APPROVED

RCWD Board of Managers Workshop

Monday, February 6, 2023

**Rice Creek Watershed District Conference Room
4325 Pheasant Ridge Drive NE, Suite 611, Blaine, Minnesota**

**And**

**Meeting also conducted by alternative means
(teleconference or video-teleconference) from remote location**

The Board convened the workshop at 1:00 p.m.

Attendance: Board members John Waller, Jess Robertson, and Marcie Weinandt

Absent: Steve Wagamon and Mike Bradley, with prior notice

Staff: Inspector Terrence Chastan-Davis (video-conference), Permit Coordinator/Wetland Specialist Patrick Hughes, Water Monitoring Technician Catherine Nester, Lake and Stream Program Manager Matt Kocian, Office Manager Theresa Stasica (video-conference)

Consultants: District Engineer Chris Otterness -Houston Engineering (HEI), District Attorney Chuck Holtman (video-conference)-Smith Partners; Attorney John Kolb -Rinke Noonan (video-conference)

Visitors: Mike Bradley; John Bilotta-U of M; City of Birchwood Village Administrator Becky Kellen

Manager Weinandt stated Manager Wagamon sent out an email this weekend requesting removal of agenda item Anoka County Ditch 10-22-32 Evaluation of Maintenance Alternatives to a future workshop agenda.

Manager Waller stated the ACD 10-22-32 item will be pulled from today’s agenda and moved to the March workshop agenda. Manager Waller also stated Administrator Updates will be removed from the agenda due to the Administrator’s absence.

**Minnesota Stormwater Research Program - Presentation**

Manager Weinandt introduced John Bilotta a Senior Research and Extension Coordinator from the University of Minnesota Water Resource Center. Mr. Bilotta provided a presentation regarding the MN Stormwater Research Council/MN Stormwater Research Program partnership to pool financial resources to support research, shares research outcomes, and engage stakeholders to determine research needs. He reviewed a few recent and upcoming stormwater research projects and the opportunity for the District to become a financial supporter of the program. The Board responded they were interested in becoming a partner.

**2022 Financial Report Metro Shooting / Trost Settlements**

The Board reviewed the staff memo and Smith Partners memo within the workshop packet with staff and District Attorney Holtman, identifying inquires for potential development yet no development applications received by the District. Manager Robertson inquired if there is a potential conflict of interest with her also serving on Blaine City Council. Smith Partners generally identified that there isn’t a conflict and offered to engage further with Manager Robertson on her dual roles to which she showed interest. Manager Robertson stated that there have been inquiries on the property, development may be closer at hand than previously thought, and believed be clear about the potential financial liability. The Board by consensus agreed the District’s ability to assess potential level of liability remains the same as in previous years, suggesting option 2-liability remote. The Board will consider this item at their meeting on Wednesday.

**Legal Boundary Revisions & Considerations**

Water Monitoring Technician Nester and District Engineer Otterness reviewed the workshop packet materials with the Board and answered questions. The Board by consensus agreed to staff recommendation of providing this memorandum to the adjoining Watershed Management Organizations and municipalities, and engage both of them in a discussion regarding their concerns, adjustments, and corrections of the legal boundaries.

The workshop was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.