Minutes

CALL TO ORDER
President Preiner called the meeting to order, a quorum being present, at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL
Present: President Patricia Preiner, 1st Vice-Pres. Barbara Haake, 2nd Vice-Pres. John Waller, Secretary Mike J. Bradley, and Treasurer Steve Wagamon.
Absent: Treasurer Steve Wagamon (with prior notice)
Staff Present: Administrator Phil Belfiori, Permit Coordinator/Wetland Specialist Nick Tomczik, Water Resource Specialist Kyle Axtell, Office Manager Theresa Stasica.
Consultants: District Engineers Mark Deutschman-Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI); and, District Attorney Louis Smith-Smith Partners
Visitors: None.

SETTING OF THE AGENDA
District Administrator Belfiori stated staff had no additions.

Motion by Manager Haake, seconded by Manager Bradley, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

READING OF THE MINUTES AND THEIR APPROVAL
Minutes of the October 28, 2015, Board of Managers Meeting.

Manager Waller asked on page 6 of the agenda packet, where it finishes Additional Items Requiring Board Action he did not see a motion to table the item. District Administrator Belfiori stated the Board postponed the item and is on line 118 of the minutes. Manager Waller asked if postponing was adequate for that item. District Attorney Smith indicated it was.

Motion by Manager Haake, seconded by Manager Bradley, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of the October 28, 2015, Board of Managers Workshop Meeting. Motion by Manager Haake, seconded by Manager Bradley, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.
PERMIT APPLICATIONS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

The following applications have been reviewed by the District Engineer and Staff and will be acted upon without discussion in accordance with the Engineer’s Recommendation unless a Manager or the Applicant or another interested person requests opportunity for discussion:

CONSENT AGENDA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Plan Type</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-085</td>
<td>Aspen Gardens Holdings, LLC</td>
<td>Blaine</td>
<td>Final Site Drainage</td>
<td>CAPROC 8 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-095</td>
<td>MN Management Partners</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Final Site Drainage</td>
<td>CAPROC 6 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Motion by Manager Bradley, seconded by Manager Waller, to approve the consent agenda as outlined in the above Table of Contents in accordance with RCWD District Engineer’s Findings and Recommendations, dated November 2 & 4, 2015. Motion carried 4-0.

OPEN MIKE – LIMIT 12 MINUTES. Any RCWD resident may address the Board in his or her individual capacity, for up to three minutes, on any matter not on the agenda. Speakers are requested to come to the podium, state their name and address for the record. Additional comments may be solicited and accepted in writing. Generally, the Board of Managers will not take official action on items discussed at this time, but may refer the matter to staff for a future report or direct that the matter be scheduled on an upcoming agenda.

Mr. Wayne LeBlanc, Chairman of the RCWD Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) stated he would like to address a couple items on cost share. He stated he submitted an idea for making the cost share a little more objective instead of the subjective range. He indicated he sent all the Board Members an email that outlines this. He stated he has heard there is some controversy on one of the cost share items, Mr. Harris rain garden and he would like to suggest that this cost share program has a lot to do with publicity and he worried that any negative feeling can really turn things around on the Rice Creek Watershed District. He would like to suggest that both the Rice Creek Watershed District and the Ramsey County Conservation District suggested that this project is good enough to do and they had recommendations for that. The Ramsey County said it should be twenty percent or around $1,000 and Rice Creek recommended $2,000. He stated his recommendation would be to take the Ramsey County recommendation for $1,000 to keep rain gardens on the public scene and go forward with that.

Manager Bradley asked if Mr. LeBlanc’s formula has been shared by the larger committee. Mr. LeBlanc stated he sent them an email last night. Manager Bradley asked staff take a further look at this and bring it back to a workshop meeting for further review.

District Administrator Belfiori stated back in February and March there was a presentation from staff on the Capital Region District and a couple of other Districts have gone to a calculator format. There was some initial dialogue with the Citizen Advisory at their last meeting and staff anticipates bringing that back to the December Workshop meeting to show the Board some of the results that have taken place over the last year to see how the calculator would rank out versus the traditional method of using the water quality share program protocol.

Mr. LeBlanc stated the Capital Region calculator looks to be very narrow for urban kinds of projects. He thought they should look at what the benefit it and not what the technics are. He thought Rice Creek Watershed District has done a good job on their criteria and that is not in the calculator. Manager Waller stated the problem with it was it was far too narrow and was geared towards publicly owned properties, not privately owned properties and the District’s focus has been toward privately owned properties.
Mr. Tom Keiser, 5251 West Bald Eagle Boulevard, asked the Board to reconsider the rejection of their request for a Water Quality BMP Cost Sharing Funds for the rain garden they installed at their home on Bald Eagle Lake. He stated they live on a north-facing slope on the south side of the lake and all of the run off from their property runs directly into the lake, at least until recently. There were two reasons they were given for the rejection of their request and part of it had to do with the wall they put up in the front. He stated when he met with RCWD staff in July he showed them the plans and told them there would be a wall and at that time, there was no mention of a problem with the wall and since then has not been a problem until they were informed of the rejection. He stated when they sat down and started to plan this they had been working on re-landscaping their property for a year and one of their goals was to be ecologically sound and handle all run off from the property. They have totally re-landscaped the entire property so all of the water will run into the rain garden, even water that used to go into the street now goes into the rain garden. They feel that the project fits all of the goals for a water purification standpoint. They have even added a second rain garden for the water that comes off the side of the house. The wall serves several purposes. It doubles the capacity of the rain garden and felt the capacity makes a lot of sense. One of the issues he heard with the wall was that the plants could not be seen but there are 418 plants in the rain garden and will return next spring and rise above the top of the wall. One of their goals for the plantings on the property is accomplish three things; provide food and coverage for the birds, provide shelter and food for pollinators and to provide a way to hold the soils firm. He thought the wall serves a good purpose and if they were to less with the wall they would not have the capacity in the rain garden they need to handle their property and they were not sure if they use less of a wall, the rain garden would not be as effective.

