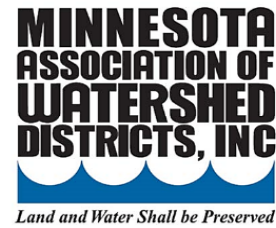


**Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD)
Board of Directors Meeting**

November 30, 2022



1. CALL TO ORDER

President Vavra called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

MAWD Board (Board) Members present: Jackie Anderson, Mary Texer, Linda Vavra, David Ziegler, Peter Fjestad, Jeff Gertgen, Wanda Holker, and Ruth Schaefer

Board member absent: Gene Tiedemann

Others present: Jan Voit, Interim Executive Director; Ray Bohn, Lobbyist; John Jaschke, Jill Crafton, and Leroy Ose, Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), and John Waller, Rice Creek WD

2. GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING

Agenda

Director Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Texer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Member Comment Period

No MAWD members were present to address the Board.

Secretary's Report

Director Schaefer presented the October 24 minutes. Director Anderson presented changes to the minutes and Director Holker noted the omission of Director Ziegler who was present at the meeting. Director Texer made a motion to approve the minutes as amended with the noted changes. Director Anderson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Director Anderson explained the financial report through October 31, 2022.

- Checking: \$17,437.00
- Savings: \$174,808.00
- Total: \$192,245.00

Director Ziegler moved to accept the treasurer's report. This was seconded by Director Texer and the motion carried unanimously. Ten watershed districts did not pay dues in 2022. Mississippi Watershed Management Organization took advantage of the promotion offered and pre-paid their 2023 dues. Some watershed districts have submitted their 2023 dues. Those payments will be reflected in the treasurer's report next month.

3. ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Interim Executive Director Voit provided an update on the pre-conference workshops, trade show, and night at the movies. Paul Gardner, Administrator of the Clean Water Council is the keynote speaker on Friday. The banquet will be held on Friday evening. Board members' photos will be taken at that time.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lobbyist Contract

The draft contract from Ray Bohn, Media and Government Affairs was provided in the board packet.

Ray Bohn gave an update regarding the Drainage Work Group process. Discussion was held regarding reporting to the membership and having legislative updates based on the priorities in the legislative

platform. BWSR does legislative tracking, which they will share with the lobbyist and interim executive director.

Director Anderson made a motion to approve the contract from Ray Bohn, Media and Government Affairs for legislative consultation and lobbying services for the 2023 and 2024 legislative sessions. Director Fjestad seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. REPORTS

President's Report

President Vavra reported on her activities including working closely with the interim executive director, speaking with watershed district representatives, answering phone calls and emails, and attending meetings in preparation for the annual conference as well as the Bois de Sioux Watershed District and the Red River Watershed Management Board.

Interim Executive Director

Interim Executive Director Voit provided an update on communication, the annual conference, the Minnesota Association of Watershed Administrators meetings, and the Local Government Water Roundtable staff legislative committee meeting. She also reported that there will be a joint meeting of the Events-Education Committee and the Resolutions Committee on December 6; the Legislative Committee on December 9; and the Strategic Plan Committee on December 12.

MAWD Committees

Finance

The committee has not met.

Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan will be presented to the membership for adoption.

Legislative

The committee will meet on December 9.

Events

An update was provided earlier in the meeting.

Education

The committee has not met.

Resolutions

President Vavra stated that wordsmith of the resolutions will not be done during the business meeting. The membership will vote for or against a resolution.

Partner Reports

Minnesota Association of Watershed Administrators (MAWA)

Interim Executive Director Voit attended the meeting and provided an update. MAWA has committed to one administrator from each region and another person to be the co-chair at committee meetings.

BWSR

Executive Director Jaschke reported on the Governors' budget process. He explained that the provision in the statute that requires BWSR to approve watershed district projects needs to be corrected. Concern was expressed over a few watershed districts with plans that have not been updated. BWSR will provide a list of those watershed districts. Federal climate conservation funds will be available for 2023-2024. Discussion was held regarding the watershed district guidebooks that were published through BWSR about 15 years ago. They were very beneficial at the time but doing a book of that magnitude now may not be cost effective. It may be possible for BWSR to assist with a digital version or individual pages.

Jill Crafton provided an update on staff training for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). BWSR will be conducting a mid-point assessment of One Watershed, One Plan projects.

Clean Water Council

No report was given.

Confirm Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on December 3 at the Arrowwood Conference Center in the boardroom located on the 5th floor.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Director Schaefer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:31 p.m. Director Ziegler seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ruth Schaefer
Secretary