OUTCOME DOCUMENTS FROM THE MAY 9, 2017 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

SUPERVISORS: Jan Anderson, Gene Carda, Joyce Sawatzky

STAFF: Deanna Pomije, Jacque Kelzenberg, Kyle Weimann

OTHERS: Shannon Rasinski, NRCS
       Dennis McNally, County Commissioner

1. Call to Order: Sup. Sawatzky called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

   Approval of Agenda: M/S/Approved Carda/Anderson to approve the agenda as written.

2. Consent Agenda (no discussion unless Supervisor requests)

   2.1 Financial
      2.1.1 Treasurer’s Report for April
      2.1.2 April Disbursement
      2.1.3 April Receipts
   2.2 Outcome Reports
      2.2.1 April 11, 2017 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
      2.2.2 Tree Sale Report
   2.3 Staff Reports
      2.3.1 District Manager
      2.3.2 Technician
      2.3.3 Administrative Assistant
   2.4 Upcoming Staff Meetings/Outreach/Training

   M/S/Approved Carda/Anderson to approve the minutes showing Belkholm seconded the motion to adjourn

   M/S/Approved Carda/Anderson to approve the remaining Consent Agenda.

3. Approve Disbursements: M/S/Approved Anderson/Carda to approve the Disbursements.

4. Old Business

   4.1 Buffer Law – Other Waters – Pomije said that in addition to the previous month’s discussion on other waters; would like to include tile intakes as they are generally a direct conduit to water, usually out in an open field. As a direct conduit to surface water there is the potential for sediment and agricultural chemical run-off. The existing final other waters list would be the DNR map excluding the current buffer map; perennial streams above the start of public waters. Discussion occurred on wetland authority and drainage. Pomije said that the Wetland Conservation Act doesn’t have authority over tiling, but if there is an intake, the District would recommend a buffer. Carda expressed concern that the County wasn’t allowing any drainage tiling in farm fields. McNally said that he see tile drainage throughout the County and wasn’t familiar with this concerns. Pomije said that the meeting with the County Board is planned for June 28th at 9:30 am.

5. New Business

   5.1 NRCS Report – Donna Walters-Nelson presented on behalf of Shannon Rasinski. 1 EQIP project has gone through Quality Area Review, 2 were cancelled (1 will be funded with District funds), and 1 Conservation Activity Plan is funded. Training for CSP occurred. Site visits for wildlife and grazing were conducted. Starting planning for a high tensile fence workshop for a Saturday in June. Met with St. Croix River Association to
discuss outreach. Anderson asked about the Golden Winged Warbler – Walters-Nelson said that the poor winter conditions have prevented habitat work in the past and now are unlikely to get future funding for other applications. Discussion of high tensile fencing occurred.

5.2 District Credit Card Policy – Weimann presented a draft credit card use policy. **M/S/Approved Carda/Anderson to approve the Credit Card policy to include gasoline as an eligible purchase and that the District Manager can grant authorization to another employee to use under District Manager authority.**

5.3 Plat Books – County Offer – Pomije said that the District has provided a free copy to the Recorder’s Office and will offer commission of $5 for each that the courthouse sells. **M/S/Approved Carda/Anderson to sell 10 plat books at cost to the County.**

5.4 RIM Easements – Joint Powers Agreement – Pomije said that currently the District receives about $300 per year to monitor existing RIM easements in Kanabec. BWSR is looking to streamline the payment process to avoid the grant reporting requirements. Pomije said that at this time there are no new easements to establish in the area, but this process was established for those counties that are working on easements. **M/S/Approved Anderson/Carda to approve the Joint Powers Agreement.**

5.5 AIS – Training for Volunteer – Pomije said that Paul Weingart has been volunteering with several organizations over the past year since retirement. The training is put on the U-MN extension for $175. Pomije said that funding would come from the County AIS funds (DNR grant). Kelzenberg said that the training is on AIS identification to serve as a local contact. **M/S/Approved Anderson/Carda to pay for the Weingart AIS training for reimbursement through the County AIS funds.**

5.6 AIS – Educational Materials – Kelzenberg said that at the last COLA meeting the group decided to purchase paper placements for distribution to local restaurants as well as posters for similar establishments and bait shops. There will also be large vinyl banners for use during educational events at public accesses. Kelzenberg said that the COLA members/Lake Associations are responsible for making contact with establishments that are willing to take these materials. The total cost was $468.96 for 1800 placements, posters, etc.

5.7 AIS – Pomroy Plant Survey – Barr Engineering has started work on an aquatic plant survey. An initial bill of $310.32 covers the consultation and down payment.