Mr. Keiser stated another thing that came up was about the processing of water from the street. One of their key goals was to eliminate the water from running into their basement and garage and direct it to the rain garden. He thought there might have been a miscommunication and would like the Board to reconsider this. He indicated they would also like to be a good example to their neighbors and show them how to keep water from going directly into Bald Eagle Lake.

Manager Bradley stated he was one of the people that was concerned with the rain garden. He stated what Mr. Keiser has done is beautiful and his concern was that there would be a perception that the District was helping to fund the wall, which goes way beyond the rain garden. He stated the original request was for $10,000, which is a lot of money. He stated he has had a chance to go back and find out what specifically was being asked for. He stated he would be comfortable with approving $1,875.00 in this instance.

Manager Waller stated he is not a big fan of rain gardens as a program and would like to see them at a more regional basis, however, he cannot think of too many rain gardens he has voted against and now that Mr. Keiser has brought forward an explanation of it, particularly with the flood control issue, he would now be in favor of doing it. Providing funding for flood prevention, it is acceptable and he did not have any problem for voting for a recommendation of the staff at the $2,000 level.

*Motion by Manager Waller, seconded by Manager Bradley, to reconsider the cost-share application. Motion carried 4-0.*
Motion by Manager Haake, seconded by President Preiner, to recommend approval up to $1,500 not to exceed 50% of eligible project expenses, for the cost share application.

ROLL CALL:
Manager Haake – Aye
Manager Bradley – Aye
Manager Wagamon – Absent
Manager Waller – Nay
President Preiner - Aye

Motion carried 3-1.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION
1. Consider Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) resolutions for annual meeting and delegate appointment & proxy forms.
   District Administrator Belfiori reviewed the seven resolutions with the Board.

   Motion by Manager Bradley, seconded by Manager Haake, to accept staff recommendations concerning the annual meeting at MAWD. Motion carried 4-0.

   Manager Haake indicated she will be going to the annual meeting and would like to be considered as a delegate representing the Watershed District. President Preiner nominated Manager Haake.

   Motion by President Preiner seconded by Manager Bradley, to appoint Manager Haake as the first official delegates to the MAWD Annual Meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

   Motion by President Preiner, seconded by Manager Bradley, to appoint Manager Waller as the second official delegate to the MAWD Annual Meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

   Motion by Manager Waller, seconded by Manager Haake, to appoint Manager Bradley as an alternate to the MAWD Annual Meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

2. Consider League of Minnesota Cities liability coverage waiver form.
   District Administrator Belfiori stated Mark Lenz from Bearence Management came to the Workshop meeting and answered the Board’s questions and at the end of that discussion, consensus was reached to place this on the agenda for a formal consideration.

   Motion by Manager Bradley, seconded by Manager Waller, to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes, Section 466.04 to the extent of the limits of the liability coverage obtained from LMCIT.

   Manager Haake stated when it was discussed there were four different options and they went with the second one which was to raise it to two million and where does it show which one they will be raising it to. Manager Bradley stated it is shown in the second bullet point on the waiver form.

   Motion carried 4-0.
3. **Consider Stormwater Reuse Irrigation Assessment Grant Agreement Authorization.**

District Administrator Belfiori stated the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) expressed interest in the Rice Creek Watershed District (District) developing a watershed-scale assessment methodology for identifying suitable locations for stormwater reuse irrigation projects and applying it within a given watershed during a meeting on May 8, 2015.

*Motion by Manager Bradley, seconded by Manager Waller, to recommend that the Board authorize President Preiner to 1) sign the grant agreement once the BWSR work plan is completed; and 2) sign the attached HEI Task Order once the grant agreement is executed by the BWSR.*

Manager Haake asked if they get a chance to see what the task order looks like. District Administrator Belfiori stated it is in the packet.

*Motion carried 4-0*

4. **Consider 2016 Board Calendar**

District Administrator Belfiori reviewed the 2016 Board Calendar.

*Motion by Manager Haake, seconded by Manager Bradley, to accept the 2016 Board Calendar. Motion carried 4-0.*

5. **Consider November 25, 2015 Check Register – Resolution Authorizing Treasurer Approval**

*Motion by Manager Haake, seconded by Manager Waller, to approve Resolution 2015-38, Resolution Authorizing Payment of November 2015 Check Register.*

*ROLL CALL:*

Manager Haake – Aye
Manager Bradley – Aye
Manager Wagamon – Absent
Manager Waller – Aye
President Preiner - Aye

*Motion carried 4-0.*

6. **Consider Check Register dated 11/10/2015, in the amount of $32,882.70, prepared by Redpath and Company.**

*Motion by Manager Haake, seconded by President Preiner, to approve check register dated 11/10/2015, in the amount of $32,882.70, prepared by Redpath and Company. Motion carried 4-0.*

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION**

1. **Engineer’s Update and Timeline.**

District Engineer Deutschman stated the open house for Hansen Park is on Thursday night at 6:30 at the New Brighton Community Center.
2. **November/December Calendar**
   District Administrator Belfiori reviewed the November/December Calendar with the Board.

3. **Manager's Update**
   Manager Haake informed the Board of two cable shows she had done with U of M Professor Peter Sorenson. The first show is about the history of carp and their tracking program, the second one is about Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Manager Haake, seconded by Manager Bradley, to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m. Motion carried 4-0.*