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

Managers absent: Mike Hanson

Chairman Pestorious called the Regular Meeting to order July 9, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. at the Albert Lea City Council Chambers, 221 East Clark Street, Albert Lea, MN 56007 and turned the meeting over to Freeborn County Administrator, Tom Jensen, to swear in the newly appointed managers.

Administrator Jensen swore in Managers DeBoer, Delger and Bakken.

Administrator Jensen presided over the election of officers.

Administrator Jensen asked for nominations for Chairman.

Manager DeBoer nominated Manager Delger for Chairman of the Shell Rock River Watershed District Board. Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

Administrator Jensen called for nominations for Chairman three times and closed nominations. A vote was taken and Administrator Jensen declared Manager Delger Chairman of the Shell Rock River Watershed Board.

Manager Bakken nominated Manager Pestorious for Vice-Chairman of the Shell Rock River Watershed District Board. Manager Kramer seconded the motion.

Administrator Jensen called for nominations for Vice-Chairman three times and closed nominations. A vote was taken and Administrator Jensen declared Manager Pestorious Vice-Chairman of the Shell Rock River Watershed Board.

Administrator Jensen asked for nominations for Treasurer.

Manager Delger nominated Manager Bakken for Treasurer of the Shell Rock River Watershed District Board. Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.
Administrator Jensen called for nominations for Treasurer three times and closed nominations. A vote was taken and Administrator Jensen declared Manager Bakken Treasurer of the Shell Rock River Watershed Board.

Administrator Jensen asked for nominations for Secretary.

Manager Bakken nominated Manager DeBoer for Secretary of the Shell Rock River Watershed District Board. Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

Administrator Jensen called for nominations for Secretary three times and closed nominations. A vote was taken and Administrator Jensen declared Manager DeBoer Secretary of the Shell Rock River Watershed Board.

Administrator Jensen declared the elections complete and turned over the meeting to the Chairman Delger.

Due to an error in the Special Meeting minutes, Manager Bakken requested that item c be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the agenda as item 6a. Manager Kramer seconded the motion. After discussion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Manager DeBoer offered the following motion:

Move to approve the consent agenda as follows:

a. Minutes of the May 15, 2019 Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting
b. Minutes of the June 11, 2019 SRRWD Monthly Board Meeting
c. Minutes of the June 25, 2019 SRRWD Workshop
d. June 2019 Treasurer’s Report Subject to Audit
e. June 2019 Project Fund Treasurer’s Report Subject to Audit
f. Authorize Payment of Claims
g. Authorize Payment of Project Fund Disbursements
h. 2nd Quarterly Transfer

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

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

Manager DeBoer offered the following motion:

Move to approve the agenda without any further additions, corrections or deletions.

Manager Pestorious seconded the motion.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.
Manager DeBoer offered the following motion:

Move to approve the June 25, 2019 Special Board meeting minutes that reflect Manager Bakken’s recusal and abstention from the motion as previously discussed.
Manager Pestorious seconded the motion.
After discussion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

Administrator Henschel presented the Shell Rock River Watershed District’s committee list. After discussing, Andy directed the Board of Managers to review the list and decide which committees they would like to continue to be on, be removed from, or be added to. The list will be finalized at the next board meeting.

Administrator Henschel reported that the District switched from Security Insurance Agency to Americana Insurance Group and joined the League of Minnesota Cities.

Administrator Henschel reported that the District’s dredge, fusion machine and pipe are still for sale. Maintenance reports, invoices, and pictures have been sent to the company contracted to sell the equipment.

Project/Program Manager, Courtney Phillips, gave an update on Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Targeted Watershed projects. Jensen Excavating and Trucking was awarded the contract for the Wasmoen Wetland Restoration project. The restoration is expected to begin in September. With the exception of established vegetation, work has been completed on the Streambank Restoration project west of Pickerel Lake. Regarding the 2 State Ditch project, JHS is working on finalizing plans and the repair process. DNR and BWSR comments have been received and construction will begin next spring or summer after quotes are received. The Owen’s Wetland project was sprayed last month and seeding will continue pending weather. Tile will be rerouted once it dries up at the end of August. Courtney continued with an update on Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) projects. Barr Engineering was onsite at the Wedge Creek Wetland Restoration reviewing specifications and elevations. Construction will be completed by August 2020. Regarding land acquisitions, the District received the survey and updated appraisal for the Mud Lake property and plans to close on the Schroeder property in late August or September. In the future, the District and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) may partner on a wetland restoration on the east side of Alden.

Minnesota GreenCorps member, Claire Rabine, gave a recap of the services she provided while serving at the Shell Rock River Watershed District. In 11 months, she educated over 400 students about the environment using the EnviroScape model, a hands-on, interactive
demonstration of the sources and effects of water pollution. She also planted over 40 trees, designed and installed numerous rain gardens, introduced the Adopt-a-Drain and stenciling program to Albert Lea, updated District brochures, and became a licensed tree inspector.

Manager’s Reports: Manager Joe Pacovsky gave a Citizen’s Advisory Committee update regarding opposition received regarding the marina crossing Bridge Avenue.

Manager Pacovsky offered the following motion:

  Move to adjourn the meeting.

Manager Pestorius seconded the motion.

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