



Type of Meeting: Monthly Board Meeting

Date: January 10, 2023

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: Shell Rock River Watershed District

305 S 1st Ave.

Albert Lea, MN 56007

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**
- 2. Consent Agenda** (The following items will be acted upon without discussion in accordance with the staff recommendation and associated documents unless a Manager requests opportunity for discussion.)
 - a. Minutes of the December 13, 2022 SRRWD Monthly Board Meeting**
 - b. December 2022 Treasurer's Report Subject to Audit**
 - c. December 2022 Project Fund Treasurer's Report Subject to Audit**
 - d. Authorize Payment of Claims**
 - e. Authorize Payment of Project Fund Disbursements**
- 3. Approval of Agenda** (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)
- 4. Administrator – Andy Henschel**
 - a. Motion to Approve Audit Services with Hill, Larson, Walth & Benda, P.A.**
 - b. Motion to Approve Continued Services with Americana Insurance Group**
 - c. Motion to Approve Continued Services with Conservation Strategies Inc.**
 - d. Motion to Approve Continued Services with Briggs and Morgan Professional Association**
 - e. Motion to Approve Continued Services with Peterson, Kolker, Haedt, & Benda, LTD.**
 - f. Motion to Designate Albert Lea Tribune as Official Legal Newspaper**
 - g. Motion to Designate US Bank as the Depository for District Funds**
 - h. Board of Manager Reminder - Statement of Economic Interest**
 - i. Board of Manager Reminder - Conflict of Interest**
 - j. 2023 Session Priorities**
 - k. MAWD Monthly Update**
 - l. Upcoming Training Workshops**
- 5. Project and Program Manager – Courtney Phillips**
 - a. Motion to Approve 2023 Cost Share**
 - b. Miller Tract Wetland Restoration, IC&E Wetland Enhancement, and Orr Wetland Restoration Project Update**
- 6. Manager's Items:**
- 7. Upcoming Meetings: February 14, 2023**
- 8. Adjourn**

Shell Rock River Watershed District
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2022

Managers present: Mick Delger, Joe Pacovsky, Gary Pestorious, Brad Kramer, Al Bakken

Managers absent: Mike Hanson and Dan DeBoer

Chairman Delger called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on December 13, 2022 at the Shell Rock River Watershed District, 305 S. 1st Ave., Albert Lea, MN 56007

Chairman Delger opened the public hearings to change the principal place of business for the Shell Rock River Watershed District and to review the Belshan Restoration Project. Chairman Delger called for comments three times. No one from the public wished to speak. Chairman Delger closed the public hearings.

No one from the public wished to speak during the Public Forum.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the November 8, 2022 SRRWD Monthly Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of the November 29, 2022 Personnel Committee Meeting
- c. November 2022 Treasurer's Report Subject to Audit
- d. November 2022 Project Fund Treasurer's Report Subject to Audit
- e. Authorize Payment of Claims
- f. Authorize Payment of Project Fund Disbursements
- g. Quarterly Transfer

Manager Pestorious seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Manager Pestorious offered the following motion:

Move to approve the agenda with corrections: Change agenda item 7h to pay with cash instead of financing and add a Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) update as agenda item 8h.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Administrator Henschel discussed the procedure to change the District's principal place of business after the former office was destroyed by flash flooding.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to introduce Resolution 2022-13

Resolution 2022-13
Shell Rock River Watershed District
Approval of Change of Principal Place of Business

WHEREAS, the Shell Rock River Watershed District (the "District") pursues the mission of implementing reasonable and necessary improvements to the water-related and other natural resources within its boundaries;

WHEREAS, the District is charged with implementing the Shell Rock River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan (the "Plan");

WHEREAS, the principal place of business the District was leasing at 214 West Main Street, Albert Lea, Minnesota was destroyed by flash flooding on July 5, 2022;

WHEREAS, the District was displaced and relocated to 305 1st Avenue South, Albert Lea, Freeborn County, Minnesota 56007 on or about July 26, 2022, and have remained in a month-to-month lease for the new office space;

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute § 103D.321 provides the process for changing a watershed's principal place of business;

WHEREAS, pursuant Minnesota Statute § 103D.321 the District of Board Managers (the "Managers") by Resolution 2022-12, dated November 8, 2022, initiated a change of the principal place of business for the District to 305 1st Avenue South, Albert Lea, Freeborn County, Minnesota 56007;

WHEREAS, the District is located entirely in Freeborn County, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, the proposed new principal place of business is located within the watershed district boundaries;

WHEREAS, the District provided notice of the public hearing on the intended updated principal place of business as noted in the publication on November 8, 2022, at least 10 days prior to the public hearing;

WHEREAS, the District provided notice by direct mail to the Freeborn County Auditor's Office via U.S. Mail and electronic mail on November 8, 2022, at least 10 days prior to the hearing of the intent to update the principal place of business;

WHEREAS, the District conducted a public hearing on the proposed change to the principal place of business on December 13, 2022;

WHEREAS, the District has considered comments on the proposed change of principal place of business;

NOW THEREFORE, consistent with applicable law and in furtherance of the Shell Rock River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan, be it hereby resolved:

Section 1: The District hereby changes its principal place of business to 305 1st Avenue South, Albert Lea, Freeborn County, Minnesota 56007 effective today's date.

Section 2: District staff, in compliance with applicable laws, shall take all necessary action to change the principal place of business to 305 1st Avenue South, Albert Lea, Freeborn County, Minnesota 56007, including notification to Minnesota Secretary of State, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resource ("BWSR"), and Freeborn County Auditor.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion. After discussions, a roll call vote was taken and the resolution was unanimously approved.

Administrator Henschel discussed the Personnel Committee meeting. The meeting took place on November 29, 2022 and the Committee reviewed past Cost-of- Living Adjustment (COLA) for Freeborn County, City of Albert Lea, and the Shell Rock River Watershed District. Administrator Henschel and the Personnel Committee recommend a 3.5% increase.

Manager Bakken offered the following motion:

Move to approve Personnel Committee Recommendation of 3.5% COLA Effective January 1, 2023.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

The total proposed Administrative budget for 2023 is \$267,550.00 and the proposed Project Fund budget is \$7,106,925.00. The proposed Administrative levy is \$250,000.00, Liability Insurance Fund levy \$17,550.00 and the Debt Service levy is \$178,625.00.

Manager Pectorious offered the following motion:

Move to approve the 2023 Administrative Levy and Certify the Administrative Levy to the Freeborn County Auditor-Treasurer.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to approve the 2023 Debt Service Levy and Certify the Debt Service Levy to the Freeborn County Auditor-Treasurer.

