

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
COMFORT LAKE–FOREST LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT
Thursday, December 16, 2021**

1. Call to Order

Vice President Anderson called the December 16, 2021, regular board meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. via online video conference.

Present: Vice President (President Pro-Tem.) Jackie Anderson, Secretary Pro-Tem. Dave Bakke, Treasurer Steve Schmaltz, Manager Douglas Toavs, Manager Christopher Loth.

Absent: None.

Others: Administrator, Mike Kinney; Office Manager, Bobbie Law; Planning Coordinator, Emily Heinz; Technician, Garrett Miller; Operations and Outreach Specialist, Jessica Lindemyer; Project Coordinator, Blayne Eineichner; Land Management Specialist, Aidan Read (CLFLWD staff); Greg Graske, Jason Naber, Cecilio Olivier, Paul Nation (Emmons & Olivier Resources); Chuck Holtman (Smith Partners)

2. Setting of Meeting Agenda

Agenda item 9c Cranberry Lake Channel Grant and Appraisal was added under Old Business.

Manager Schmaltz moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Manager Anderson. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			
Dave Bakke	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Chris Loth			X	

3. Consent Agenda

- a) **Special Board Meeting – November 10, 2021**
- b) **Regular Board Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2021**
- c) **Special Board Meeting Minutes – November 30, 2021**
- d) **2022 Staff Work Plan**

Agenda item 3b Regular Board Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2021, and item 3c Special Board Meeting Minutes – November 30, 2021, were removed from the consent agenda.

Managers agreed to amend the consent agenda as discussed.

Items 3a and 3d were approved by unanimous consent.

4. Public Comment on 2022 Budget and Levy

Vice President Anderson called upon the public to give comments. Mr. Kinney confirmed that no public attendees were present.

5. Public Open Forum

There were no comments.

6. Citizen Advisory Committee Update

Mr. Read gave an overview of his outreach and recruitment efforts. He noted his positive communications with the local high school.

Vice President Anderson explained that she attended the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting. Manager Bakke explained that he will attend the coming meeting. Vice President Anderson requested that Mr. Read remind the managers of the schedule and which manager should attend each coming meeting.

Manager Schmaltz asked a question regarding the guest speaker, Ms. Heitkamp, that attended the CAC meeting. Mr. Read explained that he will be working with her in the future on agricultural education programs.

7. Aquatic Invasive Species Update

Mr. Miller explained that some of the information provided may be a review for the Board because of his monthly updates to the Board. He explained that Steve McComas with Blue Water Science will be giving a more in-depth report to the Board in January 2022.

a) 2021 AIS Program Yearend Summary

Mr. Miller gave an overview of the District's aeration efforts on Moody and Shields Lakes. He noted that Moody Lake was aerated from January 4th, 2021, to March 29th, 2021. He explained that neither of the lakes had any major fish kills on these lakes due to proper levels of dissolved oxygen in the water. He gave an overview of the open water signage that is posted near these lakes.

Mr. Miller explained that a curly-leaf pondweed delineation survey was completed on Moody Lake by Blue Water Science in June of 2021. He noted the improving water quality as being a possible cause for more favorable native species lake conditions that limit the growth of curly-leaf pondweed. He noted the increasing abundance of a native plant species, called common waterweed, that was identified at 70% of survey locations.

Mr. Miller described a curly-leaf pondweed treatment that was completed in April of 2021 based on a survey completed on June 24th, 2021. He explained that Eurasian watermilfoil has never been found on Moody Lake.

Mr. Miller summarized the history of zebra mussels on Bone Lake. He explained that a diving survey was completed in the fall of 2021. This diving survey showed no sign of zebra mussels present in Bone Lake. He explained that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) notified him that it would waive a lab fee to analyze zebra mussel veligers if District staff could collect samples. He noted that the collection of samples is tentatively planned for June of 2022.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of non-native phragmites on Bone Lake. He noted it has been eradicated in this location.

Vice President Anderson cautioned the use of other entities' equipment for the planned collection of samples on Bone Lake. She stressed the importance of decontamination between lakes.

Manager Bakke requested to share the Bone Lake information with the Lake Association. Managers discussed editing reports to include links to past reports to make them more accessible online when shared with the public.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of an early detection survey that he and Ms. Law completed on Little Comfort Lake on July 22nd focusing on curly-leaf pondweed. He noted that the curly-leaf pondweed found was sparse when found and commonly found in disturbed areas such as around docks. He noted that no other invasive species were found during this early detection survey.

