



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Board of Managers

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Carver County Government Center, 602 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 7:00 p.m.

Approved _____, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

On Wednesday, March 17, 2020, at 7:00 PM, President Hartmann called to order the meeting of the Board of Managers of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD). The meeting was convened on-line due to the health emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

President Hartmann asked for roll call to be taken. The following Managers were present: President Jesse Hartmann, Manager Dave Raby, and Manager Lauren Salvato. (Manager Adam Frey's term expired and he did not seek re-appointment) In addition, the following joined the meeting: Linda Loomis, Naiad Consulting, LLC, LMRWD Administrator; Della Schall Young, and Jen Dullum, Young Environmental Consulting Group, LLC (YECG), Technical Consultant; John Kolb, Rinke Noonan, Attorneys at Law, Legal Counsel; Lindsey Albright, Dakota County Soil & Water Conservation District; Steve Pany, Manager, Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District; Brent Mareck, Carver City Manager; Courtney Johnson, Carver Mayor; Jon Utecht, Water Resource Specialist, Scott Soil & Water Conservation District; Len Kremer and Lisa Frenette, Frenette Legislative Advisors, Lobbyist for the LMRWD. (Ms. Frenette joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m.)

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Administrator Loomis requested that the approval of the February meeting minutes be removed from the agenda.

President Hartmann made a motion to approve the Agenda removing the February meeting minutes from the agenda. The motion was seconded by Manager Salvato.

Manager Raby asked if the cost-share application reimbursement request on the consent agenda was the one that the plant costs came in less than budgeted. Administrator Loomis clarified that the comment was meant to explain why the plant material costs were so low. She said that the cost of the plant material was the actual cost that was applied for.

Manager Raby was concerned that the applicant was being paid more than the actual cost of the plant material. Administrator Loomis assured Manager Raby that the applicant was being reimbursed for actual costs and the total reimbursement requested do not exceed the amount of the grant approved by the Board at the time the application was authorized.

Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None

3. CITIZEN FORUM

Administrator Loomis reported that she had not received communication from anyone that wished to address the Board.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

President Hartmann introduced the item.

Manager Salvato wondered why there is not more detail on the services rendered by Frenette Legislative Advisors. It would be nice to have more specifics for auditing purposes. She noted that other invoices received, such as those from Rinke Noonan and Young Environmental, contain much more detail.

Administrator Loomis noted that Frenette Legislative Advisors was retained on the basis of an annual fee of \$20,000 and that the LMRWD pays the annual fee across the course of twelve monthly payments. Legal counsel and Young Environmental invoice the LMRWD based on actual work performed.

Attorney Kolb suggested that a copy of the consulting agreement could be provided to Manager Salvato, which would help her understand the basis upon which the proposal was made and the basis of payment.

~~A. Approve Minutes February 17, 2021 Regular Meeting~~

B. Receive and file February 2021 Financial reports

C. Approval of Invoices for payment

- i. **Frenette Legislative Advisors - January 2021 lobbying expense**
- ii. **Scott County Soil & Water Conservation District - Q4 2020 monitoring, education and technical assistance services**
- iii. **City of Shakopee - Payment of LMRWD contribution to drainage project at The Landing**
- iv. **Carver County WMO - for 2020 monitoring & education services**

D. Authorize payment to Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District for Lower Creek restoration project

E. Authorize letter to MAWD regarding dues membership

F. Authorize payment for 2020 Cost Share project at 4419 West Old Shakopee Road

President Hartmann made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Manager Raby. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation of 2020 Scott County monitoring results and approval of 2021 monitoring, education & technical assistance agreement

Administrator Loomis introduced Jon Utecht, Water Resource Specialist, Scott County Soil & Water Conservation District. She noted that the monitoring agreement included costs for Chloride monitoring. This item will be removed from the agreement in 2021. Chloride monitoring was done for one year to determine if there was a need to conduct more monitoring for Chloride. Also, Chloride is one pollutant measured at the Met Council WOMP (Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program) station. Therefore it was agreed that there was not an additional need to continue to monitor Eagle Creek for Chloride. She noted the amount in the agreement is a maximum/not-to-exceed number and the Board is billed according to services rendered, time, and materials. The not to exceed amount will be reduced by \$7,400.

Mr. Utecht shared a presentation of the 2020 monitoring results. Precipitation for the year was lower than average and far from 2019's historical record, so some results may look different as

water quality is dependent upon precipitation events. Mr. Utecht detailed the monitoring activities that are conducted on behalf of the LMRWD.