Manager Pectorious seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Manager Pacovsky offered the following motion:

Move to approve the 2023 Liability Insurance Levy and Certify the Liability Insurance Levy to the Freeborn County Auditor-Treasurer.

Manager Kramer seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to approve the 2023 Administrative Budget.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Manager Bakken offered the following motion:

Move to approve the 2023 Project Budget.

Manager Pectorious seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Administrative Henschel discussed paying cash versus financing for the purchase of the building at 305 S 1st Avenue. This option is fiscally responsible, avoids paying interest fees, and loans processing fees.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to approve paying cash for the purchase of the building at 305 S 1st Ave.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Administrator Henschel provided an update on the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Annual Conference and Trade Show. The event was held on December 1-3, 2022. Administrator Henschel, Carmen Christensen, Courtney Phillips, Manager Al Bakken, and Manager Brad Kramer were in attendance. Manager Brad Kramer was elected to the MAWD

Board and will sit on several committees as well. The conference included discussions on drainage issues, water quality, and staff development.

Administrator Henschel discussed the upcoming legislative session. The SRRWD will continue to work with Representative Peggy Bennett to draft a bill for bonding to complete the third and final phase of the Fountain Lake Restoration Project.

Administrator Henschel concluded his portion of the agenda with an announcement to host the MAWD Summer Tour in Albert Lea this June, 2023. The tour will coincide with the District's 20th anniversary. More information will be shared when it becomes available.

Project and Program Manager, Courtney Phillips, discussed the Belshan Restoration Project. Funded by the LSOHC, the Belshan Restoration Project is located on Lincoln Avenue and Country Road 17 east of Pickerel Lake. Goals of the project include native planting and wetland creation.

Manager Pacovsky offered the following motion:

Move to introduce Resolution 2022-14

Resolution 2022-14
Belshan Restoration Project
INITIATE PROJECT
2022-01

WHEREAS, The Shell Rock River Watershed District Board of Managers (“Board of Managers”) pursues the mission of implementing reasonable and necessary improvements to the water-related and other natural resources within its boundaries;

WHEREAS, The Shell Rock River Watershed District (the “District”) is charged with implementing the Shell Rock River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan (the “Plan”);

WHEREAS, project goals and objectives set forth in the Plan include:

- Improve water quality and clarity to District lakes
- Improve and enhance waterfowl habitat
- Maintain efficient system and reduce transport of sediment, nutrients and pesticides into surface waters through the drainage systems
- Minimize flood damage to property and preserve the function of the floodplain

- Restore and retain water upstream throughout the watershed
- Preserve existing rural and urban wetlands and encourage restoration and enhancement

WHEREAS, the District has pursued a comprehensive watershed approach to reduce sedimentation and improve water quality including filter strips, rock inlets, nutrient management systems, water and sediment basin installations, rough fish management practices, installation of fish barriers, septic system inspections, stream bank and ditch restoration projects and the installation of rain gardens.

THEREFORE be it hereby resolved that the Shell Rock River Watershed District:

- Sec. 1: Initiates “Project No. 2022-01 Belshan Restoration Project”
- Sec. 2: Authorizes District Staff to negotiate appropriate professional services agreements to promote and complete Belshan Restoration Project efforts.
- Sec. 3: Authorizes District Staff to conduct work as needed to present this project to the Board for review and public hearing as required by law.

Manager Kramer seconded the motion. After discussions, a roll call vote was taken and the resolution was unanimously approved.

Courtney continued by explaining the project plans. The plans were drafted by Jones Haugh & Smith Inc and are 90-95% complete. If the budget allows, the wetland areas will be increased. The project is expected to be completed by June to comply with funding requirements.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to introduce Resolution 2022-15

**Resolution 2022-15
Plan Approval
Belshan Restoration Project**

WHEREAS, The Shell Rock River Watershed District Board of Managers (“Board of Managers”) pursues the mission of implementing reasonable and necessary improvements to the water-related and other natural resources within its boundaries;

WHEREAS, The Shell Rock River Watershed District (the “District”) is charged with implementing the Shell Rock River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan (the “Plan”);

WHEREAS, project goals and objectives set forth in the Plan include:

- Improve water quality and clarity to District lakes
- Improve and enhance waterfowl habitat
- Maintain efficient systems and reduce transport of sediment, nutrients and pesticides into surface waters through the drainage systems
- Minimize flood damage to property and preserve the function of the floodplain
- Restore and retain water upstream throughout the watershed
- Preserve existing rural and urban wetlands and encourage restoration and enhancement

WHEREAS, the Belshan Restoration, project 2022-01, was initiated on December 13, 2022 by Resolution 2022-14;

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers having reviewed the Project Plan, and has determined that approval of the Project Plan will further the objectives of the Plan;

WHEREAS, the District has pursued a comprehensive watershed approach to reduce sedimentation and improve water quality including filter strips, rock inlets, nutrient management systems, water and sediment basin installations, rough fish management practices, installation of fish barriers, septic system inspections, stream bank and ditch restoration projects and the installation of rain gardens.

THEREFORE, the Board of Managers hereby finds that the Project has the potential to promote the public interest and welfare, is practicable, and conforms to the watershed management plan as set forth above.

NOW THEREFORE, be it hereby Resolved that the Shell Rock River Watershed District:

- Sec. 1: Approves the Belshan Restoration Project Plan as presented by Jones, Haugh & Smith; and
- Sec. 2: Authorizes District staff to conduct work as needed to present this project to the Board for final review and public hearing as required by law.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion. Manager Bakken questioned the tile running through the property. Courtney addressed the question and stated that non-perforated tile will run through the property. A roll call vote was taken and the resolution was unanimously approved.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to introduce Resolution 2022-16

**Resolution 2022-16
Establish Project 2022-01
Belshan Restoration Project**

WHEREAS, The Shell Rock River Watershed District Board of Managers (“Board of Managers”) pursues the mission of implementing reasonable and necessary improvements to the water-related and other natural resources within its boundaries;

WHEREAS, The Shell Rock River Watershed District (the “District”) is charged with implementing the Shell Rock River Watershed District Watershed Management Plan (the “Plan”);

WHEREAS, the Belshan Restoration, project 2022-01, was initiated on December 13, 2022 by Resolution 2022-14;

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers having reviewed the Project Plan, and has determined that approval of the Project Plan will further the objectives of the plan;

WHEREAS, The Project Plan was forwarded to the Board of Water and Soil Resources and Department of Natural Resources for their review and comment BWSR comments were received by letter dated _____ and DNR comments were received on 11-21-22;

WHEREAS, On December 13, 2022, by Resolution 2022-15, the Board of Managers approved the specifications for the Project (the “Final Project Plan”);

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on December 13, 2022 to review the project plan;

THEREFORE, the Board of Managers hereby finds that the proposed Belshan Restoration Project has the ability to promote the public interest and welfare in conformity with the watershed management plan as set forth above.

