

Shell Rock River Watershed District
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2022

Managers present: Mike Hanson, Joe Pacovsky, Brad Kramer and Al Bakken

Managers present via telecommunication: Gary Pestorius

Managers absent: Mick Delger and Dan DeBoer

Manager Bakken called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on October 11, 2022 at the Shell Rock River Watershed District, 305 S. 1st Ave., Albert Lea, MN 56007.

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

Manager Hanson offered the following motion:

Move to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the September 13, 2022 SRRWD Monthly Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of the September 22, 2022 SRRWD Audit Review Meeting
- c. September 2022 Treasurer's Report Subject to Audit
- d. September 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 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 agenda without additions, corrections, or deletions.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

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

Pursuant to Minnesota Open Meeting Law, the meeting was closed for attorney-client privileged discussion regarding SRRWD office lease, options, and CDF mediation. The meeting was closed at 8:35 a.m.

Manager Bakken reopened the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Administrator Andy Henschel reported that recent flooding caused the SRRWD staff to relocate to 305 S 1st Ave., Albert Lea, MN 56007.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to execute option agreement with 1st and Main Development LLC.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

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

Administrator Henschel continued with a CDF mediation update. The mediation is complete and a pending settlement agreement will go before the Board of Managers at the next monthly meeting.

Administrator Henschel discussed future development at the former Country Club property. Preliminary plat information will hopefully go before the Planning Commission in November.

Administrator Henschel provided an update on the 2021 audit. The audit was completed by Hill, Benda, Skov, and Bernau and oversight was noted due to the number of employees at the SRRWD. Minutes of the audit review minutes were included in the packet.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:

Move to accept the 2021 audit as presented by Hill, Benda, Skov and Bernau.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

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

Project and Program Manager, Courtney Phillips, discussed the option agreement for a parcel located directly along Eberhart Lake in the Pickerel Lake Subwatershed. Funding for this parcel comes from the Habitat Restoration Program, Phase 11 funding which the SRRWD received this year. This property is important to protect water basins and buffer land around it. In this case, Eberhart Lake. Projects such as this are identified in the District's water planning.

Manager Hanson offered the following motion:

Move to enter into option agreement with Eberhart Lake.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

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

Courtney continued with a Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) update. Phase 6 of the Habitat Restoration Program was closed out and all funds have been spent. Phase 6 projects included the Orr property acquisition, Headwaters Streambank Habitat Restoration,

Vandegrift Wetland Restoration, and seeded the IC&E site. Courtney testified before the Council recently to request \$4,641,900.00 for Phase 12 to complete future habitat restoration projects, including the Shell Rock River Channel. The Council met for their allocation meeting and the District expects to receive \$1,933,000.00 in funding.

Manager Bakken reminded the Board of Managers of upcoming meetings:

BWSR Academy - October 25-27, 2022

MAWD Annual Conference & Trade Show - December 1-3, 2022. Administrator Henschel invited the Board of Managers to attend and noted that the MAWD board is still looking for representation from Region 2.

Manager Pacovsky offered the following motion:

Move to adjourn the meeting.

Manager Kramer seconded the motion.

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