Thermal monitoring of Eagle Creek is important because Eagle Creek is a trout stream and trout are very sensitive to temperature. Anything outside their optimal range can inhibit growth and spawning. Thermal loggers capture temperatures along the ponds and creek. There are three loggers; upstream, mid-stream and downstream. Pond loggers were added a few years ago.

Results in the main stem mostly stayed below the maximum optimum temperature in the creek. The mid-stream logger was either buried or lost and a majority of the summer data was lost. They now have the mid-stream logger attached to a fence at the downstream end of a culvert so there should not be any future issues. Temperature exceeded the optimal 17.6 degrees Celsius 36 times throughout the year which may have been a result of low precipitation and high temperatures. The loggers track closely to the ambient temperatures and precipitation events.

Mr. Utecht showed the Met Council's Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program Station (WOMP Station) located under the bridge. He noted the picture was taken during a high-water event and that normally the flow is well below the actual station. A lot of data is collected at the WOMP station. He presented a graph that showed discharge data. The graph shows the number of times that water quality samples were collected on a bi-weekly basis, and three different composite samples collected during storm events by an automated sampler inside the station. A total of 26 different water quality samples were collected. There was a short period where monitoring activity ceased due to COVID-19.

Looking at the results you can see a number of different parameters are monitored. Chlorides are well below the 230milligram/liter standard, and nitrates are well within range with one sample outside the maximum; this is also seen with phosphorous. Mr. Utecht said the total suspended solids and E. coli levels are a little more concerning.

Compared to other up-stations around the area, Eagle Creek has a very low suspended solid readings. Looking at the 2019 TSS data there were a lot of peaks and areas where TSS exceeded the standards, which were because of the high amount of precipitation. In 2020 with the below-average precipitation, the bi-weekly samples fell below that exceedance through the range prescribed. The composite event samples both exceeded that standard.

In 2019, there were spikes in the E. coli levels in both the winter and summer. In 2020, the E. coli did create that huge spike in the winter, though there were only a couple of samples with some very high E. coli. Mr. Utecht suspects the E. coli is coming from natural bird activity upstream of the station. Throughout winter he sees birds constantly using the open water as a source of fresh water. Looking at the geometric mean, which is one of the standards to track E. coli data, and comparing 2019 and 2020 data, in the summer, they still see the standard exceeding the geometric standard but there has not been much change throughout the two years.

Basic water quality standards are all within the standards set and there are no issues. In summary, precipitation is playing a high factor in the total suspended solid concentrations and is also impacting E. coli records and they will continue to monitor these two areas.

Moving onto the Dean Lake inlet monitoring; a few years ago it was reclassified as a wetland, and there is still a need to monitor. According to State statute there should not be any degradable water quality conditions, even to wetlands, and this station has quite a historic water quality database. There is a water logger at Dean Lake that records discharge through the station data every 15 minutes. There were two separate spikes in discharge, the first

immediately after the spring thaw and the Prior Lake outlet upstream of the station was open; the second was a bit more perplexing but apparently there was some debris that had collected on the Prior Lake outlet and removing that debris caused that significant spike.

In total there were 17 non-event bi-weekly samples taken and 4 event samples along with 4 flow measurements. The nitrates levels were on the high side on a few samples, as were the phosphorous levels. One sample of suspended solids exceeded the lake standards (the previous standards they measured to before the lake was re-classified).

The Savage Fen has 13 different well locations spread across a 45-acre area. Savage Fen is a calcareous wetland complex that produces some unique and rare vegetation and wildlife. All data collected is uploaded into the Minnesota DNR observation well database and is open to the public to see the data and trends of the wells.

Throughout 2020 they saw a drop in water levels of the wells, which is not surprising given the dry-ish year. Over the past 10 years the well levels have been on a steady uptick.

Ideally, they would like to see a zero-net change throughout the wells over 10 years, but given the dry year it is not really surprising that some wells are lower than the average – and none of them are really that low with the lowest one just under a foot. For the Eagle Creek wells they saw a similar trend. There was one well that has been flowing and this year it was not and they were able to collect data all summer. Looking at 10-year historical data there has not been a whole lot of change. There has been some variation in the data that correlates with the precipitation.

There has been talk of the DNR sealing some of the Eagle Creek wells and a few of the Savage Fen wells, they regularly review the well systems and look at which ones they use for their information, and make suggestions based on which wells are needed and those that are not – more to come on that. In 2021, things will primarily be the same, although they will not be doing the chloride monitoring.