NOW THEREFORE, be it hereby Resolved that the Shell Rock River Watershed District hereby:

Sec. 1: Establishes Project No.2022-01 Belshan Restoration Project;

Sec. 2: Authorizes District Staff to complete the Project as set forth in the Final Project Plan; and

Sec. 3: Authorizes the District Staff to obtain quotes; request for approvals and enter into any other agreements or contracts necessary to complete the project.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion. After discussions, a roll call vote was taken and the resolution was unanimously approved.

Courtney continued by explaining the need to rescind a motion from the November 8, 2022 board meeting. The motion awarded contractors for the Miller Tract Wetland Restoration, IC&E Wetland Enhancement, and Orr Wetland Restoration. Upon award however, the contractors favored doing the opposite's work and would honor each other's price. The contractors are on-site and will start working today.

Manager Bakken offered the following motion:

Move to rescind motion from 11-8-22: Move to award contractors for the Miller Tract Wetland Restoration, IC&E Wetland Enhancement, and Orr Wetland Restoration as presented. Manager Kramer seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Manager Pacovsky offered the following motion:

Motion to Award Contractors for the Miller Tract Wetland Restoration, IC&E Wetland Enhancement, and Orr Wetland Restoration to Leland Drainage and Excavation for Quote Package 1 and Krueger Excavation for Quote Package 2&3.

Manager Kramer seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Regarding the same project, Courtney discussed the proposal from ISG Inc. for \$28,200 for construction oversight and design of package 4 with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to approve engineering services with ISG Inc.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Courtney provided an update on the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and One Watershed One Plan (1W1P). The Shell Rock River Watershed District is looking to receive \$322,128 as a result of the Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan funding. As the fiscal agent, the SRRWD submitted an application to BWSR for the funding. The funds will be used for numerous activities including cover crop cost share/incentives and street sweeping equipment.

Courtney continued with a LSOHC update. The SRRWD was allocated \$1,933,000 for Phase 12 of the Habitat Restoration Program. Due to a budget increase, the SRRWD is expected to receive 10% more bringing the total allocation amount to \$2,139,000.

During Manager's Item, Manager Bakken reported that sought more information about storm water at the MAWD Conference regarding the community tile project he discussed at the November board meeting. He learned that new highway construction includes storm water ponds but not existing highways. He will continue to work on the project.

The next SRRWD board meeting has been scheduled for January 10, 2023.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to adjourn the meeting.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

After discussion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

**Shell Rock River Watershed District
Administration Fund Financial Statement
2022**

Income:	December	Year to Date	Budget
A) General and Administrative Levy	\$ -	\$ 249,230.30	\$ 250,000.00
B) Liability Insurance Fund	\$ -	\$ 16,565.99	\$ 17,000.00
D) Interest	\$ 17.37	\$ 21.65	\$ -
Checking Acct.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
F) Reimbursements	\$ -	\$ 428.00	\$ -
FF.) Other income	\$ 373,231.57	\$ 449,952.23	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 373,248.94	\$ 716,198.17	\$ 267,000.00

Checking US Bank	\$ 199,916.54
December Receipts	\$ 373,248.94
Transfer From Project Fund	\$ 82,279.00
December Disbursements	\$ (457,227.06)
Checking Account Balance 12-30-22	\$ 198,217.42

Expenses:	December	Year To Date	Budget
Personnel			
1.11 Managers (regular meetings)	\$ 880.00	\$ 3,740.00	\$ 4,000.00
1.12 Managers (special meetings)	\$ 715.00	\$ 1,760.00	\$ 5,000.00
1.21 Administrator	\$ 15,792.27	\$ 27,337.66	\$ 20,000.00
1.22 Admin Assistant/Outreach	\$ 7,044.10	\$ 36,288.06	\$ 21,000.00
1.23 Technical Specialist	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
1.24 Summer Intern	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
1.26 Financial Technician II	\$ 9,498.60	\$ 15,935.51	\$ 24,000.00
1.27 Program Project Manager	\$ 9,823.77	\$ -	\$ -
1.31 S.S./Med(Employer's Share=.0765)	\$ 3,853.11	\$ 10,828.84	\$ 6,000.00
1.32 Health Insurance	\$ 6,800.04	\$ 10,200.36	\$ 13,600.00
1.33 MN Unemployment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
1.34 P.E.R.A.	\$ 5,252.62	\$ 7,612.88	\$ 4,000.00
1.35 Workers' Compensation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Personnel Subtotal	\$ 59,659.51	\$ 113,703.31	\$ 97,600.00

Travel-Related Expenses			
2.11 Manager Meeting Mileage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 450.00
2.21 Administrator Travel	\$ 1,070.00	\$ 1,245.84	\$ 3,000.00
2.22 Conservation Technician Travel	\$ 17.50	\$ 343.01	\$ -
2.32 Staff Mileage	\$ 28.75	\$ 507.71	\$ 1,000.00
2.41 Seminar Travel	\$ 303.13	\$ 665.51	\$ 3,000.00
2.42 Seminar Rooms	\$ -	\$ 1,920.59	\$ 3,000.00
2.43 Seminar Meals	\$ 62.42	\$ 448.51	\$ 1,500.00
Travel Subtotal	\$ 1,481.80	\$ 5,131.17	\$ 11,950.00

Personnel Training			
3.11 MAWD Dues	\$ -	\$ 5,216.00	\$ 9,500.00
3.21 Educational Organization	\$ -	\$ 348.00	\$ 250.00
3.22 Seminar Fees	\$ -	\$ 1,880.00	\$ 4,000.00
3.23 Professional Development	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,036.00	\$ 500.00
Personnel Training Subtotal	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 10,480.00	\$ 14,250.00

Office Expenses			
4.11 Supplies	\$ 79.25	\$ 4,572.23	\$ 5,000.00
4.21 Telephone and Internet	\$ 530.16	\$ 10,272.68	\$ 6,000.00
4.31 Postage	\$ 17.99	\$ 479.84	\$ 1,000.00
4.42 Software	\$ 107.36	\$ 680.97	\$ 500.00
4.51 Utilities/Facility	\$ 2,577.57	\$ 23,750.66	\$ 28,000.00
4.61 Meeting Expense	\$ 45.11	\$ 236.29	\$ 1,000.00
4.63 Cleaning Service	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,575.00	\$ 2,000.00
4.71 Undesignated	\$ 205.04	\$ 389.83	\$ 200.00
Office Expense Subtotal	\$ 3,712.48	\$ 41,957.50	\$ 43,700.00

