Minutes of the Cedar River Watershed District 1408 21st Ave NW, Austin, MN 55912 Wednesday, August 16, 2023 Meeting held at the Mower SWCD office

Managers Present: Jim Gebhardt Mike Jones

Steve Kraushaar

Jason Weis

Sue Olson

Others Present: Cody Fox, Administrator

Jeanne Crump, Mower SWCD James Fett, Mower SWCD Dave Copeland, BWSR

Dave Livingston, Dodge SWCD

Public Hearing for the 2024 Administrative, Project and Maintenance Levies

Chairman, Jim Gebhardt called the public hearing to order.

2024 Budget, Administrative, Project and Maintenance Levy

Fox talked about the 2024 budget breakdown and the levy proposals. The board held discussion on the 2024 budget and the levies.

Public Input

No Input

Jones made a motion to close the public hearing. Kraushaar seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Jones, Kraushaar, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Chairman Gebhardt called the board meeting to order.

Agenda

Additions were made to the agenda to include Permitting under Action Items and Soil Health under Discussion Items. Olson made a motion to approve the August agenda with additions. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Jones, Kraushaar, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Public Input

No public input.

Secretary's Report

The minutes were presented to the board from the July 19, 2023 board meeting. Kraushaar made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 19 meeting. Jones seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Jones, Kraushaar, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Treasurer's Report

The board discussed the July month end reports. Weis made a motion to approve the July month end reports. Gebhardt seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Jones, Kraushaar, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

The August payables report was reviewed with the board. Olson made a motion to approve the payables for August. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Jones, Kraushaar, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Action Items

2024 Budget

Jones made a motion to approve the 2024 Proposed Budget. Olson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Jones, Kraushaar, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Resolution-2024 Proposed Levy

A change was made in the language of the motion second portion of the resolution. Kraushaar made a motion to approve the 2024 Budget and Levy limits as presented to the public or amended by board as a result of the August 16th, 2023 hearing with the following proposed levy amounts for 2024, the motion will include the language change to the motion second portion on the resolution. Administrative-\$250,000, Project-\$100,000, and Maintenance-\$20,000. Olson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Jones, Kraushaar, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

River Cleanup

Fox informed the board of the large objects that have been found in the Cedar. The board discussed how these items should be removed. They suggested starting with an inventory of the items in the river.

Permitting

Fett and Fox talked about the road project for US Hwy 218/Hwy 30 west in Blooming Prairie. They have been working with John Schulte V at JHS to come up with a solution for the interchange. Schulte came up with a solution and asked MNDOT and its consultants to model. It results in a minimal flow increase at the outlet, but provides the best structural protection from flooding. Fett went over the options. Olson made a motion to allow CRWD staff to approve the permit administratively under conditions that the plans provided by MNDOT remain the same and that MNDOT provides a drainage memorandum that summarizes existing and proposed runoff conditions and their effect on the Dollar General store location. Jones seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Gebhardt, Jones, Kraushaar, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Partners Reports

Dodge SWCD, Dave Livingston

Livingston thanked the Cedar Wapsipincon 1W1P policy committee for the project tour on August 2. He talked about the Dodge SWCD board meeting and the 2 projects that were approved using the Cedar Wapsi 1W1P funding.

BWSR, Dave Copeland

Copeland talked about the following: the 3 new watersheds to adopt a 1W1P, grants to help with 5-year assessments for the 1W1P groups, the 3rd grant for the Cedar Wapsi 1W1P at \$974,000, along with staff changes throughout BWSR.

Discussion and Updates

Watershed District Survey

Fox talked about the survey and received input from the board.

Cedar Wapsi 1W1P Tour

Fox talked about the projects shown during the Cedar Wapsi 1W1P tour on August 2.

New SWCD Staff

Fox informed the board that Micah Peterson resigned from the Mower SWCD board and was hired in the SWCD office as a part-time district technician.

Soil Health

Fox talked about the proposed multicounty soil health position. The Soil Health Coalition would be the employer.

Manager's Reports

Chairman Report

Nothing new.

Jones made a	motion to adjourn the board meeting. Olson seconded the motion.
Affirmative:	Gebhardt, Jones, Kraushaar, Olson, Weis
Opposed:	None

Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 20, 2023.

Submitted by,		
Sue Olson, Secretary, jkc	 	