5.8 AIS – Lewis Lake CLPW Treatment – Lewis Lake Association has requested reimbursement of $1,662.05 for treatment of curly leaf pond weed. Kelzenberg presented an updated AIS budget. **M/S/Approved Anderson/Carda to approve AIS reimbursement for the educational materials, Pomroy plant survey, and Lewis CLPW treatment.**

5.9 Vehicle Purchase Options – Pomije is still compiling information. The District was approved to work through the state surplus supply. Pomije said that she is looking for a used vehicle that can hold three people plus equipment. It should be no older than 2007 and have fewer than 100,000 miles. McNally talked about the 2016 van the county is looking to get rid of (Veteran services). Carda mentioned that Midway Ford has a state contract and was able to provide great pricing. Pomije asked whether the Board would be ok with a local mechanic to investigate/test drive a vehicle if far from Mora. Pomije mentioned that the budget is set at $18,000.

5.10 Adm. Assistant – Background Check & Approval – Pomije reported that the deadline to apply was May 1st. 27 applications were received. The first round of interviews will be Friday the 12th with the second round on Monday the 15th. The interview panel will be Pomije, Hoppe and Detterman and Larson a supervisor from Isanti. Pomije said that they will interview 9 on the 12th. There is a $15 charge for the background check with a 2-3 day turnaround. **M/S/Approved Carda/Anderson to approve the background check.**

Pomije said that the interview committee should have a final recommendation on the 15th. With Mille Lacs, the
employing District had the final say; Pomije is planning to follow the same protocol. Discussion of training for the new individual occurred. Weimann has offered to come in on nights/weekends and Weimann’s new employer (Stearns SWCD) has similarly offered assistance. Pomije will contact Supervisors for discussion prior to making the employment offer.

6 Project Updates

6.1 Paul Kent (CWP15, SCS) – Manure waste closure, contract amendment; (CWP 50%, $13,274; FY16 SCS 25%, $6,637) – Pomije said that the initial contract with Kent was for joint funding from EQIP for a pit closure. The project was not scored by NRCS until late in the game and Kent does not want to wait through this process. As such, 50% of the project would be funded by CWP15 and 25% by state cost share. The total estimate is $26,548. Sawatzky recommended checking with the landfill for clean fill. McNally said that it is hard to justify the amount of money for remediation when the owner caused the problem in the first place; Pomije said that it was removing a large environmental liability. McNally mentioned that the state law is to close the pit within a year of ceasing operation. Discussion of CWP grant limited to 50% funding. Generally, most funding rate is 75%.

M/S/Approved Carda/Anderson to approve the amendment to the Kent pit closure contract to fund 50% of the total project out of CWP15 and 25% from the State Cost Share funds.

7 General Discussion / Public Input

Anderson asked about the Mora Expo. Pomije said that Friday was busier than Saturday. Thirteen individuals tested their well water. One tested over the 10ppm limit. Pomije said it is good to offer that testing at least once a year to start tracking where well water nitrates are high. McNally asked about the well at the District farm – Pomije said it was only tested for depth to measure groundwater level for the DNR. McNally recommended looking into using it to monitor quality as well. McNally asked about the wells by the landfill. McNally is on the landfill committee.

8 Set Next Meeting Dates / Committee Reports

8.1 Regular Meeting: June 13, 4:00 PM

8.2 Snake River Board: April 24; The Nature Conservancy presentation about easements. McNally said that the previous presentation was more useful (Dan Steward). Pomije said that the presentation was somewhat confusing since it was in general rather than specifics. McNally would like more information on how it may affect property taxpayers in the county. Pomije stated that the current law says that easements are assessed at the underlying value.

8.3 Forestry Association: clarify 2 Supervisor per diems. Carda said that if he’s not getting the information (minutes, agenda, etc.) from the Forestry association, he should not be involved. Anderson suggested that Carda serve as alternate and Hoppe to forward the information. McNally recommended contacting the Forestry Association secretary.

8.4 Personnel Committee (Hoppe) – Administrative Assistant interviews (May 12 & 15)

8.5 Area 3 Resolution Meeting: June 2; Pomije will plan to attend. Carda is tentative but also offer to Hoppe.

8.6 Jury Duty – Pomije said that she had been scheduled for jury duty the first two weeks of June.

9 Evaluate the Meeting – What worked? What could be more efficient?

Carda said he thought it was very efficient today.
Adjourn – Carda motion to adjourn. Anderson second. Motion carried. Adjourned at 5:36pm.

Approved:
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Date: _________________________