Professional Services

5.12 Audit	\$ -	\$ 13,660.00	\$ 13,000.00
5.21 Bank Charges	\$ 621.94	\$ 3,588.63	\$ 3,000.00
5.31 Legal Representation	\$ -	\$ 9,292.82	\$ 5,000.00
5.41 Legal Notices	\$ 31.45	\$ 774.30	\$ 3,000.00
5.51 Bonding/Insurance	\$ 8,501.00	\$ 33,561.00	\$ 35,000.00
Professional Services Subtotal	\$ 9,154.39	\$ 60,876.75	\$ 59,000.00

Capital Expenses

6.11 Equipment	\$ 4,596.51	\$ 44,089.64	\$ 3,000.00
6.21 Lease	\$ -	\$ 3,645.33	\$ 6,500.00
6.41 Building Expense	\$ 373,231.57	\$ 373,231.57	
Capital Expenses Subtotal	\$ 377,828.08	\$ 420,966.54	\$ 9,500.00

Project Expenses

7.41 Public Affairs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
7.43 Educator	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
7.44 Reimbursable Public Affairs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
7.45 Reimbursable Sale Tax Expense	\$ 3,890.80	\$ 161.61	\$ -
Project Expenses Subtotal	\$ 3,890.80	\$ 161.61	\$ 1,000.00

Reserves

12.1 Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00
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Total Expenses

Total Expenses	\$ 457,227.06	\$ 653,276.88	\$ 267,000.00
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**Shell Rock River Watershed District
Project Fund Financial Statement
2022**

Income:	December	Year to Date	Budget
AA Local Sales Tax	\$ 166,436.83	\$ 1,973,911.25	\$ 1,500,000.00
AA. 1 Bond Fund Levy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 178,625.00
BB Reimbursements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
BB 11 L-SOHC Grant IV	\$ -	\$ 3,456.50	\$ -
BB 12 L-SOHC Grant VI	\$ -	\$ 688,583.87	\$ 660,460.00
BB 19 L-SOHC Grant VII	\$ -	\$ 569,670.60	\$ 1,283,300.00
BB 20 Clean Water Grant 1W1P	\$ -	\$ 18,418.00	\$ -
BB 22 L-SOHC Grant Phase VIII	\$ -	\$ 16,732.76	\$ 1,300,775.00
BB 23 L-SOHC Grant Phase IX	\$ -	\$ 25,320.43	\$ 845,000.00
BB 24 L-SOHC Grant Phase X	\$ -	\$ 40,051.81	\$ 1,326,000.00
BB Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ 167,952.50	\$ -
CC Loan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CC 01 MN CWP Loan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
DD Investment Income	\$ 93.51	\$ 133.42	\$ -
EE Other Income	\$ 2,875.48	\$ 117,369.96	\$ -
2017 Carry Over	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 872,000.00
Total Income	\$ 169,405.82	\$ 3,621,601.10	\$ 7,966,160.00

Checking US Bank	\$ 1,353,023.53
Savings Account Balance	\$ 63,627.70
Debt Service Fund	\$ 127,330.19
BWSR Targeted Watershed Fund	\$ 36,048.71
Accentra Savings Acct Balance	\$ 30,208.03
November Receipts	\$ 169,405.82
November Disbursements	\$ (1,170,627.63)
Project Account Balance 11-30-22	\$ 609,016.35

Expenses:	December	Year to Date	Budget
100 Erosion and Water Control			
101 Legal & Professional	\$ -	\$ 9,412.28	\$ 2,500.00
102 Engineering/Technician	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
102.1 Engineering	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00
102.2 Admin. Technician Reimb.	\$ 32,311.88	\$ 147,516.87	\$ 160,000.00
102.3 Wedge Creek Restoration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
102.7 FL In Lake Habitat	\$ 11,295.94	\$ 22,928.38	\$ -
103 Studies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
104 Projects	\$ -	\$ 5,880.41	\$ -
104.1 District Cost-Share Program	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 1,000.00
104.3 W/C Wetland	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
104.4 Upper Twin Water	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
104.5 Wedge Creek Reach 1 Veg Restoration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
104.8 W/C Wetland Property Phase VI	\$ -	\$ 96,749.78	\$ -
104.13 Headwaters Streambank Restoration	\$ -	\$ 835,508.81	\$ 418,000.00
104.18 IC&E Wetland Phase VI	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67,725.00
104.15 SRR Streanbank Restoration	\$ -	\$ 269,252.90	\$ 355,400.00
104.17 Orr Wetland Restoration	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 38,740.25	\$ 371,250.00
104.19 IC&E Wetland Phase X	\$ -	\$ 30,716.00	\$ 200,000.00
104.20 Fountain Lake In-lake Restoration	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,300,775.00
104.21 Panicum Prairie Enhancement	\$ -	\$ 6,500.00	\$ -
104.99 Insurance	\$ -	\$ 6,500.00	\$ -
105 Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
106 Miscellaneous/Outreach	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
107 Project Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Total Erosion and Water Control	\$ 48,907.82	\$ 1,469,735.68	\$ 2,884,150.00

250 BWSR Targeted Watershed Grant

251 Legal & Professional	\$	-	\$	107.50	\$	-
252 Engineering/Technician	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
252.1 Engineering	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
252.2 Admin. Technician Reimb.	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
252.3 Simple Waterways	\$	-	\$	3,807.85	\$	-
252.4 Complex Waterways	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
252.5 Streambank Restoration	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
252.6 Ditch Repairs	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
252.7 Wetland Restoraion	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
203 Studies	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
204 Projects	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
254.1 Rock Inlets	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
254.2 Simple Waterways	\$	-	\$	25,222.82	\$	-
254.3 Complex Waterways	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
254.4 Streambank Restoration	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
254.5 Ditch Repairs	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
254.6 Wetland Restoration	\$	-	\$	4,057.50	\$	-
254.99 Insurance	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
255 Equipment	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
256 Miscellaneous/Outreach	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
257 Project Maintenance	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total BWSR Targeted Watershed Grant	\$	-	\$	33,195.67	\$	-

