North Fork Crow River Watershed District
Approved Regular Meeting Minutes
December 11th, 2017

Managers Present: Jim Barchenger, Gary Berndt, Bob Brauchler, John Hanson, Jim Wuertz
Managers Absent: None
Staff Present: Cris Skonard, Christine Knutson, Christopher Lundeen
Others Present: Kurt Deter (Rinke-Noonan), Larry Ladwig, Roger Lyon, Jim Weller, Tim Heinze, Tom Weber, Kevin Farnum, Dave Johnson, Ken Hess, Boyce Fischer, Russell Gruber, Boyd Fischer, Tim Meers, Todd Babekuhl, Mark Hoeper, Mike Hall, Merlin Schroeder, others

1. Call to Order
President Wuertz called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

2. Review and Approve Agenda
Motion to approve the revised agenda to include riparian aid fund discussion made by Manager Hanson, seconded by Manager Brauchler. Motion carried.

3. Consent Agenda Items
President Wuertz called for a motion to approve the consent agenda.
   1. Treasurer’s Report and Bills to December 11th, 2017
      a. Check Register - 106 Bonanza Checking Acct
      b. P & L Detail – All Accounts
      c. Balance Sheet – All Accounts

Motion to approve consent agenda made by Barchenger, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.
Affirmative: Barchenger, Berndt, Brauchler, Hanson, Wuertz
Opposed: None

4. Minutes
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Motion to approve the minutes with corrections made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

5. Open Discussion from the Public
President Wuertz asked for comment from the public.

Kevin Farnum presented a brief report on the AIS inspection performed on three lakes in 2017. Over 63,000 inspections performed by DNR certified inspectors. Kevin also asked that KLA, as an association, be included for membership to the CAC. Consensus that only individual membership allowed.

Agenda

6. JD1 Record Reestablishment Hearing
A. Procedure
President Wuertz closed the regular meeting and opened the hearing at 2:00 pm.
Attorney Deter stated the purpose of the meeting. Engineer Joe Lewis presented a report supporting the record reestablishment.
B. Public Comment
Tim Meers had a question regarding property and also asked about funding.
Todd Babekuhl asked the cost of the repair.
Mary Anne Thorpe-general comment
Roger Lyon agreed with Stearns Ditch Inspector findings on BR12 FK6.
Dave Johnson asked if we were going to hit the cap.
Merlin Schroeder asked how far borings could be taken into the lake.

C. Continuance
Motion to continue the public hearing until January 8th, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. and accept written comments until January 3rd, 2018 made by Berndt, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.

Motion to resume the regular meeting made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

7. Staff Reports
A. Administrator’s Report:
1. Activities
Skonard updated the Board on various activities within the District.

2. CAC Update
Roger Lyon updated the Board on the CAC meeting which was held at 10:00 a.m. prior to the regular board meeting. Board discussed appointing CAC members for 2018.

Motion to appoint all active members, Mike Fish and agency appointees made by Barchenger, seconded by Berndt. Motion carried.

3. Insurance
Skonard updated the Board regarding insurance renewal and that he will be meeting with our insurance representative to review District coverage.

4. Meeting Minutes
Skonard suggested the Board consider hiring a firm take and prepare meeting minutes. Skonard had contacted a firm in Willmar which offers this service. Consensus to invite the firm to the January meeting to introduce themselves.

5. Buffer Rule
Skonard updated the Board that required notices have been sent out and will be placed in the District’s official newspapers.

6. MAWD
Skonard and the Board reviewed the MAWD annual meeting.

7. Legal Firm Review
Discussion on reviewing other legal firms.

Motion to move the discussion to the June meeting made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

8. December Personnel Review
Motion to approve wage/salary adjustments made by Barchenger, seconded by Brauchler. Motion carried.
Affirmative: Barchenger, Berndt, Brauchler, Hanson, Wuertz
Opposed: None

9. Additional Business
Skonard informed the Board that Riparian Aid money will be coming in from the counties. Consensus of the Board is to setup an account for this money so expenses can be tracked.

Discussion to set a special meeting at the end of December to approve year end bills and discuss the CD32 repair.

Motion to set the year end special meeting on December 27th, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the District office made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.

President Wuertz also noted that managers attending any CAC meeting may not influence the committee.

Discussed working with Stearns SWCD on feedlot issues.

B. Technician’s Report:

1. Activity Report:
Lundeen gave report of his activities. Monitoring data will be submitted for review. Discussed a water quality meeting with Stearns SWCD and DNR. Discussed meeting with Tom Weber, Pierz Lake, regarding preparing a proposal for financial assistance to operate a curly leaf pond weed harvester.

2. Grant Update
Lundeen provided an AIS grant update as well as the subwatershed grants.

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

8. Program Reports
A. Permit Report:
None

B. Drainage Report:
1. CD21: Status Update-HEI:
Joe Lewis updated the Board on the CD21 repair.

2. JDI Main and Branches
Joe Lewis, HEI, reiterated his comments during the public hearing.

3. CD7 Repair: Update-Kurt Deter
Attorney Deter read a legal memo for the record. Deter found the one rod grass strips had been acquired following a record review. Recommend to set a hearing to correct the Redetermination of Benefits.

Motion to set a hearing to correct the redetermination of benefits for CD7 on February 12th, 2018 at 2:00 at the District office made by Hanson, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.
Affirmative: Barchenger, Berndt, Brauchler, Hanson, Wuertz
Opposed: None

4. CD 32 Repair: Status Update:
RESPEC Invoice
Motion to table RESPEC invoice to December 27th, 2017 year meeting made by Brauchler, seconded by Barchenger. Motion carried.
5. CD 29, CD36, CD37: ROB Update
Skonard informed the Board H2over Viewers have been making progress and has answered questions posed by the viewers.

6. Other Ditch Business:
Russ Gruber asked if anything had been done on JD2. Skonard responded that the most recent engineering report did not have the needed information. Skonard to work with Joe Lewis.

C. Board Member Meeting Reports:
None

9. Items for Next Meeting Agenda:
District involvement with Stearns SWCD regarding feedlots

10. Calendar Review:
Three month outlook calendar provided.

11. FYI Items:
None

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

John Hanson – Secretary