

Minutes of the Cedar River Watershed District
1408 21st Ave NW, Austin, MN 55912
Wednesday, August 17, 2016

Managers Present: Jim Gebhardt Kevin Kiser
Mike Merten Jason Weis
Sue Olson

Others Present: Justin Hanson, Administrator
Jeanne Crump, Admin. Assistant
Cody Fox, Mower SWCD
James Fett, Mower SWCD
John Kolb, Rinke-noonan
Adam King, Dodge SWCD
Dave Livingston, Dodge SWCD

Public Present: 5 members of the public attended the hearing: Terry Anderson, Jim Hartson, Dennis Magnuson, Barry Magnuson and John Kluever, Freeborn County Administrator.

Public Hearing for the Administrative and Project Levies

Vice Chairman, Jim Gebhardt called the public hearing to order.

2017 Proposed Levy Discussion

Hanson gave a presentation on the budget and the levy proposals. The board held discussion.

Public Input

The members of the public voiced their concerns regarding the project levy. Some of their concerns included; what the Watershed District is allowed to do by law, match dollars, agricultural vs. residential taxes, the financial position of the CRWD and the current financial state of agriculture.

John Kluever, Freeborn County Administrator, addressed the board and presented a resolution from the Freeborn County commissioners stating that they encourage the CRWD board to explore all funding options as an alternative to the project levy. He also expressed the Freeborn County board's appreciation of the great job that the CRWD board have been doing.

John Kolb, Hanson and board members addressed the concerns of the public, explaining that all options for other funding have been examined. They thanked the public for their attendance at the hearing.

Gebhardt closed the public hearing.

Vice Chairman, Jim Gebhardt called the board meeting to order.

Agenda

Olson made a motion to approve the agenda. Merten seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson

Opposed: None

Public Input

Livingston commented on the hearing.

Action Items

Secretary's Report

Merten presented the minutes from the July 20, 2016 board meeting. Kiser made a motion to approve the minutes. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson

Opposed: None

Treasurer's Report

Crump reviewed the Treasurer's report for August. Weis made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Kiser seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson

Crump reviewed the payables with the board. Kiser made a motion to approve the payables for August. Merten seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson

Kolb introduced himself to the board.

2017 Budget Resolution

Hanson explained the Resolution Adopting the 2017 Cedar River Watershed District Budget and Directing Certification, which states:

NOW THEREFORE, be it hereby Resolved that the Cedar River Watershed District: Approves the 2017 Budget, as presented to the public or amended by board as a result of the August 17th, 2016 hearing, a copy of which is attached hereto, and

FURTHER, subject to amendment downward only, authorizes the Watershed District Secretary, with the assistance of staff, to certify the assessments and tax levies necessary to execute the budget to the appropriate County Auditors according to the schedules provided by said Auditors.

The board held discussed. Olson made a motion to approve the Resolution Adopting the 2017 Cedar River Watershed District Budget and Directing Certification. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson

Opposed: None

2015 Audit

CliftonLarsonAllen has completed the CRWD 2015 Financial Audit. The board held discussion. Olson made a motion to approve the 2015 Audit. Merten seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson

Opposed: None

Set Date for Project Establishment Hearing

Fox updated the board on the two projects that he has been working on. Kolb explained the project procedure. The next step for the two projects would be to have a public hearing for the establishment. Kiser made a motion to set the public hearing for the two projects for 6:00pm on Wednesday, September 21st. The hearing will take place at the SWCD/CRWD office, before the regular monthly board meeting. Olson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson

Opposed: None

MNDOT Permit for Interstate 90

Fett explained permit application for the project that will be taking place on I90 through Austin. The board held discussion. Olson made a motion to approve the permit application. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson

Opposed: None

Discussion and Updates

2017 Clean Water Fund Application

Hanson and Fox explained to the board the 2017 Clean Water Fund application that was applied for. The District will find out, later this fall, if the application was approved.

Project Manager

Fox talked about current projects.

Permits

Fett gave the board an update on the permits.

Outreach

No report on outreach was given.

Manager's Reports

Chairman Report

No reports.

Olson made a motion to adjourn the board meeting. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Merten, Kiser, Weis, Olson

Opposed: None

Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 21, 2016.

Submitted by,

Mike Merten, Secretary, jkc