400 Subwatershed Projects

401 Legal & Professional	\$	-	\$	57,508.71	\$	5,000.00
402 Engineering/Technician	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
402.1 Engineering	\$	535.00	\$	3,820.00	\$	-
402.2 Admin. Technician Reimb.	\$	29,902.57	\$	162,957.89	\$	198,000.00
402.6 Pickerel Lake Dam	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
402.7 Lower Twin Lake Fish Barrier	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
403 Studies	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
404 Projects	\$	10.00	\$	19,549.84	\$	-
404.21 1Watershed 1Plan	\$	-	\$	30,330.50	\$	-
404.22 Schroeder Property	\$	-	\$	42.56	\$	-
404.23 Church Lake Property	\$	-	\$	27.15	\$	-
404.24 Orr Property	\$	-	\$	955.97	\$	-
404.26 Glenville Property	\$	-	\$	2,956.88	\$	-
404.27 Bancroft Property	\$	-	\$	4,874.00	\$	-
404.28 Belshan Property VII	\$	6,120.63	\$	7,164.63	\$	-
404.29 Belshan Property X	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,126,000.00
404.99 Insurance	\$	-	\$	6,500.00	\$	-
405 Equipment	\$	380,468.88	\$	382,296.42	\$	5,000.00
406 Miscellaneous/Outreach	\$	4,498.00	\$	43,938.27	\$	-
407 Project Maintenance	\$	2,816.28	\$	28,216.02	\$	2,500.00
Total Subwatershed Projects	\$	424,351.36	\$	751,138.84	\$	1,336,500.00

500 Dredging Elements

501 Legal & Professional	\$	-	\$	118,863.14	\$	-
502 Engineering/Technician	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
502.1 Eng. Albert Lea Lake	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
502.2 Admin. Technician Reimb.	\$	9,819.96	\$	37,619.69	\$	25,000.00
502.3 Eng. Fountain Lake	\$	-	\$	23,768.17	\$	24,000.00
503 Studies	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
504 Projects	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
504.1 Fountain Lake Land Pursuits	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
504.2 Dredging	\$	-	\$	249,309.62	\$	-
504.3 CDF	\$	465,000.00	\$	515,349.08	\$	-
504.99 Insurance	\$	-	\$	5,000.00	\$	-
505 Equipment	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
506 Miscellaneous/Outreach	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
507 Project Maintenance	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Total Dredging	\$	474,819.96	\$	949,909.70	\$	49,000.00

600 Water Monitoring

601 Legal & Professional	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
602 Engineering/Technician	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
602.1 Engineering	\$	-	\$	-	\$	5,000.00
602.2 Admin. Technician Reimb.	\$	4,969.74	\$	31,086.16	\$	21,000.00
603 Studies	\$	-	\$	1,009.05	\$	10,000.00
604 Projects	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
604.1 TMDL Implementation	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
604.2 SWAG Grant	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
604.99 Insurance	\$	-	\$	4,000.00	\$	-
605 Infrastructure	\$	-	\$	1,706.97	\$	1,000.00
606 Miscellaneous	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
607 Project Maintenance	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,000.00
Total Water Monitoring	\$	4,969.74	\$	37,802.18	\$	38,000.00

800 Reserve

804 Projects	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
804.1 Projects/Cash reserve	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,984,690.00
Total Project/Cash Reserve	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,984,690.00
805 Grants	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
804.8 L-S Phase VIII	\$	-	\$	-	\$	660,820.00
804.9 L-S Phase IX	\$	-	\$	-	\$	845,000.00
Total Grant Reserves	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,505,820.00
Total Reserves						3,490,510.00

900 Debt Services

901 Debt Expense	\$	22,578.75	\$	70,531.25	\$	58,000.00
902 Bond Funds	\$	120,000.00	\$	235,000.00	\$	110,000.00
903 MPCA Loan Payment	\$	75,000.00	\$	150,000.00	\$	-
Total Debt Services	\$	217,578.75	\$	455,531.25	\$	168,000.00

Total Disbursements

Total Disbursements	\$	1,170,627.63	\$	3,697,313.32	\$	7,966,160.00
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**Shell Rock River Watershed District
Unpaid Bill Detail
January 3, 2023**

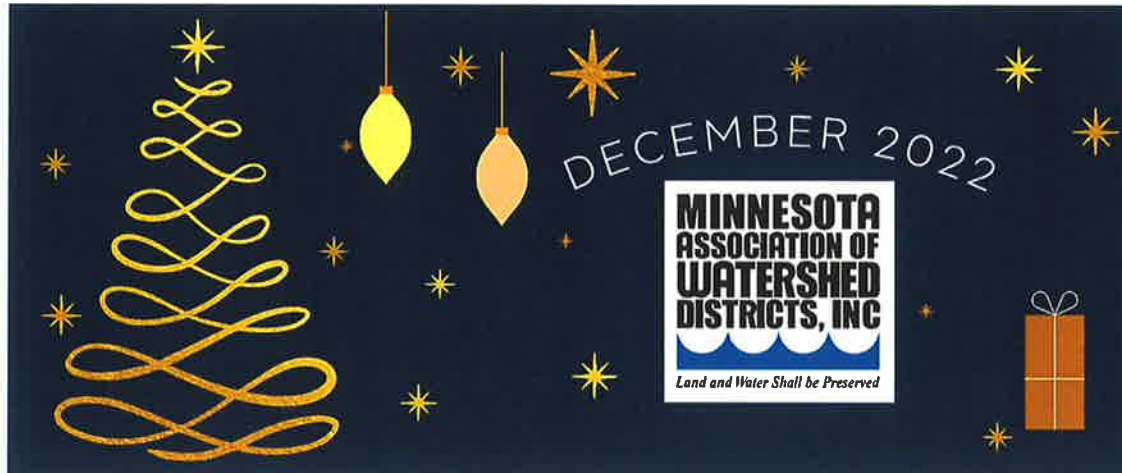
Al Bakken			
Spec. Meetings	1.12 Special Meetings	\$	165.00
Seminar Travel	2.41 Semiar Travel	\$	270.25
Reg. Meetings	1.11 Regular Meetings	\$	<u>165.00</u>
			\$600.25
Gary Pectorious			
Reg. Meetings	1.11 Regular Meetings	\$	<u>165.00</u>
		\$	165.00
Mike Hanson			
Reg. Meetings	1.11 Regular Meetings	\$	<u>165.00</u>
		\$	165.00
Mick Delger			
Reg. Meetings	1.11 Regular Meetings	\$	110.00
Spec. Meetings	1.12 Special Meetings	\$	<u>220.00</u>
		\$	330.00
Joe Pacovsky			
Reg. Meetings	1.11 Regular Meetings	\$	<u>165.00</u>
		\$	165.00
Brad Kramer			
Reg. Meetings	1.11 Regular Meetings	\$	165.00
Seminar Travel	2.41 Semiar Travel	\$	270.25
Seminar Meals	2.43 Seminar Meals	\$	33.00
Spec. Meetings	1.12 Special Meetings	\$	<u>275.00</u>
		\$	743.25
Dan DeBoer			
Reg. Meetings	1.11 Regular Meetings	\$	<u>55.00</u>
		\$	55.00
Courtney Phillips			
Mileage	2.32 Staff Mileage	\$	<u>85.63</u>
		\$	85.63
Andy Henschel			
Seminar Meal	2.43 Seminar Meal	\$	42.52
Mileage	2.21 Administrator Travel	\$	<u>779.38</u>
		\$	821.90
Leah Stadheim			
Mileage	2.32 Staff Mileage	\$	<u>12.65</u>
		\$	12.65
Payroll			
Payroll	2100 Payroll Liabilities	\$	<u>59,659.51</u>
		\$	59,659.51
Verizon Wireless			
Cell Phone Service	4.21 Telephone & Internet	\$	<u>352.19</u>
		\$	352.19
US Bank			
Office Expenses	4.31 Postage	\$	17.99
Seminar Rooms	2.42 Seiminar Rooms	\$	1,845.66
Seminar Meals	2.43 Seminar Meals	\$	75.35
Office Supplies	4.11 Office Supplies	\$	369.84
Office Equipment	6.11 Equipment	\$	3,920.02
Office Expenses	4.61 Meeting Expense	\$	<u>70.69</u>
		\$	6,299.55
Freeborn Mower Cooperative Services			
Utilities	4.51 Utilities/Facility	\$	183.00
Utilities	4.51 Utilities/Facility	\$	<u>45.00</u>
		\$	228.00
Minnesota Energy			
Utilities	4.51 Utilities/Facility	\$	41.88
Utilities	4.51 Utilities/Facility	\$	<u>207.00</u>
		\$	248.88