President Hartmann asked Mr. Utecht about the missing testing unit and asked if that was due to natural causes. Mr. Utecht believes it was natural, but could not say what the cause was. He was not able to find it, although he said he didn't spend a lot of time looking. He will continue to keep an eye out for it.

Manager Salvato asked about the Eagle Creek thermal monitoring and asked if that is a groundwater fed creek. Mr. Utecht replied yes. She asked about possible restoration actions and how temperature could be mitigated. Mr. Utecht replied that more natural habitat would help stabilize temperature and deeper pools would offer a refuge area for the trout during extreme temperature events.

Manager Salvato questioned the high TSS and E. coli values how it could be attributed all to precipitation. Mr. Utecht forgot to mention previously the high values stated during his presentation are typically seen during event samples, for example, after a one-inch precipitation events when the stream is high and flushing out everything in the system and because of the unstable stream bed the flow picks up the sediment and produces high TSS values along with E. coli. She asked if they would try to capture other precipitation events in other summer months. Mr. Utecht said yes. He noted that the composite sampler is stage based and will automatically collect samples to try to capture the peak discharge. He said in the past there has been trouble getting the sampler set up to collect samples at the peak flows. There is a new sampler in 2021 and hopefully there will be fewer issues.

President Hartmann thanked Mr. Utecht for his presentation.

Manager Raby made a motion to approve of 2021 monitoring, education & technical assistance agreement. The motion was seconded by Manager Salvato.

President Hartmann clarified they will be removing the chloride monitoring for \$7,400.

Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None.

B. Authorize 2021 Cost Share project for Jefferson High School Earth Corps

Administrator Loomis said this project is being requested by the Earth Corps at Jefferson High School. The Earth Corps wants to leave a legacy of a rain garden for the school yard. The City of Bloomington has been providing technical assistance. Loomis recommends approval of the cost share project. She clarified it is not that the plant material was less than what they were asking, but the grant is 50/50 and they showed that what they were requesting from the Board was higher than their contributions. She noted it is only a \$50 difference and she will clarify the dollar amounts with them. President Hartmann asked if a site plan was provided. Administrator Loomis said she did not receive a site plan, but in speaking with the applicant she is aware of the location on the school grounds.

Manager Raby said as part of the Earth Corps "in-kind" it seems they are trying to get the Audubon Society to contribute. It seems like double contributions if the Board approves all of that and he asked if he is missing something as Audubon contribution is \$1,300, and perhaps that ought to come off the request. Administrator Loomis stated they are getting an additional grant and that the LMRWD has never talked about whether other grant money can be used toward a match or not. She said the cost share guidelines don't say anything about receiving other grants. Manager Raby didn't think another grant should be counted as 'In-kind' services.

Attorney Kolb asked if they gave an indication of what the total need is and whether the Board is only fulfilling a part of that or if they have asked two parties and both are intending to fulfill full need. He thinks they need to coordinate that – if they only need so much it is wise to consider eliminating what they are contributing so others can also support the effort. He stated the Board could support 100% of need remaining after other contributions up to a total of the value the Earth Corps has asked for. That way if those other grants fall through there is a backup plan to get 100% of what they have asked for.

President Hartmann likes the way Attorney Kolb stated that.

Manager Raby can agree as well, up to the maximum of \$3,200.

Manager Raby made a motion to authorize 2021 Cost Share project for Jefferson High School Earth Corps for 100% of the needed remaining after other contributions up to a maximum of \$3,200. The motion was seconded by President Hartmann. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None.

C. Authorize 2021 Cost Share project for 11300 Goodrich Road, Bloomington

Administrator Loomis said this is a homeowner that wants to put in a rain garden and rain barrels; she is asking for \$500 construct a rain garden and rain barrels to capture water coming off the roof and downspouts. The applicant intends to use the rain captured to water the rain garden.

After discussion about cost and time concerns by the Board, Administrator Loomis suggested tabling this item while she works with the applicant. The Board also discussed whether or not to

require applicants to attend a class prior to applying for a grant. She noted that other watershed districts require that. Manager Raby noted the Cost Share guidelines would have to be changed so that applicants are aware of that requirement.

Manager Raby said he is okay either way. [approving the request or tabling the item]

President Hartmann made a motion to table 2021 Cost Share project for 11300 Goodrich Road, Bloomington. The motion was seconded by Manager Salvato. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None.

