Walz requested that the culvert be lowered to ASIC elevation. Alan Loch wanted the culvert elevation to remain with the culvert being repaired. Board directed Skonard to attend the Crow River Township meeting and report back.

5. CD29, CD36 and CD37: ROB Update:
The Rademacher letter was discussed. Deter read the order for redetermination and authorizing state statute.

Motion to Redetermine Benefits on CD 29 made by Berndt, seconded by Hanson. Motion carried.

Motion to Redetermine Benefits on CD 36 made by Berndt, seconded by Hanson. Motion carried.

Motion to Redetermine Benefits on CD 37 made by Berndt, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

6. CD 37: Beaver Control Request:
Barry Darval, attorney representing Virgil Fuchs, addressed the Board regarding beaver dam issues in CD 37 downstream from Stearns County Road 13 to the North Fork Crow River. Stated that beaver dams caused water to backup in the fall resulting in crop loss. Virgil Fuchs demanded action. Attorney Deter provided a brief history of issues on CD 37 from 1981 to present. Berndt suggested an emergency repair. Board directed Skonard to evaluate conditions on the ditch.

7. CD43: DNR West Lake Update:
Ethan Jensen, DNR Area Hydrologist, presented information on the outlet of West Lake. The lake was surveyed and evaluated to determine the normal pool elevation. Jensen proposed to amend the DNR permit to include a control structure in CD43 with a crest elevation of 1,118.6’-1,118.8’ elevation with guaranteed ditch maintenance so long as
the structure is maintained. It was noted that the District does have sheet pile on hand which could be used for this project.

8. Other Ditch Business:
Jerry Olson addressed the Board regarding beaver dams on CD36. Board agreed by consensus to have the dams removed.

Skonard received a request from Dennis Zimmerman to repair a field crossing on CD3. Photos were presented.

Board motioned to repair the field crossing if verified that it is on CD3 made by Berndt, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

C. Board Member Meeting Reports:
Brauchler updated the Board on Buffer Law activity stating that there are potential amendments to the bill, however, felt they would be vetoed.

Hanson updated the Board on 1W1P Policy Committee. Stated the final nine months of planning may be short of money and working on a solution in conjunction with BWSR.

Items for Next Meeting Agenda:
AIS in-kind contribution

Calendar Review:
Brauchler stated he will attend one of the Kandiyohi buffer meetings.

FYI Items:
None

Motion to close the meeting to discuss pending legal matters made by Hanson, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.

Closed Meeting to discuss pending legal matters.

Regular meeting reopened.

Adjournment:
Motion to adjourn made by Berndt, seconded by Hanson. Motion carried. Meeting Adjourned.

[Signature]
John Hanson – Secretary

May 8, 2017