Quill	Inv# 29360077	4.11 Office Supplies	\$ 49.99	
			<u> </u>	\$ 49.99
Hy-Vee	Inv# 4851676796	4.11 Office Supplies	\$ 25.52	
	Inv# 4852078720	4.11 Office Supplies	\$ 19.47	
			<u> </u>	\$ 44.99
Culligan	Water Service	6.21 Lease	\$ 79.98	
			<u> </u>	\$ 79.98
Crystal Farris	Cleaning Service	4.63 Cleaning Service	\$ 150.00	
			<u> </u>	\$ 150.00
Spectrum	Statement	4.21 Telephone & Internet	\$ 177.97	
			<u> </u>	\$ 177.97
Albert Lea Tribune	Ad# 1553984	5.41 Legal Notices	\$ 249.90	
	Ad# 1558078	5.41 Legal Notices	\$ 30.60	
			<u> </u>	\$ 280.50
			TOTAL	<u><u>\$70,715.24</u></u>

Brad Kramer, Secretary

Alan O. Bakken, Treasurer

[View this email in your browser](#)



MAWD PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Pre-conference Workshops were held at the Arrowwood Conference Center in Alexandria on December 1. Pre-conference workshop presentations can be found [here](#).

- The **Staff Development Workshop** was entitled “The People Side of Watershed Management.” Sessions included Best Practices for Employee Management; Using HR Professionals to Build a Better Watershed District; Communication and Tools for the Digital World; Empowering Leadership and Team Building; and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Watershed Work.



and as a Drainage Authority. This workshop was geared for both new and experienced board members.



- The **Minnesota Drainage Workshop** covered a variety of topics including Leveraging the Pipe Crawler for Design and Construction; State and Federal Wetland Regulations Impacting Drainage System Management; 404 Assumption and Wetland Conservation Rulemaking; Updates on the Drainage Work Group and Case Law Impacting Drainage Authorities; and Succession Planning for Drainage Authorities.



MAWD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Annual Conference was held December 1-3 at the Arrowwood Conference Center in Alexandria. The **Trade Show** began the evening of December 1.

the minutes of the 2021 annual business meeting were approved, as were the 2022 Year End. Financial Report and Statement of Financial Position, Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed upon Financial Procedures, and the 2023 Proposed Budget. The new [Strategic Plan](#) and [Bylaws](#) revisions were adopted. During the Resolutions Hearing, six resolutions were approved, one was tabled, and one failed. Resolutions hearing results can be found [here](#).



Regional caucuses were held. Notes for the caucus meetings can be found [here](#). (scroll to the bottom of the page)

Paul Gardner, Clean Water Council Administrator was the luncheon speaker. He gave a presentation about [the Clean Water Fund Trajectory for FY24-25](#). The [Department of Natural Resources' Watershed District of the Year](#) award was presented to **Minnehaha Creek Watershed District**. [The Board of Water and Soil Resources' Watershed District Employee of the Year](#) award went to **Bob Fossum, Capitol Region Watershed District**. **Mark Doneux, Capitol Region Watershed District** was given the [Outstanding Watershed Administrator](#) Award.



Bob Fossum - Watershed District Employee of the Year



Matt Doneux - Outstanding Watershed Administrator

The evening concluded with a banquet and awards presentation. The [Program of the Year](#) Award went to the **Hennepin County Chloride Initiative**. **Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District** received the [Project of the Year](#) Award. The [2022 Longevity Award](#) went to **Rice Creek Watershed District**. The [Most Influential Booth](#) was awarded to **Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District**. The [Best Picture Award](#) went to **Ramsey**



Hennepin County Chloride Initiative - Program of the Year



LAC QUI PARLE-YELLOW BANK WATERSHED DISTRICT - PROJECT OF THE YEAR



BEST PICTURE - RAMSEY WASHINGTON METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT



MOST INFLUENTIAL BOOTH - RILEY-PURGATORY-SLUFF CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT



RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT - LONGEVITY AWARD

NAME CHANGE UPDATE

One of the tactics in the newly adopted Strategic Plan is changing the name of the organization from MAWD to Minnesota Watersheds. The process to update the articles of incorporation, bylaws, and Manual of Policy and Procedures (MOPP) is underway. We will hold a special meeting of the membership in conjunction with our legislative event on February 15 to formally adopt a resolution changing the name to Minnesota Watersheds, Inc.

SAVE THE DATES!

The Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol will be held February 15 and 16 at Capitol Ridge in St. Paul. The Summer Tour will be held in Albert Lea in partnership with the Shell Rock River and Cedar River Watershed Districts from June 20-22. More information will be available soon. Please mark your calendars for these events!

WATERSHED NEWS

The following stories feature the work of Minnesota's watershed organizations. Please forward your stories to us so we don't miss any of them. Sharing our stories with one another is a great way to learn and expand our knowledge. We encourage you to call each other to learn more.