Lindsey Albright informed the Board that applicants can take classes from Dakota County can take classes whether or not they live in Dakota County.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Cost Share Application - S. Mueller, 10745 Lyndale Bluffs Trail

No new information to report since last update.

B. City of Carver Levee

Administrator Loomis said a cooperative agreement has been drafted and reviewed by the City with some suggested revisions. It has also reviewed by the LMRWD's legal counsel. The Board is being asked to approve the cooperative agreement and authorize execution. She noted Carver Mayor Johnson and City Manager Brent Mareck had joined the meeting.

Manager Raby clarified his concerns: this phase of the project is the preliminary design and probably will complete no more than 10-15% of the overall project. The LMRWD has agreed to contribute a total of \$100,000 for a complete project yet the City is asking for 75% of their contribution. He does not think they should contribute more than 10-15%, maybe 25%; because there is no assurance that the project will go forward.

Mayor Johnson noted the City has an \$11.2 million dollar levee improvement project in Carver which will address four areas of deficiency: the slope, the height, internal drainage, and the free space at the base of the levee – this is not a tear down and rebuild project. Carver has invested \$1.2 million so far and hopes to get bonding bill money of about \$9 million to pay for this. She noted the project is a long-term project and they are grateful for the LMRWD's resolution of support of \$100,000. Carver received a grant from the MN DNR for \$150,000 which has a one-to-one match so they need to come up with an additional \$150,000. Mayor Johnson said it was not communicated to them that the LMRWD money was dependent upon a finished project. She assured the Board that the city intends to complete this project. The City of Carver will put in \$75,000 and they were counting on the Watershed District to contribute \$75,000.

Manager Raby said historically the Watershed District has tried to tie their contribution to the stages of completion of projects. Typically, the LMRWD has not contributed any funds until completion of a project.

Mayor Johnson stated it could be 10 years down the road when this project is completed.

Manager Raby responded that if they put in all the money up front, five years from now the project could die because the City of Carver did not receive funding; then LMRWD will have contributed for a project wasn't completed.

Mayor Johnson said the City is committed to seeing the project through to completion.

Brent Mareck said the City would be fine with the Board's decision and like any other project, the most important steps are at the beginning. He noted they will do the project regardless of

the LMRWD'S contribution and if they choose another amount, the City of Carver will be fine with whatever the LMRWD Board decides. He stated this project has had more momentum in the last 18 months than at any other time since the levee was constructed. Mr. Mareck does not want to take the first step on this project and have the Board feel uncomfortable with their investment.

Manager Salvato does not think they should doubt the City's commitment and their economics are inhibited because they have to carry these flood plain policies. She noted they could withhold the last 25% and could take this as a learning lesson to be better at communication on both ends.

Manager Raby does not know if the LMRWD has an official policy but since he has been on the Board, they have supported projects but, quite often after the project is completed, for example the Riley Creek project. He noted these contributions come from constituents and he wants to make sure the Board is making the right fiscal decisions.

Attorney Kolb said he and Administrator Loomis talked about this when they looked at the proposed cooperative agreement. The agreement in the packet does not contain language they had discussed; it had been posted before they talked about amendments. There is a provision in the current memo at item 2.2 that addresses specifically the LMRWD will be responsible for \$75,000 of the cost, technical assistance, and information to the City's consultant as requested. He noted this project is so large that at some point the City must get off center. He and Administrator Loomis suggested adding this sentence to the end of section 2.2: *the forgoing financial assistance shall reduce the total amount of financial assistance to the City's levee improvement project, authorized or contemplated by Resolution 20-10*. Thereby it would really lock in the commitment to the district's overall financial contributions and being clear with the City that this \$75,000 cuts into the \$100,000 that was anticipated at the end. Whether they spend it now or later is a separate issue. With some level of sympathy to the City's position and also wanting to be respectful of the Board's wishes, they thought that sentence might be a good compromise to allow this to go forward but being very clear the limit of the obligations being taken by the District. Manager Raby thinks that sentence should be added regardless of the amount of contribution made at this point, but he feels that it still does not address his concern.

President Hartmann asked if they can include a contingency statement in case the project does not get completed. Mr. Mareck proposed that the City of Carver not approach the Watershed District for the remaining \$25,000 until they can confirm that construction has begun on the project.

Attorney Kolb responded to President Hartmann's question and said yes, they can include a reimbursement requirement if the project does not occur within a reasonable timeframe. He does not know how that could be anticipated, knowing how long these projects take going forward and the number of financial contingencies required, especially in seeking State bonding money.

