

Meeting #558

The regular meeting of the Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District Board of Managers was held on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at the Lac qui Parle County Courthouse at 4:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Darrel Ellefson. Managers present were: David Ludvigson, David Craigmile, John Cornell, and Joe Ferguson. Others present were: Trudy Hastad, Mary Homan, Ron Fjerkenstad, Dale Krystosek & Jason Bekler with BWSR, & Paul Tol with Global Winds Harvest.

Chairman Ellefson asked for additions to the agenda. Manager Craigmile motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Manager Cornell. Upon vote, all voted in favor.

Dale Krystosek & Jason Bekler from BWSR met with the Board to inform them that the Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District was chosen for a Level II PRAP (Performance Review & Assistance Program) review. They discussed what is involved in this review and what the Watershed Board & staff can expect during the process. They hope to have this completed in approximately 60 days. No further action was taken.

PARK REPORT: Park Manager Ron Fjerkenstad met with the Board for his monthly report. He informed the Board that someone had been tampering with the control gate on R-6 and had shut the gate to pool the water back up. His crew opened up the gate and removed the control wheel so it's not so easy to access. The Board also authorized Ron to buy a camera and hang at R-6 so we can see who is vandalizing the riser and gate. Ron discussed reimbursing a camper his seasonal pro-rated fee as they are no longer able to use their campsite due to having to take cancer treatments at the Mayo. He has another camper who would like to use the site and will pay the pro-rated fee. Discussion followed.

Manager Ludvigson motioned to allow a pro-rated refund of \$637.35 to Mel Sbodada, due to a medical emergency, for his seasonal site at Del Clark, seconded by Manager Cornell. Upon vote, all voted in favor.

Ron reported that DNR/YM County has some funds available and would like to improve the boat launch at Del Clark. Ron is gathering preliminary pricing information, but felt this would be a great thing for the park as the area is in need of some repairs. The Board was in agreement. No further action was taken.

CWP REPORT: Homan reported working with MPCA to adjust some funds in the SWAG grant due to some test charge adjustments with the lab in order to be in compliance with State of Minnesota Master contract. Homan informed the Board that two sited went dry during July but luckily are flowing again due to some rain received in the area. Homan had to go to all sited to get field parameters to make up for probe failure last summer. Homan reported the SSTS program expired on July 30, 2016. She also reported that the Watershed was awarded another \$500,000.00 in loan dollars so a work plan, budget, and schedule were completed and is now on public notice. She informed the contractors that disbursements cannot be made until September when all the paperwork is completed for MPCA.

Hastad & Homan prepared a letter to the Upper MN River Watershed proposing we change the boundaries for the 1W1P to follow the Watershed District on the Yellow Bank portion of our Watershed. Homan found this could be done after attending the civic cohort meeting in May and local meetings where the SWCD keeps saying we will have three 1W1P plans in Lac qui Parle. We felt this boundary change request should be worked on sooner than later to help prevent confusion and requested the Board approval to send a letter requesting a meeting to discuss the boundary change with Upper MN. Discussion followed.

Manager Craigmile motioned to send the letter to Upper MN River Watershed to propose changing the Yellow Bank portion of our Watershed to remain with LQP-YB Watershed boundary, seconded by Manager Ferguson. Upon vote, all voted in favor.

Homan reported working on the tile Inventory for the upper Minnesota River WRAPS program. Her time is reimbursed through Upper MN's WRAPS grant. She also informed the Board that we did not include a tile inventory in the LQP WRAPS.

Homan requested permission to do the photo contest and calendars again this year. Discussion followed with the Board approving this request. Homan reported her printer is in need of replacement. Discussion followed with the Board authorizing staff to price printers and purchase. No further action was taken.

WCA REPORT: Homan and Overhouser from SWCD flagged the wetland areas' for the bridge replacement in Providence Township for the road wetland replacement program.

Hastad informed the Board that she received a resignation notice from Homan effective December 30, 2016. Discussion followed. Homan reported her husband is retiring and they are looking forward to doing some traveling. The Board thanked her for all her work and dedication to the Watershed and also for allowing plenty of notice to hire a replacement. No further action was taken.

TREASURERS'S REPORT: Manager Ludvigson presented the Treasurer's report. Manager Ferguson motioned to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded by Manager Cornell. Upon vote, all voted in favor.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Secretary's report #557 was presented for approval. Manager Craigmile motioned to approve report #557, seconded by Manager Ferguson. Upon vote, all voted in favor.

The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Hastad asked the Board how to proceed for the Coordinator position. Discussion followed. The Board requested that Hastad & Homan update the Coordinator job description and put on next month's agenda. No further action was taken.

Hastad updated the Board on the CD #54 Improvement Project, & the JD #4 redetermination of benefits. No further action was taken.

Hastad gave a mid-year 2016 budget review, and a proposed 2017 budget. Discussion followed. Hastad reminded the Board that a budget hearing needed to be held at the next Board meeting so budgets could be presented to the County Auditor's.

