

Minnesota Watersheds Board of Directors Meeting

February 15, 2023

Radisson Hotel – Capitol Ridge, St. Paul



1. CALL TO ORDER

President Vavra called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Minnesota Watersheds Board (Board) members present: Linda Vavra, Peter Fjestad, David Ziegler, Brad Kramer, Gene Tiedemann, Jeff Gertgen, Jackie Anderson, and Mary Texer

Board member absent: Wanda Holker

Others present: Jan Voit, Executive Director; LeRoy Ose and Joe Collins, Board of Water and Soil Resources; Maddy Bohn, Program Manager; John Waller, Rice Creek WD; and Celia Wirth, Brown's Creek WD

2. GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING

Agenda

Director Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Fjestad seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Member Comment Period

No Minnesota Watersheds members were present to address the Board.

Secretary's Report

Director Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13 meeting. Director Fjestad seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Discussion was held regarding the annual conference. Not all the invoices have been paid. Currently, the return on investment is approximately \$50,000. The account balances as of January 31, 2023 are:

- Checking: \$65,991.80
- Savings: \$279,897.84
- Total: \$345,889.64

Director Anderson moved to accept the treasurer's report. This was seconded by Director Ziegler and the motion carried unanimously.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Direct Deposit of Expenses

The Minnesota Watersheds accountant asked if any board members were interested in direct deposit of their expense reimbursement. The direct deposit forms were distributed to the board.

4. NEW BUSINESS

Summer Tour Sponsorship

At recent Summer Tour meetings, discussion was held regarding the possibility of having engineering firms as event sponsors, similar to the structure for the annual conference. Maddy Bohn and Executive Director Voit presented ideas for the sponsorship. Director Tiedemann made a motion to approve the Summer Tour sponsorship proposal. Director Gertgen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS

President's Report

President Vavra reported on the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Drainage Conference, Drainage Work Group (DWG) meeting, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) – Minnesota Association of Watershed Administrators (MAWA) - Minnesota Watersheds Leadership meeting, meetings with the Executive Director, and calls from managers and administrators.

Executive Director

Executive Director Voit provided an update on the MAWA Executive Committee meeting, newsletters, event updates, AMC Drainage conference, BWSR -MAWA -Minnesota Watersheds Leadership meeting, interaction with our lobbyist, and the DWG meeting. Discussion was held about the percentage of the population of Minnesota residents that are members of environmental group. Discussion was also held regarding providing a computer for the Executive Director. Legal counsel was consulted and providing a computer was not recommended.

Partner Reports

MAWA

No report was given.

BWSR

Joe Collins gave an update on BWSR's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion effort, how BWSR board decisions are made, a process to amend a One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P), and discussion revolving around whether BWSR require addressing climate change as part of 1W1P.

Clean Water Council

No report was given.

Confirm Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on March 20 via Zoom.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Director Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 p.m. Director Texer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Peter Fjestad
Acting Secretary