President Hartmann noted the request may not be the most conventional approach (the request up front versus how they typically pay at the end), but he believes they may be the spark to get the fire going. That is his position.

Manager Salvato is amendable to this and does not know if they need the contingency but she likes Mr. Mareck's suggestion. Manager Raby stated he is still troubled and will not be supporting this.

President Hartmann asked how to proceed. Attorney Kolb said based on the City Manager's suggestion that it should go to the City Council, to see if they are willing to the LMRWD withholding the remainder until construction. He noted that the LMRWD could adopt it contingent upon the City Council's approval.

Mr. Mareck said the City Council has not seen this agreement, but he believes that the City Council would adopt the agreement with the inclusion of the language suggested.

Manager Salvato made a motion to adopt the amended language to the cooperative agreement contingent upon City Council's approval of the amendment that the remainder of the 25% will not be requested until construction occurs. The motion was seconded by President Hartmann. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann and Salvato; the following voted against: Raby.

C. Remote meeting participation

No new information to report since last update.

D. Dredge Management

i. Vernon Avenue Dredge Material Management site

No new information to report since last update.

ii. Private Dredge Material Placement

No new information to report since last update.

E. Watershed Management Plan

No new information to report since last update.

F. 2020 Legislative Action

Lisa Frenette said this has been a busy month; all four of the LMRWD bills have been heard in both the Senate and the House. By four bills she means two bills moving through each body. She noted the purpose of each bill; the appropriation language and the funding transfer agreement for the Seminary Fen Ravine project. She noted that BWSR has been very supportive of the LMRWD bills.

She noted this session has been more difficult because everything has been done virtually. Manager Salvato asked if it has been easier being virtual. Ms. Frenette said no. When the Legislature meets in person, she has more access to members. Virtually, it is easier for members to avoid people and to not respond. In person, she is able to find people in the hallways and walk with them and meet up with them in other ways.

The State is in a great place because they did not have a budget deficit. She has also been monitoring the water storage bills introduced and heard. She noted concerns with one water storage bill. She said BWSR would like to start a water storage program that she thinks will make things more difficult for watershed districts in terms of which agency will be in charge. Several questions have not been answered such as what is the definition of water storage, would BWSR be competing with DNR funds for water storage, and how would they work together. She has been keeping an eye on these bills for the LMRWD to make sure something happens, especially in the upper Minnesota Basin. If BWSR comes in and initiates another program there could be some skepticism, due to the manner in which the buffer law came across a few years ago. That didn't sit well with the ag-community.

Manager Salvato asked what happened that the State is not in a deficit as they were projecting a shortfall of billions of dollars. Ms. Frenette replied that state revenue came in higher than was

projected last November and this February they did not come up short...she noted people still pay their taxes and shopped online.

G. Education and Outreach Plan

i. Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

Administrator Loomis said there is an additional applicant for the CAC that would like to be appointed. Manager Salvato asked for some more background on the individual. Jen Dullum, Young Environmental, LMRWD Education & Outreach Coordinator, provided additional information about the applicant, Theresa Kuplic.

Administrator Loomis asked that the Board adopt Resolution 21-06 to appoint Theresa Kuplic to the CAC.

President Hartmann made a motion to approve Resolution 21-06 appointing Theresa Kuplic to the Citizen Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by Manager Salvato. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None.

H. LMRWD Projects

(only projects that require Board action will appear on the agenda. Informational updates will appear on the Administrator Report)

i. Eden Prairie Study Area #3

Administrator Loomis noted the Board approved a grant agreement with the Board of Water and Soil Resources for this project last month and now must submit a work plan to go along with the grant. A work plan for the project was put together by Young Environmental and is in the packet.

Manager Raby asked what the original proposal was before they made the decision to request proposals. Ms. Young replied it was around \$250,000 if she remembers correctly; it was 15-20% of the proposed construction cost that had been inflated from when it was originally recommended.

Manager Raby said they have only budgeted \$100,000 this year yet it will pretty much be paid this year.

Administrator Loomis stated they have a grant of \$127,000, there is \$100,000, and she said they have been assessing money for this site for a few years so there is money built up in the fund that can be directed toward this project. She noted that information can be found on the CIP spreadsheet that was provided to the Board with last year's budget.

Manager Raby made a motion to approve the work plan for the next phase of work. The motion was seconded by President Hartmann. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None.

