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

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

Absent: None.

Others: Administrator Phil Belfiori; Technician Lauren Sampedro (portion of meeting); Communications & Outreach Coordinator Beth Carreño (portion of meeting); Office Manager Theresa Stasica; District Engineer Chris Otterness-Houston Engineering (HEI); Drainage Attorney John Kolb-Rinke Noonan.

Discussion on Draft Preliminary 2018 Budget.

Administrator Belfiori reviewed the unchanged draft preliminary 2018 budget that was presented at the Boards 7/10/17 workshop as directed by the Board. He informed the Board that staff would be noticing a public hearing for August 23, 2017 Board meeting referencing theses budget/levy/water management district numbers. The Board, by consensus, indicated it had no additional comments at this time and that staff should move forward with noticing the public hearing utilizing the budget numbers as presented.

Discussion on Draft RCWD Bylaws.

3rd time workshop discussion on Bylaws. Manager Wagamon questioned if there should be more clarification for submission per diem submission deadline under Article IV. Section 7. Submission of Manager Expenses. Manager Haake replied the District Policy and Procedure Manual (PPM) contains this information. The Board by majority consensus agreed to add the PPM language “Claims for reimbursement of business related expenses and per diem claims must be submitted by January 15th for expenses incurred for the subsequent preceding year. Any claims submitted after January 15th will not be paid” at the end of the paragraph.

Manager Wagamon requested clarification Article VI. Section 8. Investigation and Report. Is it a simple majority or 4/5ths of a Board vote? Attorney Kolb replied it was a simple majority of the Board.
Manager Wagamon pointed out a typo Article XV. Review of Bylaws. In the first sentence replace “very” with “every”.

Manager Bradley requested clarification for Article XIV. Section 3. Temporary Suspension of Bylaws. The Board and staff discussed the reason for this section and concluded that Administrator Belfiori will request clarification from SmithPartners why this section exists in the Bylaws.

The Board, by consensus, agreed to remove resolution 2004-08 District Event Policy and place it in the PPM.

Attorney Kolb suggested changing a word in the PPM language discussed under Article IV. Section 7. Submission of Manager Expenses. He suggested changing the word “subsequent” to “preceding”. The sentence would then read “Claims for reimbursement of business related expenses and per diem claims must be submitted by January 15th for expenses incurred for the preceding year. Any claims submitted after January 15th will not be paid.”

Administrator Belfiori informed the Board that staff will incorporate the discussed changes into a revised Bylaws document. Staff will distribute these revised Bylaws as well as an official 30-day Board notice to the Board at their August 9th meeting.

The Board by consensus agreed to this plan.

**Discussion on Possible Buffer Law Cost Share Letter.**

Administrator Phil Belfiori and Technician Lauren Sampedro reviewed the revised letter/information sheet, guidelines, and agreements with the Board. Manager Bradley suggested a few changes to the text of the document. Staff informed the Board of their conversations with the Anoka and Washington SWCDs regarding the District’s cost-share information. The SWCD’s have decided to receive BWSR Buffer Law-State Aid but they also have agreed to include the District cost-share information in their mailings to landowners effected by the Buffer Law. The Board, by consensus, agreed to staff revising the documents and bringing them to the Board at the August 9th meeting for Board action.

**Discussion on Draft Letter Regarding Public Waters Reclassification of Hardwood Creek Segments.**

Administrator Belfiori reviewed the content and reasoning for letter. In 2005 the MN legislature gave the DNR the authority to revise the public water inventory (PWI) and correct errors. In 2015, the legislature directed the DNR to establish and maintain the buffer protection map which identifies water resources subject to buffer requirements under the state’s new buffer legislation. During the development of the buffer protection map, DNR discovered errors in the original inventory and in their 2005 revision and those segments were removed. RCWD staff is aware of correspondence that indicates the DNR wants to reinstate a segment of Hardwood Creek that was removed from the list. The letter states the DNR should do their due diligence by going through the original required legal process to add these public waters back into the inventory.
Manager Bradley provided suggested edits to the letter. He also requested a conclusion paragraph for the letter.

Manager Waller suggested cc’ing this letter to the cities of Forest Lake and Hugo because they are the communities which contain these segments.

The Board by consensus directed Administrator Belfiori to revise the letter as discussed and bring it to the Board meeting on August 9th for action.

**Update on Anoka County Ditch 53-62 Branch 2 Repair.**
Administrator Belfiori updated the Board on the bid opening for this project. Staff and the District Engineer will bring their recommendation for Board action at their August 9th meeting.

**Update on Halls Marsh Project– Discussion on Draft Letter to Driveway Landowners.**
Administrator Belfiori and District Engineer Otterness updated the Board on the quotes received from three contractors for this project. Administrator Belfiori reviewed the draft letter to the 3 landowners located on the private driveway that will be displaced during construction due to the interruption of their utilities. Attorney Kolb reviewed the federal reimbursement rate for the Twin Cities metro area which was used to compute landowner compensation. Administrator Belfiori informed the Board that he will request an additional action item at their August 9th meeting for the Landowner letter/compensation item. Manager Preiner requested, and Attorney Kolb agreed, that the letters be sent out certified. Then the District has a record of the landowners receipt of letter/compensation.

The workshop was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.