

June 10, 2014

Pursuant to notice and due call a Public Hearing of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District Board was held Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at the district office at 211 Second Street SE in Ortonville, MN to discuss the Marsh Lake Projects. Board members present were: Gillespie, G.Meyer, Toelle and Haugen. Staff members present were: Radermacher and V. Meyer. Guests present were: Dave Trauba from the Minnesota DNR, Norm Haukos from BS fisheries, Kale Van Bruggen from Rinke Noonan, Blayne Johnson from the BS SWCD, Josh Kavanagh from Ducks Unlimited, Shahin Khazajafari and Chris Erickson from USACE.

Vice Chairperson Toelle called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

- I. Opening of Public Hearing – *Board Chairperson*
- II. Record of Notice Requirements – *Dianne Radermacher*  
Published in Appleton Press, Western Guard, Ortonville Independent in accordance with statute 103D.65. This notice was also sent to BWSR
- III. Overview of Hearing and Legal Standard – 103D.605 – *Rinke Noonan*  
At this time Van Bruggen made an overview of the purpose and scope for the public hearing. The funding for the project will come from Lassard Sams, the DNR will provide funding for 35 % of this work, up to \$2.6 million. At the end of the meeting, the hope is that a joint powers agreement is signed off on and the project will move forward. At this time the WD is liable only for the design phase and when this is complete, the construction phase will begin and additional funding will be sought. At this time the board was asked if they have any questions.
- IV. Presentation of Marsh Lake Ecosystem Restoration Project  
At this time Shahin Khazajafari from the US Army Corps of Engineers made a brief presentation outlining how the WD will be the nonfederal sponsor for the DNR Marsh Lake Project. This project has been approved for design and will move forward in that phase. He spoke about placing a water draw down structure in Marsh Lake as well restoring the Pomme de Terre River to its historic channel. Construction is planned to begin in 2016 pending legislation approval and funding. Design and construction will be around \$10.7 million.  
  
Questions from the UMRWD Board of Managers were: What are the gates for at the Louisburg culverts, what will the damn flow be?
- V. DNR Advisory Report (if any)  
The DNR has written a letter of thanks to the WD for support on this project.
- VI. BWSR Advisory Report (if any)

There are 3 letters making general comments and concerns on the project which Van Bruggen feels are more pointed toward the construction phase of the project rather than right now.

VII. Public Comments and Questions

Josh Kavanagh was present from Ducks Unlimited to thank the Watershed District for supporting the project. They submitted a letter of support and thanks to the Board.

VIII. Motion to Approve Project by adoption of Order if managers find the project:

- a. will be conducive to public health;
- b. promote the general welfare; and
- c. Is in compliance with the watershed management plan and the provisions of chapter 103D.

At this time the Managers discussed the project and voiced comments and concerns between themselves.

Motion to adopt this order as set forth made by Gillespie, seconded by Haugen. Motion Carried.

At this time the Letter of Intent was signed as well as the self-certification form and joint powers agreement.

Motion was made by Haugen, seconded by Meyer to close the public-hearing at 1:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Approved by,

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Vanessa Meyer, Administrative Assistant

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Terry Gillespie, Secretary