I. Project/Plan Reviews

(only projects that require Board action will appear on the agenda. Informational updates will appear on the Administrator Report)

i. Southwest Logistics Center, 7070 Cretex Avenue, Shakopee

Administrator Loomis noted this is a former industrial site being repurposed and redeveloped; this is the first development in the area and likely the largest parcel to be developed in that area. Staff recommends approval. The site was previously used by a concrete product manufacturing company.

Ms. Schall Young noted there is a figure in the packet that shows where the building is going to go (Figure 1 on Page 6). She said this project is actually reducing many negatives of the site. It is really a good project and promoting the water quality benefits and other things the LMRWD likes to see.

President Hartmann made a motion to conditionally approve LMRWD permit No. 2021-003, Southwest Logistics Center subject to the following conditions; receipt of NPDES permit, names and contact information for the contractor and person responsible for compliance and an executed maintenance agreement. The motion was seconded by Manager Salvato. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None.

ii. **HCRRA assignment of maintenance responsibility**

Administrator Loomis said this item will transfer responsibility for maintenance from the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority to Carver County.

Manager Raby made a motion to approve the transfer of the maintenance subject to the satisfactory review of the assignment by legal counsel. The motion was seconded by Manager Salvato. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None.

J. **MPCA Soil Reference Values - no change since last update**

7. **COMMUNICATIONS**

A. **Administrator Report:** Administrator Loomis does not have anything to add to the Administrator's Report. She noted Dakota County plans to have a new manager appointed by the next Board meeting. Her sources say that the County Board intends to make an appointment in April. The individual being appointed is a middle school earth science teacher.

Ms. Schall Young asked about the removal of the mandatory work from home order, how does that affect meetings of the LMRWD. Will they still be virtual? Attorney Kolb said last week at a press conference, Governor Walz announced as of April 15 he will remove the mandatory work at home recommendation, but he leaves it open and it will remain open as long as the emergency declaration stays in place. He recommended the Board continue to plan to meet virtually through the next meeting and they will see what happens with the emergency declaration. He said he will work with the Administrator will to advise about meetings.

Manager Raby said now that they are missing a Hennepin County Manager and because the postcard mailing seemed to work in Dakota County, perhaps they ought to do the same thing. Manager Salvato likes that suggestion.

President Hartmann asked how much the typical cost of the mailing would be. Administrator Loomis replied the Dakota County mailing was less than \$700.

Manager Raby made a motion to send a mailing to residents within the Watershed District in Hennepin County requesting interest in the open Manager position. President Hartmann seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato; the following voted against: None.

Manager Raby asked in light of the fact that the Board approved the Carver payment, where is that budget as he did not see it in the 2021 budget. Administrator Loomis replied it is not in the 2021 budget because it came in after the budget was put together; they would use fund balance to pay for that and would levy for it in 2022.

Manager Raby asked if they would levy for the full \$100,000. Administrator Loomis replied they would probably levy for the full \$100,000. She and Ms. Schall Young are putting together a list of things they need to amend the plan to include and this is one of those projects.

Ms. Schall Young noted in looking at past projects there were some dollars set aside for Carver some time ago. She does not know if they still have those in their fund.

Administrator Loomis noted there was past money levied to be use in the City of Carver for a project that did not come to fruition and will check to see if those funds had been re-allocated. Manager Raby requested that in the future, when the Board is being requested to allocate funds, it would be helpful to provide how the District intends to fund the project.

Manager Salvato said she ran across the East Chaska Creek project and took some pictures. It was noted that those pictures could be used for PR purposes by the District. President Hartmann asked who maintains the Facebook and other pages. Ms. Young said Jen Dullum has been doing that. Administrator Loomis noted the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District is on social media and pictures like that could be posted.

She encouraged the Managers to look them up on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and "like" them.

Attorney Kolb is a big advocate of getting vaccines if they can and posted a link of vaccination clinics.

- B. Managers:** No Report
- C. Committees:** No report
- D. Legal Counsel:** No report
- E. Engineer:** No report

8. ADJOURN

At 9:02 pm, President Hartmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Manager Salvato seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken the following voted in favor of the motion: Hartmann, Raby and Salvato the following voted against: None.

The next meeting of the LMRWD Board of Managers will be 7:00, Wednesday, March 17, 2021 and will be held at the Carver County Government Center, 602 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN. Electronic access will also be available.

Lauren Salvato, Secretary

Attest:

Linda Loomis, Administrator