[Redpath Flood Impoundment and Mustinka River Rehabilitation](#)

After 15 years of landowner and Project Team meetings, the **Bois de Sioux Watershed District** is excited to announce that construction began in preparation for the establishment of the Redpath Flood Impoundment and Mustinka River Rehabilitation. (By Jamie Beyer, Bois de Sioux Watershed District Administrator)

[Survey confirms fewer carp in Lake Okabena than previously believed](#)

Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District receives report from Carp Solutions regarding a carp survey done in the summer of 2022. (Kari Lucin, Daily Globe, December 9, 2022)

[Black River Impoundment project provides critical flood storage, maintains landowner hunting opportunities](#)

The Sorvig brothers tell the story of working with the **Red Lake Watershed District** to construct an impoundment. (By Andrew Graham, DNR and RRV Flood Damage Reduction Workgroup)

[Partnership grows new possibilities out of parking lots](#)

Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District works with Target for stormwater

Becker County and Detroit Lakes will benefit from large Clean Water Fund grants in the **Pelican River** and **Buffalo-Red River Watershed Districts**. (By dl-online.com news staff, December 17, 2022)

[24th Annual Joint Conference](#)

The **Red River Watershed Management Board** and Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group will hold their 24th Annual Joint Conference in Moorhead on February 21 and 22.

MAWD BOARD AND COMMITTEES UPDATE

MAWD Board. The MAWD Board met on November 30 at the Arrowwood Conference Center in Alexandria, Minnesota. The treasurer's report was approved, as were meeting minutes for October 24. An update on the annual conference was given. Reports were given by the MAWD President, Interim Executive Director, and committee chairs. The BWSR Executive Director and MAWD representatives on the BWSR Board also gave updates.

Action taken:

- Approved the contract from Ray Bohn, Media and Government Affairs for legislative consultation and lobbying services for the 2023 and 2024 legislative sessions.

The MAWD Board also met on December 3 at the Arrowwood Conference Center in Alexandria.

Actions taken:

- Election of Officers: Linda Vavra, President; Peter Fjestad, Vice President; Wanda Holker, Secretary; and David Ziegler, Treasurer.
- Executive Director: Interim was removed from the Executive Director's title.

Events-Education and Resolutions Committee. The Events-Education and Resolutions Committees met jointly to discuss committee members' experiences during the conference and make suggestions for next year. Meeting notes can be found [here](#).

Strategic Plan Committee. The Strategic Plan Committee met on December 6 to prioritize the Executive Director's work plan. Meeting notes can be found [here](#).

EMPLOYMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

email Maddy at mnwatershed@gmail.com to get yours listed today.

Here's the current list:

- Comfort Lake Forest Lake WD: [Watercraft Inspector](#)
- Minnehaha Creek WD: [Project Maintenance Program Manager](#)
- Nine Mile Creek WD: [Regulatory Program Manager](#)
- South Washington WD: [BMP Specialist/Program Manager](#)

LEGISLATIVE AND STATE AGENCY ADVOCACY UPDATE

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committee met on December 9 to review the resolutions and preliminary legislative platform. The committee developed the 2023 Legislative Platform that will be considered by the MAWD Board at their January meeting. Meeting notes can be found [here](#).

DECEMBER PARTNER MEETINGS

Drainage Work Group (DWG) – The DWG met on December 8. Following the welcome and introductions, information was provided about drainage-related events. Meeting notes can be found [here](#).

- **Outlet Adequacy.** A subgroup of the DWG will be formed to delve into the topic of outlet adequacy. Myron Jesme has agreed to represent Minnesota Watersheds. Chuck Brandel and Jacob Rischmiller, ISG; Chad Engels, Moore Engineering; and Chris Otterness, HEI will represent drainage authorities. The subcommittee will contain representatives from MCEA, IWL, Friends of the MN River, AMC, DNR, MPCA, BWSR, MDA, and landowners. This topic will be discussed again at the January meeting.
- **BWSR Water Quality and Storage Update.** In this funding round, BWSR received almost \$4M in requests had \$1M available and awarded about \$850K. If there is an increase in funding for FY24, BWSR will reevaluate Minnesota Statutes Chapter § 103E project eligibility.
- **DNR Legislative Concepts.** The DNR is looking for a formal point, prior to the Preliminary Engineer's Report (PER) being developed, where they could engage on

directing preparation of the PER. Then, the DNR and other agencies can hear what the petition is requesting, what areas are concerning, issues to address, where water flow is proposed, and other environmental considerations. The agencies would highlight the ones that are particularly important for the engineering report to address. The technical panel would generate a report as a scoping document for the PER. Then, the project would be much more complete and only minor feedback would be needed for the FER. This would be an additional process step in an already process heavy proceeding. Early coordination needs to have significant benefits for all parties. There must be certainty that the drainage authority would get in information that needs to be developed so time and energy is focused and efficient. That way, there would be less of the post FER considerations to be worked through. This process also brings in other agency expertise. The DNR wants to ensure that before a project moves forward, these concepts are included. They want to formalize early coordination, strengthen environmental considerations, and ensure that other agencies have input.

- **Drainage Registry.** MAWD and AMC submitted a response to the drainage registry to the Drainage Work. This document was well received at the meeting. We hope that it will mitigate reintroduction of the registry bill this session.

BWSR – The BWSR Board met on December 15. The agenda and August meeting minutes were approved. Reports were given by the BWSR Executive Director, and state agencies. **Of note is that MDNR Division Director Smith informed the Board that it is their intent to introduce the early coordination legislation in the upcoming legislative session.**

Advisory comments were also provided. Board action included approving a policy for One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) Mid-Point Grants, adopting a board order for FY23 Clean Water Fund competitive grant applications, two RIM easement alterations were granted, and a resolution authorizing RIM Reserve 1W1P implementation was approved. Meeting notes can be found [here](#).

Clean Water Council (CWC) – The CWC met on December 19. The purpose of the meeting was to finalize the Clean Water Fund recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature. Meeting notes can be found [here](#).

JANUARY MEETINGS

January Meeting Calendar. The following meetings are scheduled in January. See the [MAWD calendar](#) for meeting details as soon as they become available.

- January 12: [Drainage Work Group](#)
- January 13: [MAWD Board](#)
- January 23: [Clean Water Council](#)
- January 25: [BWSR Board](#)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Check out MAWD's [online training calendar](#) for information regarding upcoming education and training events.

- North Central Region Water Network [Harmful Algal Bloom Research Symposium](#) on January 5 and January 6, virtual
- The Technical Training and Certification Program is offering [Basic Hydrology Training](#) as an [online webinar](#) on January 10 at 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. and January 12 at 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Participants should attend both sessions to complete the course.
- Strategic Farming Webinar Series: [Let's Talk Weather, Economics, and Supply Chains](#) on January 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Strategic Farming Webinar Series: [Let's Talk Corn Insects](#) on January 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- [On Common Ground: Practical Farmers of Iowa Annual Conference](#) on January 19-21 at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.
- [Midwest Cover Crops Council's Annual Meeting/South Dakota Soil Health Coalition's Annual Soil Health Conference](#) on January 23-25 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.
- [MCEA's 35th Annual Conference and Pre-Conference Workshops](#), MCEA, St. Cloud
- Strategic Farming Webinar Series: [Let's Talk Climate Factors and Nitrogen Management](#) on January 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- BWSR offers a [searchable library](#) of recorded modules, webinars, videos, and other resources to find professional development information on a variety of topics.