Mr. Miller summarized carp management on Shields Lake. He noted the electrofishing removal effort that was completed in 2019. Seventy-one carp were removed from Shields Lake. He noted that another removal effort was completed in 2020 by installing a one-way gate. In 2021 alternative removal options were researched. He noted that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is typically hesitant to give permits for electrofishing for removal as it is usually only used for population analysis. He explained that the age of the fish removed was older overall, meaning low carp reproduction rates. Mr. Miller believes there is no rush for additional treatment due to low carp reproduction rates likely caused by a healthy panfish population. He noted a possible offset utilizing alum treatments.

Vice President Anderson noted a presentation given by Emmons and Olivier Resources at the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts annual conference. Mr. Miller explained that he would review that presentation.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of curly-leaf pondweed in Shields Lake. He explained that 3.71 acres of the lake were delineated for treatment in April of 2021. He explained that this lake had extensive curly-leaf pondweed growth. He noted that in June of 2021 only

light and moderate re-growth were observed after treatment. Mr. Miller explained that the District can anticipate another large treatment in 2022 on Shields Lake due to heavy re-growth that appeared in the fall of 2021.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of an early detection survey on Lake Keewahtin completed on June 24th of 2021. He explained that only a sparse amount of curly-leaf pondweed was found. He noted that this lake has a very diverse and abundant number of native species that often outcompete the non-native invasive species. No other aquatic species were found during this survey.

Mr. Miller gave a summary of purple loosestrife on Lake Keewahtin. He noted that he called for a purple loosestrife survey on this lake, to be completed by Blue Water Science, due to the high level of the species observed during water quality monitoring. Herbicide treatment was completed on September 23rd, 2021. An assessment of that herbicide treatment was completed by District staff.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of invasive species management on Forest Lake.

He explained that a delineation of curly-leaf pondweed was conducted on Forest Lake by Blue Water Science in April of 2021. He noted that diquat, a different treatment than typically used, was used to treat 120 acres of curly-leaf pondweed. Treatment for curly-leaf pondweed was completed. He noted that treatment was successful overall.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of Eurasian watermilfoil on Forest Lake. He noted that the use of diquat for curly-leaf pondweed may have inadvertently controlled the Eurasian watermilfoil, although the Forest Lake Lake Association did conduct some further treatment with grant dollars it received.

Manager Schmaltz asked if Mr. McComas would be giving a report and or discussing control efforts with the Board. Mr. Miller explained that he would be attending a Board meeting in January 2022. Managers discussed the effects of the new treatment materials. They hope to hear Mr. McComas's opinion on why it was able to control both species with one treatment. Manager Toavs asked how the lake levels could be affecting plant growth. Mr. Miller explained that light penetration being able to reach deeper waters would mean more plant species growth in those deep areas in the lake.

Mr. Miller explained that the flowering rush management locations for treatment on Forest Lake were determined utilizing historical data. Forest Lake was treated in July of 2021. He explained that the year-end acreage delineated remains steady. He explained that a follow-up spot treatment was conducted in August of 2021. After evaluation of the second treatment by Blue Water Science staff, a third follow-up treatment was completed in September of 2021. The final treatment assessment was completed in October. He explained that these treatments were very successful; considering the high amount that grew on Forest Lake in 2021. He noted that staff also completed three days of flowering rush seed head removal on Forest Lake. He explained that staff clipped a

total of over 1,100 seed heads. He explained that low water levels may have created favorable conditions for the flowering rush.

Manager Anderson explained that staff should gather photos of District lakes with low water levels from residents or staff to document the event. She noted it was a very odd year.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of invasive species management on Comfort Lake.

He noted that curly-leaf pondweed has never been an issue for Comfort Lake. Two surveys were conducted to delineate curly-leaf pondweed. Both showed minimal growth with a decrease later in the year.

He gave an overview of Eurasian watermilfoil on Comfort Lake. He noted that a delineation was completed in April of 2021. He explained that the Comfort Lakes Association received a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) grant to complete a treatment on May 28th in the locations delineated for treatment by District staff. A treatment assessment survey was completed in June. He explained that there was minimal re-growth that was tackled by a second treatment conducted by the Comfort Lakes Association. He explained that heavy growth was found in August of 2021. These 8 acres surrounding the public access were also treated by the Lake Association in partnership with the District. A final treatment assessment was conducted on October 18th of 2021. He noted that the treatment was successful. Manager Anderson explained that the growth in 2021 was significant and was reported to the DNR. She noted that the Comfort Lakes Association will be working on a full lake treatment for Eurasian watermilfoil on Comfort Lake. She noted that this was recommended by the DNR.

