

**Shell Rock River Watershed District
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2022**

Managers present: Mick Delger, Dan DeBoer, Al Bakken, Joe Pacovsky, Mike Hanson, and Gary Pestorius

Managers absent: Brad Kramer

Chairman Pestorius called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on April 12, 2022 at the Shell Rock River Watershed District, 214 W. Main St., Albert Lea, MN 56007.

Manager Hanson offered the following motion:

Move to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of the March 8, 2021 SRRWD Monthly Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of the March 8, 2021 SRRWD Annual Board Meeting
- c. March 2022 Treasurer's Report Subject to Audit
- d. March 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 Bakken offered the following motion:

Move to approve the agenda.

Manager Delger 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 District (MAWD) legislative events including Administrators meeting, Board of Directors Meeting, Legislative Briefing, and Breakfast with Legislators. Leah Stadheim attended in Administrator Henschel's absence and met with Representative Peggy Bennett and Senator Gene Dornink about the SRRWD's \$8.4 million bonding request to complete the Fountain Lake Restoration Project.

Administrator Henschel continued with a legislative update. Similar to the MAWD event, Administrator Henschel and members of the SRRWD board, attended a lobby day at the capital last week. They met with Senator Dornink and Rep. Peggy Bennet, as well as legislators from Southern Minnesota and the Capital Investment committees regarding the Fountain Lake Restoration Project. The committees are expected to work on their respective bonding bills over the Passover/Easter break and they will be revealed when the Legislature returns. The SRRWD is also watching the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) bill for \$1.438 million for the Phase XI of the Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat Restoration Program.

Administrator Henschel concluded with a land rental update. The SRRWD purchased two properties last year; however, the District is not ready to do the restoration projects on the properties yet. For maintenance purposes, the land will be leased and farmed for one season. The Belshan property totaled 53 acres and was rented for \$275.00 per acre. The Bancroft property totaled 79 acres and was rented for \$200.00 per acre. All money received will go back into the project per grant requirement.

Administrator Henschel reminded the Board of Managers of the gravel lease at the Headwaters Property. The Request for Bids will be published in the paper this week and available via www.shellrock.org. Boring information is available to contractors via the SRRWD office. Bids are due at 3:00 PM on June 17, 2022. Manager Bakken questioned whether the garages, outbuildings, house, and material were purchased and/or removed from the Headwaters Property. Administrator Henschel reminded him that all bids for the garages, outbuildings and material were received in November. The property must be removed by July 31, 2022. No bids were received for the house. The current gravel lease includes removing the house. There was a brief discussion about larger rocks, well sealing, and the septic system.

Project and Program Manager, Courtney Phillips, provided some background on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Proposal Submission. This joint proposal is between the City of Albert Lea and the SRRWD for street cleaning equipment purchases. Historically the SRRWD has assisted with these purchases through the Cost Share and Incentive Program but that budget was reduced. After negotiations, the SRRWD is looking at potentially paying \$250,000.00 of the \$610,000 total. If the application is approved, the SRRWD will enter into an agreement with the City of Albert Lea.

Manager Delger offered the following motion:

Move to introduce Resolution 2022-04 as follows:

Resolution 2022-04

MPCA Proposal Submission Approval

WHEREAS, the Shell Rock River Watershed District (the “District”) will be submitting a proposal to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (the “MPCA”) to conduct the following project: City of Albert Lea Street Cleaning Equipment Purchase;

WHEREAS, the District will enter into an agreement with the City of Albert Lea in regards to the repayment of the loan;

WHEREAS, Andy Henschel, District Administrator be authorized to submit a proposal for the above-mentioned Project and shall have the authority to represent the District in all matters that do not specifically require action from this body;

WHEREAS, that submittal of a proposal does not obligate the District to accept a grant and/or a loan if so offered;

THEREFORE, be it resolved:

1. Andy Henschel, District Administrator is authorized to submit a proposal to the MPCA and is the authorized representative for the District;

Manager Hanson seconded the motion.

Manager Bakken and Administrator Henschel discussed previous street sweeping cost share purchases, phosphorus reductions from street sweeping, and the potential for additional funds via the One Watershed, One Plan.

After discussions, a roll call vote was taken and the resolution was unanimously approved. Chairman Pestorius declared the resolution passed.

During Manager’s Items, Manager Delger reported that he attended a recent City Council meeting where he was asked about the SRRWD’s bonding request. Manager Pestorius questioned the available volume in the CDF cells and the potential to sell additional sand or gravel. Administrator Henschel discussed the upcoming design proposal for the Fountain Lake Restoration Phase 3. Manager Pacovsky reported that he attended a recent Freeborn County Commissioners meeting where Lake Improvement Districts were discussed. Manager Bakken requested a workshop after new board members are appointed.

Administrator Henschel discussed the upcoming meetings. The next board meeting has been scheduled for May 10, 2022 at 8:30AM at the SRRWD office.

Manager DeBoer offered the following motion:

Move to adjourn the meeting.

Manager Hanson seconded the motion.

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