CONTACT US - LET'S TALK

MAWD Board members are available to connect with you at one of your future board meetings. They also welcome the opportunity to meet with you one-on-one to hear about your successes and ideas where MAWD could be of assistance. Contact information is on our [website](#). **We enjoy working with MAWD members and greatly appreciate your support!**



From all of us at MAWD, we wish you a Happy New Year! Thank you for your support in 2022. We look forward to working with you and providing our services in the new year.

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10:45 a.m. – Noon Risk Management
on Drainage
Projects

John Kolb, Attorney at
Law, Rinke Noonan

Chris Otterness, Houston
Engineering Inc. Project
Manager

This session will address risk management questions on drainage projects, such as: What are the major decision points that drainage authorities need to evaluate in project proceedings? How do drainage authorities weigh evidence and testimony, and make findings to support their decision? How can engineers and legal counsel help drainage authorities prepare for, and accomplish that evaluation, and maximize the changes of a project's success and minimize the risks of an appeal? This session will also address environmental considerations: What are the criteria the Board must consider (e.g., 103E.015) and what are the things we look at in preparing our report and assisting with this consideration?

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Separable
Maintenance

John Kolb, Attorney at
Law, Rinke Noonan

Chris Otterness, Houston
Engineering Inc. Project
Manager

What is Separable Maintenance and when does it apply? This session will address the definition of separable maintenance, its application in drainage project proceedings, and also discuss strategies for informing petitioners and affected landowners of its application.

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Panel / Open
Discussion

Doug Kruger, McLeod
County Commissioner

Randy Kramer, Renville
County Commissioner

Todd Patzer, Lac qui
Parle Commissioner

What do you see as the biggest obstacle to drainage management and how is your county addressing the challenge?

How do you gauge the collective will of the benefiting landowners, and to what extent does this affect your management decisions?

3:00 p.m.

Adjourn

Conference Registration Fee:

\$195 per person

Arrowwood Group Rate:

\$123 until 1/16/23

Look for more information
and registration coming soon
via email and online at

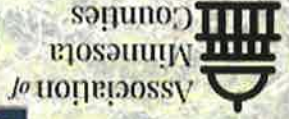
www.mncounties.org



DRAINAGE CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 8 - 9, 2023

ARROWWOOD CONFERENCE CENTER, ALEXANDRIA



Counties, joint counties, watershed districts, and other water management organizations, as drainage authorities, are charged with the responsibility to manage and preserve the drainage infrastructure our agricultural economy depends upon in order to support modern advances in efficient farming practices.

At the same time, drainage authorities are also expected to balance the needs of effective water management with competing ecological, land use, and conservation policies. Administering these objectives successfully requires drainage authorities, their staff, and their consultants to understand the basics of public drainage law and to adopt practical and innovative strategies utilizing current technology to meet these challenges. Public drainage is complicated, nuanced, and often contentious.

This conference is designed to provide drainage authorities, their staff, and their consultants, both those well-seasoned and those that are new to public drainage, with insights on decision making and communication as well as knowledge on both legal and technical issues impacting the management of water.

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

9:30 – 10:45 a.m. Registration Open

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. Welcome & Introductions

Laurie Klupacs, AMC
Deputy Director

11:00 a.m. – Noon Minnesota
Drainage History

John Kolb, Attorney at Law,
Rinke Noonan

Water has provided challenges from the early days of statehood, when the first drainage laws focused on attempts to make land more productive for agriculture, to enable and protect roadways, to protect public health from stagnant waters, and promote commerce. Over the years, drainage law has always maintained these objectives, while adding provisions with regard to protection of public waters and wetlands as well as considerations for criteria for environmental and natural resources protection. This session will provide an overview of that history to provide attendees with a background of the basic objectives for drainage authorities.

Noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Drainage Authority
and 103E

John Kolb, Attorney at Law,
Rinke Noonan

This session will cover responsibilities and obligations of drainage authority commissioners, managers, staff, and consultants, specifically focusing on the importance of maintaining the hydraulic efficiency of the drainage system to protect vested property rights and compliance with conservation, land use, and ecological considerations.

2:30 – 2:45 p.m. Break

2:45 – 4:15 p.m. Redeterminations
of Benefits

Bryan Murphy, H2Over
Viewers, President

Minnesota Public Drainage Systems are often the largest piece of infrastructure the county maintains. As the world population increases the pressure for higher carrying capacities on our farmers is also increasing. When drainage systems were originally constructed often only the low wet acres were included in the benefitted area. With modern technology newly completed Redetermination of Benefits almost always increases the benefitted acres ensuring that everyone who uses the drainage system pay for the repairs and maintenance in an equitable way. This process is often considered a step one to any repairs or maintenance of a public drainage system.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Social Hour

6:00 p.m. Dinner

Thursday February 9, 2023

7:00 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 – 10:30 a.m. Repairs vs
Improvement

Bryan Murphy, H2Over
Viewers President

Chris Otterness, Houston
Engineering Inc. Project
Manager

This session will provide insight to the question of “what is a repair” and identify why the distinction between “repair” and “improvement” is important. The foundation of this distinction is determining the as-constructed condition of the drainage system, including its hydrologic efficiency. We will further discuss how this efficiency is evaluated for the conditions before and after and improvement and identify how this efficiency affects drainage benefits.

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. Break

Funded 2023 Cost Share and Incentive Program

Annual Work Plan

The Shell Rock River Watershed District Incentive and Cost Share Program has been funded to develop and implement the goals and objectives of the District's 10 year plan. The District has approved funding for the BMP's listed below. The purpose of these BMP's is to maintain and improve the hydrologic, water quality and educational goals of the watershed plan. Each BMP has been prioritized for its impact on the resource and the efficiency of taxpayer contributions.

Cost Share:

- Rain Barrels

Rain Barrel – Incentive Program

Purpose: To reduce storm water run-off, erosion, and flooding.

Cost Share Payment Criteria: \$10 cost share with purchase of a rain barrel.

1. Cost Share will not exceed \$10 per barrel up to 3 per customer.
2. Payment made upon receiving the application, receipt of rain barrel purchase, review of SRRWD staff and approval by the Board of Managers.

Eligibility: Citizens within the SRRWD District Boundaries

Matching Program: None

Projected 2023 Goal: 100 rain barrel incentives