Mr. Miller explained that a hybrid Eurasian watermilfoil sample collection was completed for Comfort Lake and Forest Lake. He noted that these samples would be investigated for a study being conducted by Montana State University and the Army Corps of Engineers. He explained that this is a large study, and the results may take a year to get back.

b) 2021 Watercraft Inspection Report

Mr. Miller gave an overview of watercraft inspection hours and the number of watercraft inspections in 2021. He noted that these numbers were not as high as in 2020, due in part to difficulty in hiring inspectors, but still up compared to previous years. Despite not having a full staff of watercraft inspectors, all District-wide goals were met.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of the inspections and hours per week. He explained that these peak during the holidays. He gave an overview of when inspection hours are completed. He noted that the weekends are prioritized shifts.

Manager Bakke asked for examples of the public's overall perception of invasive species management and any possible behavior changes.

Mr. Miller explained that a program was implemented in 2021 to educate the public on proper bait disposal. He noted that the drain plug violations were significantly lower in 2021; this is a major behavior change. He explained that behavior change is something that takes time.

He explained that low water levels may have affected the high number of boats with contaminants found exiting District lakes. Although inspectors are given rakes to clear the launches of weeds, it is sometimes impossible to keep up with the sheer volume of floating plant debris.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of the number of inspections and hours worked on each lake in the District. The information presented included Bone Lake, Forest Lake, and Comfort Lake.

Mr. Miller gave an overview of how a behavior change grant, received by the District, was utilized. He explained that bait disposal bins were placed at landings that included signage. He also gave an overview of a public commitment program where inspectors asked launch users if they were committed to doing the right thing if so, they were given a sticker with educational info on them.

c) 2021 Blue Water Science Reports

Mr. McComas from Blue Water Science will join the Board in January of 2022 to give his overview and take questions.

8. New Business

a) Election of Officers and Liaison Assignments

Vice President Anderson opened election of officers to take effect on January 1, 2022. Manager Schmaltz spoke in favor of rotating officer positions.

Vice President Anderson called for nominations for Assistant Treasurer. Manager Toavs nominated himself. By unanimous consent, Manager Toavs was elected as Assistant Treasurer.

Vice President Anderson called for nominations for Secretary. Manager Bakke nominated himself. By unanimous consent, Manager Bakke was elected as Secretary.

Because the full Board was not present, the Board agreed by consensus to postpone election for the remaining officer positions to the first January 2022 meeting.

b) 2022 Board Meeting Schedule

Managers reviewed the proposed Board meeting schedule. Managers discussed the number of Board meetings in a month. Manager Schmaltz noted that when he started, the Board only had one meeting a month. Vice President Anderson explained that the number of projects pushed the Board to have additional meetings. Manager Schmaltz explained that he would like to see the regular board meetings be more concise and efficient. Vice President Anderson explained that the One Watershed One Plan and the update of the 10-year management plan also led to additional meetings in the last few years. She also noted the importance of timely Board action when necessary to keep District work moving forward.

Manager Toavs stated that the special meetings are the only meetings he has had to request time off to attend.

Manager Bakke stated that his work involves engagement with school boards. He noted that in this context, it is made clear that the purpose of the board is governance, and the operations are conducted by school administration. He noted the high level of Board involvement in operations of the District. He explained that this can be good, but he is uncertain as to the role of the Board.

Manager Schmaltz agreed with Manager Bakke’s comments. He noted that the District has a very competent staff and that this is very evident due to some of the awards received in 2021. He explained that the Board needs to rely on the staff. He gave an example of the aquatic invasive species report given. He noted that this is important information, but it is information that is presented to them monthly already. He would like to see items similar to this removed or compressed. He explained that if this schedule is set, they must accept the fact that managers will occasionally not be able to attend every single regular meeting.

The Board rescheduled the first board meeting from Thursday, January 13th to Wednesday, January 12th by consensus.

Manager Schmaltz moved to accept the 2022 regular board meeting schedule as amended. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			
Dave Bakke	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Chris Loth			X	

c) Clean Water Partnership Loan B Agreement

Ms. Heinz gave an overview of the Clean Water Partnership loan status, noting that the loan was approved. She explained that the next steps in the process include Board adoption of resolution 21-12-01 and obtaining signatures on the loan documents.

