The Board convened workshop at 1:00 p.m.

Attendance: Board members, Patricia Preiner, John Waller, Mike Bradley, Steve Wagamon, and Barbara Haake.

Absent: None.

Others: Administrator Phil Belfiori; Public Drainage Inspector Tom Schmidt (portion of meeting); Water Resource Specialist Kyle Axtell (portion of meeting); Office Manager Theresa Stasica; Permit Coordinator/Wetland Specialist Nick Tomczik (portion of meeting); District Engineer Mark Deutschman and Chris Otterness - Houston Engineering (HEI); Drainage Attorney John Kolb-Rinke Noonan; Craig Schlichting - City of New Brighton (portion of meeting).

Administrator Belfiori requested the following addition from Manager Waller. To provide a letter to Washington County Commissioner Kriesel responding to the questions he asked at the county’s 10/6/15 WMO/WCD workshop.

Discuss Hansen Park project update.

Water Resource Specialist Kyle Axtell reviewed the draft design plans with the Board. He also updated the Board on a cost-share opportunity that was recently discussed with the City of New Brighton. The plan would be in lieu of re-building the youth ball fields that were being used for project excavation, the District would form an agreement with the city to pay them to use the area for spoil and not rebuild the ball fields. This would fit into the city’s master plan where they would re-build the ballfields at the New Brighton Exchange. The agreement would provide a cost savings to the District. The Board by consensus directed Water Resource Specialist Axtell to engage the city in discussions to pursue the cost-sharing in lieu of building ballfields.

Discuss Urban Stormwater Remediation Cost-Share Program timing.

Water Resource Specialist Kyle Axtell asked that the request for proposals be distributed earlier, this fall, to better align with the cities project planning. Even though the budget amount is preliminary until this December, projects would not be approved until 2016 when the budget number would be set. The Board by consensus agreed with the timing change and would make a formal Board action at the 10/14/15 meeting to approve it.

Discuss public drainage projects work plan and prioritization schedule.

District Administrator Belfiori reviewed the flowchart included in the agenda packet with the Board that memorializes how the District responds to drainage complaints/concerns. Staff and consultants also reviewed with the Board the RCWD public drainage systems repair projects status table. The Board discussed the merits of the $50,000 threshold that was discussed in the flow chart that determined whether a project was to be...
considered minor maintenance or repair. It was suggested that there be some further discussion on the threshold. Manager Waller suggested that after large scale repair projects, the District should provide yearly minor maintenance of that system. Public Drainage Inspector Tom Schmidt informed the Board of the difficulty there is sometimes in finding contractors to perform this minor maintenance. The Board by consensus agreed with the logic of the flow chart presented and the need to annually fund enough to ensure that minor maintenance performed on completed repair projects.

**Discussion on logistics on this evenings Anoka County Ditch 31/46 informational meeting.**

District Administrator Belfiori informed the Board that staff recommended after the powerpoint presentation to the audience, each Board member will be paired with a staff/consultant at stations throughout the council chambers. They can then answer questions from the public and provide draft charge allocations for properties. The Board by consensus agreed to this plan.

**Discuss investigation of possible rule revisions related to offsite drainage concerns and municipal coordination.**

District Administrator Belfiori informed the Board per BWSR requirements, cities in the District will have to update their local water management plans by 2018. Since the District rules help facilitate certain parts of city plans, this is an opportunity for the District to start discussions on possible updates to the RCWD watershed plan so to facilitate the most effective coordination between the Districts plan and each cities LWMP. District Engineer Deutschman provided a presentation regarding the District’s permitting program and its rules and provided recommendation related to his identified Board policy premises. The Board then further discussed possible Plan /rule revisions. The Board sees this as an opportunity to address their concerns and will continue this discussion at future workshops.

**Discuss amending Bylaws related to Election of Officers.**

District Administrator Belfiori provided background to the Board regarding the item and that the Board in March made a motion to bring the board officer rotation subject to a future workshop for further discussion. In the workshop packet, Administrator Belfiori provided the Board with the RCWD Bylaws, approved 3/11/15 Board meeting minutes, and a CD of 3/11/15 board meeting discussion of this topic to help them discuss this item today. The Board discussed the item and by majority consensus agreed to the status quo and to not further pursue bylaw amendments related to term limits or Board officer rotations.

**Outstanding District employee award.**

District Administrator Belfiori provided background information on past selections of the Board. The Board by consensus nominated Kyle Axtell for the MAWD award and directed District Administrator Belfiori to file the necessary documents.

**Letter to Washington County Commissioner.**

Manager Waller provided background on the annual WMO/WD budget workshop with the Washington County Commissioners on 10/16/15. At this meeting, Washington County Commissioner Kriesel asked the following questions to the WMOs/WDs: do you provide video/audio of your meetings to the public, what is your current maintenance program, and do you coordinate/cooperate with cities. The Board by consensus directed staff to provide a letter to Commissioner Kriesel addressing his questions.
Anoka-Ramsey Judicial Ditch 1, Branch 4 repair memo.

District Engineer Otterness reviewed the repair memo with the Board. The outlet for the branch was removed in 1990 with the expansion of County Road J. The District became aware of this problem from the public at the District's 5/20/14 informational meeting. At the Board's 7/8/15 meeting by consensus they directed HEI to focus on repair alternative number 4 connection of existing infrastructure with project goal of providing flood protection to existing structures during periods of high seasonal water. The estimated cost of the project is $32,000 and construction plans have been completed. Upon further discussion the Board reached consensus to have staff pursue the necessary permits and construction of this recommended repair project. Administrator Belfiori responded he will confer with Public Drainage Inspector Schmidt when the project can be scheduled.

The workshop was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.