Manager Craigmile motioned to approve the proposed 2017 budget of \$290,000 with budget hearing set for September 6, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Lac qui Parle County Commissioners' Room, seconded by Manager Cornell. Upon vote, all voted in favor.

Paul Tol met with the Board regarding the Global Winds Harvest easement agreement. He answered questions from the Board of Managers and also invited them to attend a general meeting to be held August 16, 2016 at P.K. Egans in Canby at 6:30 p.m. for further information.

Hastad reviewed the Global Winds Harvest, Inc. easement agreement for wind towers on Lazarus Creek. She explained that Attorney Kolb had worked with Global Winds on the language in the contract.

Regarding the execution of a wind energy easement agreement with Global Winds Harvest, Inc., and conveyance of a wind energy easement over certain property owned by the Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District:

Manager Craigmile moved, seconded by Manager Cornell, for the adoption of the following resolution authorizing the Board's President and Secretary to execute a wind energy easement agreement and memorandum of easement.

WHEREAS, Global Winds Harvest, Inc. (Global Winds), is in the business of developing, erecting and operating wind energy conversion systems and power generation facilities for the production of electrical energy for sale to utility companies, power marketers, power exchanges and other users;

WHEREAS, the Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District (District) is the owner of real property (Property) over which an easement is desired by Global Winds for the production of wind energy; and

WHEREAS, the Property is located in Yellow Medicine County, Minnesota and is particularly described in the proposed easement agreement and memorandum of easement; and

WHEREAS, the Property was acquired by the District as part of a flood control project known as "LQP-25 (Lazarus Creek) Floodwater Retention Project" (Project); and

WHEREAS, funding for the acquisition of the Property did not involve bond funding by the State of Minnesota, but came from local taxation by the District under authority of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103D; and

WHEREAS, since funding for the acquisition of the Property did not involve bond funding by the State of Minnesota, the property is not considered "State Bond Financed Property"; and

WHEREAS, the purpose and function of the Project on the Property is to impound and meter storm and flood waters from a 21.1 mile drainage area in order to prevent flooding in downstream reaches of Lazarus Creek (the "Purpose"), said Purpose being articulated in the "Operation and Maintenance Plan for Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District LQP-25 (Lazarus Creek) Floodwater Retention Project" dated October 14, 1998; and

WHEREAS, subject to the Purpose, the District has lawful authority to convey an interest in the Property as described in the easement agreement; and

WHEREAS, the actions and activities allowed on the Property under the proposed easement agreement and memorandum of easement will not interfere with the Project or its Purpose.

THEREFORE, having considered the proposed easement agreement and memorandum of easement in light of the Project or its Purpose, the District Board of Managers finds that execution of the proposed easement agreement and memorandum of easement is beneficial to the District, promotes the general purpose and priorities of the District, is consistent with the District's Watershed Management Plan, will generate income beneficial to the District's residents, and will promote the general welfare of the District.

FURTHER, the Board authorizes its President to execute the easement agreement and memorandum of easement and directs the Secretary to attest to the President's signature.

After discussion the question was called on passage of the resolution and upon a vote the resolution passed with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

Hastad reported on the progress of the Personnel Policy update, Capitol Assets Policy, & Fund Balance Policy. No action was taken.

Hastad requested the Board set a time and date for the Advisory Committee to meet. Discussion followed. The Board felt the Advisory Committee meeting should be held on Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the LQP County Commissioner's Room. Hastad will send out the notices and agenda. No further action was taken.

Hastad informed the Board that the 2016 MCIT Dividend is \$2,343 allocated as Workers Comp \$876; Property/Casualty \$1,467. No further action was taken.

Manager Ludvigson read a letter received from Peter Nikolai regarding Berg Slough. He felt it should be assessed into County Ditch #4. Discussion followed. Manager Ludvigson will reply that this would probably take a redetermination of benefits and would need to go before the Lac qui Parle County Commissioners as drainage authority for CD #4. No further action was taken.

The following bills were presented for payment:

GENERAL KLEIN ACCOUNT:

08-02-16	6415	Mary Homan	SWAG mileage reimb	\$1,355.40
08-02-16	6416	Hach Company	SWAG – sodium chloride	\$101.07
08-02-16	6417	Randy Reszel & Dean's Plumbing	SSTS loan	\$619.74
08-02-16	6418	Keith Stratmoen & Kidrowski Ent.	SSTS loan	\$8,800.00
08-02-16	6419	Keith Stratmoen & B. Johnson Electric.	SSTS loan	\$487.46
08-02-16	6420	Keith Stratmoen & Kidrowski Ent	SSTS loan	\$9,175.00
08-02-16	6421	Keith Stratmoen & B. Johnson Electric.	SSTS loan	<u>\$656.23</u>
		TOTAL		\$ 21,194.90

PARK ACCOUNT:

07-27-16	5654 – 5658	park payroll	July park payroll	\$6,012.58
08-02-16	5659	AT&T Mobility	park cell phone	\$35.29
08-02-16	5660	Canby Builders Supply	6 mil plastic	\$58.26
08-02-16	5661	Frontier Communications	park phone, fax, internet	\$256.44
08-02-16	5662	Running's Supply, Inc.	fuses, fuse holder, auger canister, etc.	\$131.92
08-02-16	5663	Kockelman Construction	blading & roller @ park	\$351.50
08-02-16	5664	Mel Sboboia	pro-rated seasonal refund	\$637.45
08-02-16	5665	Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water	water @ park	\$154.68
08-02-16	5666	Lyon-Lincoln Electric Coop	park electricity	\$3,091.07
08-02-16	5667	Farmers Coop Assn.	unleaded, 2.5 gallons cornerstone plus, oil	\$349.08

08-02-16	5668	Doug's Service & Marine	3 hi-flow lawn mower blades	\$78.10
08-02-16	5669	C.A.S. Plumbing & Heating	AC check @ house, replace women's stool	\$337.45
TOTAL				\$11,493.82

UNITED PRAIRIE BANK GENERAL ACCOUNT:

07-20-16	2747 - 2748	semi-monthly payroll	July 1-15 payroll	\$3,436.86
07-20-16	2749	PERA	semi-monthly deductions	\$644.95
08-02-16	2750	PERA	monhly deductions	\$344.16
08-02-16	2751	LQP County Auditor/Treasurer	4 plat books	\$100.00
08-02-16	2752	Minnesota UI Fund	Quarter 2 unemployment	\$739.06
08-02-16	2753	Rinke Noonan Attorney's	monthly retainer & wind tower lease	\$3,215.50
08-02-16	2754	Frontier Communications	CWP office phone	\$38.63
08-02-16	2755	Gary Redepinning	115 nuisance beaver	\$1437.50
08-02-16	2756	Frontier Communications	office phone 320-598-3117	\$38.63
08-02-16	2757	Mary Homan	WCA mileage reimb	\$39.42
08-02-16	2758	Trudy Hastad	mileage & spray paint reimb	\$75.50
08-02-16	2759	LQP-YB Liability	Federal withholding	\$4,342.76
08-03-16	2760 - 2765	monthly manager payroll	July payroll & ditch work	\$3,217.95
08-04-16	2766	Minnesota Revenue	July sales & use tax	\$1,363.00
08-05-16	2767-2768	semi-monthly payroll	July 16-31 payroll	\$3,436.86
08-05-16	2769	PERA	semi-monthly deductables	\$644.95
TOTAL				\$23,115.73

DITCH ACCOUNT:

None	TOTAL	\$0.00
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Manager Ludvigson motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Manager Ferguson. Upon vote, all voted in favor.

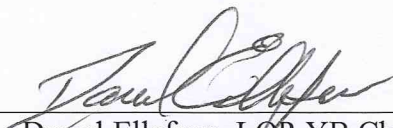
PERMITS: The following permit applications were applied for:

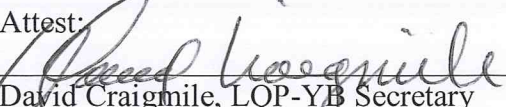
11510	Agassiz Township	Agassiz, 26 & 27	Replace 36" culvert	08/02/16 DE
11511	Cori Bothun	Hamlin, 10	seepage, main tile clean ditch	08/02/16 DE
11512	Hoffman Brothers	Perry, 3	seepage lines, intake	08/02/16 DE
11513	Joe Ferguson	Hammer, 33	seepage lines	08/02/16 DE
11514	Gordy Koepp	Maxwell, 36	seepage lines	08/02/16 DC
11515	Luke Oie	Madison, 12	tile around hog barn	08/02/16 DE
11516	Paul Palmgren	Freeland, 12	seepage lines	08/02/16 DE
11517	Russell Pearson	Hantho, 19	close ditch	08/02/16 DE
11518	Ed Shelstad	Madison, 8	seepage, main tile	08/02/16 DL
11519	Donn Streich	Augusta, 28	seepage, main tile	08/02/16 DE
11520	Aaron Tasto	Madison, 22	main tile, pump, intakes	08/02/16 DL
11521	Colin Tilbury	Augusta, 24	seepage, main tile	08/02/16 DL
11522	Jeffrey Thompson	Maxwell, 1	seepage, main tile, pump	08/02/16 DC
11523	Gale Torstenson	Lake Shore S, 11	seepage, main tile, clean ditch	08/02/16 DE
11524	Scott Wittnebel	Perry, 19	move ditch	08/02/16 DE
11525	Jason Wollschlager	Hamlin, 5	seepage, main tile	08/02/16 DE
11526	Michael Nyberg	Madison, 14 & 23	seepage, main tile	08/02/16 DL

PERMITS HELD: Curtis Wildung (protected waters), Tim Milbeck (wetland credits); Ken Perkins (cropping)

Manager Craigmile motioned to approve the permits, seconded by Manager Cornell. Upon vote, all voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.


 Darrel Ellefson, LQP-YB Chairman

Attest:

 David Craigmile, LQP-YB Secretary