Manager Schmaltz moved to adopt resolution 21-12-01 and directed staff to proceed with the remaining requirements for loan execution. Seconded by Manager Bakke. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			
Dave Bakke	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Chris Loth			X	

d) FY22 Clean Water Fund Grants

Mr. Kinney explained that preliminary information regarding Clean Water Fund grants has been released. Ms. Heinz further elaborated that the District has received good news. She explained that each grant application is ranked utilizing a point system. She stated that the Washington Judicial Ditch 6 (WJD-6) Wetland Restoration Project was the number one ranked project out of thirty or so applications. The Moody Lake Capstone Projects ranked not too far behind. She explained that the District will be receiving Clean Water Fund grants for both of these projects. The grant funding has been approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources. Ms. Heinz explained that she will be meeting with the Board Conservationist to talk through the review committees’ thoughts on the grant not awarded for the July Avenue Feedlot Project.

Vice President Anderson highlighted that the District has received about 4.5 million dollars in Clean Water Fund grants from 2014-2022 and is the leading recipient of such grant funds.

Manager Schmaltz explained that this is a prime example of information that should be shared with the public with large-scale efforts. He urged that the District have a more energetic public communications approach to city councils, lake associations, chambers of commerce, and others regarding the District's successes. Managers discussed having a full communications program in 2022.

e) 2021 MN Association of Watershed Districts Awards Results

Vice President Anderson reviewed the awards made at the just-completed MAWD conference and noted that the District was a finalist in three categories: Program of the Year, Project of the Year, and Outstanding Administrator. She noted that it is unprecedented for a district to accomplish this.

9. Old Business

a) Forest & Little Comfort H&H Model Update Scope of Work

Mr. Olivier introduced Emmons and Olivier Resources (EOR) staff member Paul Nation. Mr. Nation explained that he has been with Emmons and Olivier Resources for three years and has been focusing his work on permitting and hydrologic & hydraulic (H&H) modeling.

Mr. Nation introduced the scope of work for the Forest and Little Comfort H&H model update. He gave an overview of H&H modeling throughout the entire District. He noted that this model will be useful for multiple things including pollutant load estimation, floodplain delineation, individual best management practices (BMPs), design optimization, and lot-level permitting and drainage assessments.

Vice President Anderson requested information on data accuracy. Mr. Nation explained that the existing model is used as a reference. Mr. Olivier expanded on the topic noting that the District also has new outflow data into Forest Lake, making the model more accurate.

Vice President Anderson noted that the infrastructure report will also be beneficial for surrounding communities and stakeholders within the District. Mr. Nation explained that the City of Forest Lake is currently surveying culverts for data to be used within this model.

Mr. Nation gave an overview of all tasks listed in the scope of work. He explained that the total to complete the project would be \$81,966 and has been budgeted for in the 2022 District budget. Mr. Olivier clarified that the budget was originally only for the Forest Lake Management District, but EOR is able to add the Little Comfort Lake as well due to savings incurred due to the City of Forest Lake gathering surveying data. Managers discussed the collaboration efforts. Mr. Kinney explained that the District staff are also assisting the engineering firm with the surveying process.

Mr. Nation summarized the deliverables noted in the memo. The deliverables include updated, calibrated, and validated PCSWMM models for the Forest Lake and Little Comfort Lake Management Districts, model documentation, a memo outlining key findings, and a presentation to the Board. He explained that they are proposing to start in January of 2022 with a completion date of August 2022.

Manager Schmaltz moved to authorize the administrator, on advice of counsel, to enter into an agreement with Emmons and Olivier Resources, Inc. in accordance with the November 30, 2021, scope of work and in an amount not to exceed \$81,966. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			
Dave Bakke	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Chris Loth			X	

b) Website & Branding Update Proposals

Ms. Lindemyer explained that the District received proposals for nine different companies. She noted that a comparison sheet was sent out for the Board to review. She welcomed discussion and questions from the Board.

Vice President Anderson requested to have the comparison sheet available to view. She noted that she agreed with Ms. Lindemyer's top choice. Ms. Lindemyer provided an overview of the determining factors used to rank the proposals which included how well companies adhered to the request for proposal, if they reviewed the District's current website, and overall project costs. She stated that her review found the proposals from Artisan Venture Labs (AVL) and Oxygen Consulting to be the most competitive. She pointed out that AVL had described their project approach as analytical, targeted, and iterative. She believes that this approach aligns well with the District's own management philosophy. Although, she noted that Oxygen Consulting also stood out as a top contender because they had worked with the District in the past to repair the current website and they also had experience working with watershed districts.

