

**Shell Rock River Watershed District  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2023**

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

Managers absent: Gary Pestorious and Mike Hanson

Chairman Delger called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on January 10, 2023 at the Shell Rock River Watershed District, 305 S 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Albert Lea, MN 56007.

Manager Pacovsky offered the following motion:

Move to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- 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

Manager DeBoer 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 with additions: 3a Public Forum and 5c Street Sweeper Update

Manager Bakken seconded the motion.

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

Administrator Andy Henschel introduced the following statutory items:

Manager DeBoer offered the following motion:

Move to approve audit services with Hill, Larson, Walth & Benda, P.A.

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 audit services with Americana Insurance Group.

Manager Bakken 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 audit services with Conservation Strategies Inc.

Manager DeBoer 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 continued services with Briggs and Morgan P.A.

Manager Bakken 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 continued services with Peterson, Kolker, Haedt & Benda, LTD.

Manager Kramer seconded the motion.

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

Manager DeBoer offered the following motion:

Move to designate Albert Lea Tribune as the official legal newspaper.

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 designate US Bank as the depository for District funds.

Manager Pacovsky seconded the motion.

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

Administrator Henschel reminded the Board of Managers to fill out and return the annual Statement of Economic Interest and Conflict of Interest forms.

Administrator Henschel provided an update on the 2023 session priorities. The SRRWD legislative goal is to secure \$9 million in bonding for the third and final phase of the Fountain Lake Restoration Project. Senator Dornick and Representative Bennett will introduce the bills.

Administrator Henschel provided a Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) monthly update. The association is undergoing a rebranding, including a strategic plan and newsletter.

Upcoming trainings include the Drainage Conference on February 8-9, 2023 in Alexandria, MN and the Legislative Briefing and Day at the Capitol on February 15-16 at the Capitol Ridge in St. Paul, MN. Board members are encouraged to attend.

Project and Program Manager, Courtney Phillips, reported that the SRRWD Incentive and Cost Share Program will include funds for rain barrels. The SRRWD projected goal for 2023 is 100 rain barrels. The cost share criteria consists of \$10 per rain barrel and up to 3 per customer.

Courtney provided an update on the Miller Tract Wetland Restoration, IC&E Wetland Enhancement, and Orr Wetland Restoration Project. Funding for this project was made possible through the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Leland Drainage and Excavation continues to reroute tile and Krueger Excavation is almost done with wetland scrapes and berms. Package 4 with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is underway including receiving the easement by the end of the week. The grant deadline for the project is at the end of June, 2023.

Courtney concluded with an update on street sweeping equipment. In collaboration with the City of Albert Lea, the SRRWD will be utilizing Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Clean Water Partnership funds to help purchase three pieces of street sweeping equipment. The SRRWD supports this effort as street sweeping reduces the amount of pollutants, including phosphorus, that get washed into the storm drain and ultimately discharge to lakes, rivers and wetlands. This funding has a 0% interest rate and a 10-year payback. The SRRWD and City of Albert Lea are working on sub-agreements at this time.

The next SRRWD board meeting has been scheduled for February 14, 2023.

Manager Pacovsky 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.