Shell Rock River Watershed District  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 13, 2018

Managers present: Gary Pestorius, Brad Kramer, Dan DeBoer, and Mick Delger

Managers absent: Joe Pacovsky, Mike Hanson, and Al Bakken

Chairman Pestorius called the Regular Meeting to order December 13, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. at the Freeborn County Board Room, 411 Broadway S., Albert Lea, MN 56007.

Chairman Pestorius opened the public hearing at 8:31 a.m. to review the Pickerel Lake Site 12 Wetland Restoration. Conservation Technician, Scott Christenson, gave a brief overview of the project including… After calling for comments three times, no one from the public offered comments regarding the Pickerel Lake Site 12 Wetland Restoration. Chairman Pestorius closed the public hearing.

Manager DeBoer offered the following motion:

Move to approve the consent agenda as follows:

a. Minutes of the November 13, 2018 SRRWD Monthly Board Meeting
b. November 2018 Treasurer’s Report Subject to Audit
c. November 2018 Project Fund Treasurer’s Report Subject to Audit
d. Authorize Payment of Claims
e. Authorize Payment of Project Fund Disbursements

Manager Kramer seconded the motion.

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

Public Forum – No comments were received.

Brian Hensley, Lakes Foundation President, invited the board and public to attend the next Albert Lea Lakes Foundation meeting on December 19, 2018 at 4:00 P.M. at the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB). He also gave an update on upcoming events including the Albert Lea Floats, Let’s Play and Reel Paddle Film Festival.

Administrator Henschel explained that there was an $820.00 difference in levy amounts since September so the SRRWD needs to recertify the debt service levy and approve the 2019 project fund tax budget.

Manager Delger offered the following motion:

Move to certify Debt Service Levy.

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

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:
Move to approve 2019 Project Fund tax budget.
Manager Delger seconded the motion.
After discussion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Administrator Henschel gave an update on the District’s dredge and related equipment. The items are for sale via an interactive, online site and will be awarded to the highest bidder. All bids must go through the designated bidding site at IronPlanet.com.

Administrator Henschel concluded his report with an update on the Fountain Lake Restoration Contract No. 2. The Best Value Committee will meet on December 6, 2018 to evaluate the bids and a contract will be award in January, 2019.

Resource Technician, Courtney Phillips, gave a brief description of the Owen’s Wetland Restoration Project. This project is funded using a Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Targeted Watershed grant and will restore 43 acres in a previously cultivated field near the intersection of U.S. Highway 69 and County Road 17 south of Albert Lea.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:
Move to introduce Resolution 2018-39 as follows:

Resolution 2018-39
BWSR Targeted Watershed Owens Wetland Restoration Bid Approval

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 District approved Resolution 2016-14, on July 26, 2016, becoming the legal sponsor of the BWSR Targeted Watershed Grant and to implement the projects necessary to fulfill the required obligations;

WHEREAS, following bid advertising for BWSR Targeted Watershed Owens Wetland Restoration, the bid opening was held on December 4, 2018;

WHEREAS, four bids were submitted in the amounts of $129,650 to $246,320.91 for the completion of the Project pursuant to the bid specifications;
WHEREAS, the lowest bid was $129,650, but due to an error in the addition found by Barr Engineering, the bid is now $129,890.00;

WHEREAS, Barr Engineering recommended Minnesota Native Landscapes as the lowest qualified bidder; 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.

NOW THEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Shell Rock River Watershed District:

Section 1: The Contract is awarded to Minnesota Native Landscapes as the lowest bidder and in the best interests of the District pursuant to the terms of the Contract; and

Section 2: The staff, the Chairman of the Board of Managers, and the Secretary are authorized to sign all contracts and documents necessary to proceed with the Project.

Manager DeBoer seconded the motion.
On a roll call vote, the following managers voted in favor of said resolution: DeBoer, Kramer, Delger and Pestorious. Chairman Pestorious declared the resolution passed.

Courtney continued with an update on several projects. The Pickerel Lake Streambank Restoration project has been completed. Courtney explained the process of restoring this streambank with a PowerPoint presentation. Regarding the Credit Trading Pilot Program, Andy Henschel and Courtney attended a conference last week and fielded numerous questions about the program. Finally, Courtney informed the board that a One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) meeting will be scheduled in January, 2019. Mick Delger represents the SRRWD as the policy member.

Conservation Technician, Scott Christenson, gave a brief description of the Pickerel Lake Site 12 Wetland Restoration. This project is funded using a Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) grant and will restore approximately 1 acre of wetland on Pickerel Lake in order to: maintain water quality and clarity, improve and enhance waterfowl habitat, prevent further erosion on lakeshore habitat and improve and enhance game fish habitat.

Manager Delger offered the following motion:
Move to introduce Resolution 2018-40 as follows:

Resolution 2018-40
Pickerel Lake Site 12 Wetland Restoration
Plan Approval

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:

- Maintain water quality and clarity in Pickerel Lake
- Prevent further erosion on lakeshore habitat
- Improve and enhance game fish habitat
- Improve and enhance waterfowl habitat

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2018 the District initiated Pickerel Lake Site 12 Wetland Restoration;

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 Project Plan dated November 21, 2018 as presented by WSB and Associates; 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 DeBoer seconded the motion.
On a roll call vote, the following managers voted in favor of said resolution: DeBoer, Kramer, Delger and Pestorious. Chairman Pestorious declared the resolution passed.

Manager Kramer offered the following motion:
Move to introduce Resolution 2018-41 as follows:

Resolution 2018-41
Pickerel Lake Site 12 Wetland Restoration Establishment

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:

- Maintain water quality and clarity in Pickerel Lake
- Prevent further erosion on lakeshore habitat
- Improve and enhance game fish habitat
- Improve and enhance waterfowl habitat

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2018 the District initiated Pickerel Lake Site 12 Wetland Restoration;

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. DNR comments were received by letter dated September 17, 2018 and BWSR comments were received September 17, 2018;

WHEREAS, On December, 2018, by Resolution 2018-40, the Board of Managers approved the specifications for the Project (the “Final Project Plan”);

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on December 13, 2018 to review the project plan;

THEREFORE, the Board of Managers hereby finds that the proposed Pickerel Lake Site 12 Wetland Restoration 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. 2018-05 – Pickerel Lake Site 12 Wetland Restoration;

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 bids; request for approvals and enter into any other agreements or contracts necessary to complete the project.

Manager DeBoer seconded the motion.
On a roll call vote, the following managers voted in favor of said resolution: DeBoer, Kramer, Delger and Pestorious. Chairman Pestorious declared the resolution passed.

Scott Christenson concluded his report with an update on several projects. The Upper Twin Lake Pumping Station is anticipated to begin in February. The preconstruction meeting has been
scheduled for January 3, 2019. The Wedge Creek Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood repairs will be completed by the end of the month.

During Manager’s Items, Manager Kramer gave a report regarding the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Annual Conference and Trade Show. Brad is the delegate voting on behalf of the SRRWD.

Administrator Henschel reminded the board about the upcoming Dredge Committee and Personnel Committee meetings.

Manager Delger offered the following motion:
   Move to adjourn the meeting.
Manager DeBoer seconded the motion.
After discussion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.