Vice President Anderson noted the significant price difference between the two proposals. She asked if anything would be lost by working with the company proposing a lower cost. Ms. Lindemyer explained that nothing would be lost, the difference mainly comes from the level of staff involvement needed and the hours committed to the project. She explained that staff is fully capable of the tasks that may need to be completed and that the planning phase will be used to ensure all task assignments and timelines are adequately laid out.

Vice President Anderson noted that Artisan Venture Lab proposed a much faster timeline. She asked if that timeline is correct. Ms. Lindemyer explained that the timeline is flexible, and the degree to which the Board may want to be involved in the project can alter the timeline.

Manager Toavs thanked Ms. Lindemyer for preparing the comparison document. He noted that he trusts her judgment and he does not see any issues with the timeline or price.

Manager Bakke thanked Ms. Lindemyer for her work. He explained that he appreciates the process of governance and operations used for this process. He noted that the Board is relying on the professionalism and expertise of the staff to help them understand the proposals and explain what one is the best for them. He noted that this makes it easier for them to move forward or not based on what they hear.

Manager Schmaltz also noted he appreciates the work. He asked if there is a contract for ongoing cost and if for some reason the District doesn't like the maintenance being provided can the District bring someone else in. Ms. Lindemyer explained that all of the proposals, except for two, proposed building the new website on the platform WordPress. She noted that due to the popularity of the platform, the new website could

easily be brought to any number of companies familiar with WordPress for assistance or management. Managers discussed the flexibility. This allows the District, for example, to use the selected vendor for maintenance, or to select another firm.

Manager Bakke moved to authorize the administrator, on advice of counsel, to enter into an agreement with Artisan Venture Labs, per the proposal, in an amount not to exceed \$38,400. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 4-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			
Dave Bakke	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Chris Loth			X	

c) Cranberry Lake Channel Grant and Appraisal
[Not discussed]

10. Program/Project Update

a) Ongoing Projects Update

Mr. Eineichner gave the monthly project update. He included updates on:

- 25th Lofton Culvert drainage project: completed on December 3rd
- Bone Lake Northeast Wetland Enhancement project: on track to be implemented in winter of 2022
- County Road 50 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter: efforts to finalize the easement being completed
- Little Comfort Lake Subwatershed Enhancement Project/East Wetland: adjacent gravel pit area currently being further evaluated for inclusion in the project
- Sunrise River Drained Wetland Restoration/Tax Forfeit Project: right of way and location information being discussed with MnDOT has been positive
- Forest Hills Golf Course 15th Green Project: several design concepts created by Emmons and Olivier Resources have been shared with the golf club. The club is currently looking into funding options.

Managers discussed the Forest Hills Golf Course update and the fact that it is private property. Mr. Holtman clarified that the District expenditures need to be for public water resource benefits. Mr. Kinney discussed the previous expenditures for technical assistance and cost-share. Manager Schmaltz referenced protecting the lake and preserving the water quality progress the District has made. Managers discussed the District’s community/commercial grant program. Vice President Anderson requested additional information and a meeting with Mr. Kinney regarding the project.

[Manager Loth joined the meeting at this time.]

Managers thanked Mr. Eineichner for the update.

b) Past Project Spotlight Series: Moody Lake Wetland Restoration

Mr. Kinney gave a presentation regarding the Moody Lake Wetland Restoration. He provided an overview of general District project information by its lake management district. He explained that this project is located northwest of Moody Lake. He noted that the project was initiated using a sequential diagnostic study, aerial and land use investigation, and discussion with dairy farmers in the area. He described the need for a water source for farms. He noted that this project addresses legacy phosphorus loads. He gave an overview of the project funding including Clean Water Fund and Section 319 grants in 2016.

Jason Naber from Emmons and Oliver Resources gave an overview of this multi-year adaptive management project. He explained the process of addressing the highest watershed phosphorus loads and then the internal loading. He noted that the project began with cropland cover plantings, then the District completed a wetland restoration, and lastly completed a whole lake alum treatment.

Mr. Naber noted that the ground-breaking ceremony for the wetland restoration portion of the project occurred in January of 2017. The construction was completed by Peterson Companies. Mr. Naber gave an overview of the process to excavate the high nutrient soils from the wetland. He summarized before and after photos and results. He explained the monitoring process that occurred post construction. He noted that post project 35% to 59% of the load was removed.

