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

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

Absent: Barbara Haake.

Others: Administrator Phil Belfiori; Public Drainage Inspector Tom Schmidt (portion of meeting); Permit Coordinator/Wetland Specialist Nick Tomczik (portion of meeting); Office Manager Theresa Stasica; and District Engineer Chris Otterness (portion of meeting)- Houston Engineering (HEI) (portion of meeting), Drainage Attorney John Kolb-Rinke Noonan (portion of meeting), Barbara Haake via telephone (listening only).

The Board agreed by consensus to add a new item: Manager Haake’s Request to Research Electronic Meeting Attendance. This item will first on the agenda.

Manager Haake’s Request to Research Electronic Meeting Attendance.

President Preiner informed the Board that Manager Haake had requested an opinion from the District’s attorneys on attending and participating in meetings electronically. President Preiner directed Administrator Belfiori to have the District’s Attorneys, Rinke Noonan and Smith Partners, research this subject and give written opinions to the Board. President Preiner also noted that she also directed the Administrator to contact the City of Hugo because she was aware that they had experience with this matter. Manager Waller commented that three documents had just been distributed to the Board. These documents were: Rinke Noonan memo dated 1/7/18, Smith Partners email dated 1/5/18 w/attach memo dated 10/17/13, and City of Hugo email dated 1/4/18 with attached policy for remote meeting attendance. Attorney Kolb explained MN Statutes 13D.02 and the items that must be met for a public body to use interactive television. One of these items is that the Manager is at a location open and accessible to the public and within the entity’s geographic area. He then explained the MN Department of Administrations (MDA) advisory opinion 13-009. This opinion does not forbid the member of the public body to be outside the entity’s geographic area. If the Board allows a Manager to participate in a meeting or workshop remotely outside of the Districts boundary, the Board will assume the risk of violating the Open Meeting Law (OML) because of the conflicting interpretations of the conditions upon which remote meeting participation may occur. The Managers discussed with counsel the OML and how it pertains to electronic meeting attendance, emails and comments regarding workshops/meetings. Manager Waller
stated he would bring this item to the Wednesday’s Board meeting for action to analyze the cost issue of electronic meeting attendance.

**Update on Freeway District/Anoka County Ditch 15/Anoka-Washington Judicial Ditch 4 Stormwater Planning Discussions.**

Staff and Consultants updated the Board on their recent presentation and discussion with the City of Columbus on the opportunity to partner with the District on stormwater master planning. Staff and consultants also discussed with the Board a future meeting that is planned with the City of Forest staff to also discuss partnering with them on a stormwater master plan. Engineer Otterness reviewed with the Board potential next steps. The Board agreed with this approach and the importance of having these discussions as cities are developing the local water management plans.

**Discussion on Minnesota Commercial Railway Response.**

Administrator Belfiori informed the Board that MCR had contacted the District via email on 12/22/17 with their legislative brief document for the legislature and requested that the District review and comment on it. The proposed District response was emailed and mailed on Friday, January 5 to the Board. Staff reviewed with the Board the documents and informed the Board that these suggestions from the District are clarifications and deletions and are written from MCR’s point of view. The District has also suggested a statement which clarifies the District’s role. Staff and consultants discussed with the Board the information provide. Staff also informed the Board that MCR’s permit application with the Board has been CAPROC’d by the Board, and MCR has applied to the District’s 2018 Urban Stormwater Remediation grant program. The application is in the process of being reviewed with the other grant applications and staff noted it is highly competitive this year. The Board by consensus supported the recommendations presented and will bring this item to Wednesdays Board meeting for action.

**Discussion on Administrator Goals – Per Board Direction at Performance Review.**

The Board discussed the goals that were included in the workshop packet. Manager Waller suggested a goal to improve communications with Board members. He suggested the Board would benefit in hiring the Minnesota Department of Administrations Management Analysis Division to educate the Board management practices. Manager Waller also discussed a 2002 document that was developed by the Management Analysis Division for RCWD. Managers Preiner and Wagamon had a problem with the goals list, since they thought goals were need for an employee that was not performing certain job duties. They had no concerns with the Administrators work performance. Manager Bradley responded that these goals weren’t because of bad performance but were to be used as another form of evaluation. Manager Bradley questioned if the Board should maintain evaluation form from last year’s performance review. Administrator Belfiori stated that he understood that one of the many documents the human resource consultant utilized when she developed the evaluation form that the Board used for the last two performance reviews was the advertisement for the administrator position.

The workshop was adjourned at 2:54 p.m.