Mr. Naber explained that wetland alum spot treatments were utilized as an additional way to capture phosphorus loads to get to the percentage goals. The District also worked with a downstream landowner to place a weir in a small pond to add additional treatment and also increase storage in the adjacent wetland. He noted that the District also completed a whole-lake alum treatment in Moody Lake itself. This treatment reduced the internal load by 324 pounds per year.

Mr. Naber gave an overview of the project's cost-benefit analysis. He noted the project cost is \$60 per pound of phosphorus removed, which is an impressive removal for a low-cost, creating an overall good value.

Mr. Naber explained the water quality goals for Moody Lake. He noted that an additional state grant was just received. This funding will be used to meet the remainder of the reduction goal through multiple smaller projects.

Mr. Kinney further clarified that the nutrient-rich material removed from the wetland was utilized as compost material elsewhere.

Manager Toavs noted the importance of making the District's communication and education simple and understandable. He gave an example of a story he told a community member comparing runoff of manure to adding manure to a pool your family

is swimming in. He noted how things like this can show us how valuable it is to keep phosphorus sources out of our water bodies. Managers discussed the human and relatable aspects of the District’s projects.

Vice President Anderson noted that this presentation did a wonderful job explaining the phosphorus reduction life cycle over multiple years and the life of the project. She would like to see this replicated in other presentations.

11. Report of Staff

a) Administrator

Mr. Kinney referenced his written report and advised he had nothing to add. He opened the discussion to any questions the managers might have on the report. No questions were raised.

b) Emmons & Olivier Resources

Mr. Grasko explained that he is continuing to work with the Cities of Scandia and Forest Lake to implement best management practices alongside upcoming road projects.

c) Smith Partners

Nothing to report.

12. Report of Treasurer

a) Approval of Bills and Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Schmaltz reported income for the period of \$8,277.01 and expenses in the amount of \$221,785.75.

Manager Toavs moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report and pay the bills in the amount of \$221,785.75. Seconded by Manager Anderson. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			
Dave Bakke	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Chris Loth	X			

13. Report of Officers and Managers

Manager Schmaltz: Nothing to report.

Manager Loth: Explained that he thoroughly enjoyed the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) annual conference. He believes it is crucial to attend this annually based on the excellent information provided. He noted that he also attended the Minnesota Lakes and Rivers annual meeting.

Manager Bakke: Explained that he agrees with Manager Loth’s recommendation regarding the MAWD annual conference. He requested additional time to discuss the information learned during the sessions and how to use what was learned.

Manager Toavs: Explained that he also attended the orientation and training for new managers at the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) conference.

Manager Anderson: Manager Anderson thanked staff for their help with the special board meeting on December 14th. She noted that it went smoothly, and she appreciated the staff’s assistance to coordinate the meeting. She noted that she hopes any anger that was circulating has been reduced.

14. County Road 50 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter Project

Mr. Kinney explained that staff met with the landowner in November. He noted that staff was authorized to make an offer for the project easement based on the appraised value, but that the landowner made a counteroffer that he would like to discuss with the Board in a closed session.

Manager Schmaltz moved to convene in closed session to discuss the landowner's counteroffer for the easement for the CR 50 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter, parcel PID 23.032.21.44.0002. Seconded by Manager Anderson. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0, and the Board convened in closed session.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Jackie Anderson	X			
Stephen Schmaltz	X			
Dave Bakke	X			
Doug Toavs	X			
Chris Loth	X			

The Board reconvened in open session.

15. Summary and Approval of Board Direction

A summary of the Board direction was presented as listed:

- Staff will develop an energetic outreach program regarding the Clean Water Fund grants received and include a detailed list of stakeholders to share this information with.
- Vice President Anderson and Mr. Kinney will discuss the Forest Hills Golf Course regarding providing technical assistance and possible grant opportunities.
- Staff will include a Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts annual conference debriefing item on the January 12th, 2022, regular meeting agenda.

- Staff will provide Vice President Anderson information regarding the public's perception of the December 14th special meeting.
- Staff will share appropriate end of year aquatic invasive species and watercraft inspection program information with District lake associations.
- Staff will remind the Board of Managers of the Citizen Advisory Committee meeting rotating attendance schedule as a part of each monthly update.

16. Adjourn

a) Next regular board meeting – January 12, 2021, 6:30 pm

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Dave Bakke, Secretary Pro-Tem. _____