

NORTHEAST RED WATERSHED DISTRICT

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Board Meeting 2024-12

Sept 19, 2024

PRESENT Verner Johnson – Chairperson, Provincial Appointee
BOARD Marc Ross – Vice Chairperson
Russ Gawluk – Brokenhead River S.D
Jack Kowalchuk – Devils Creek S.D
Edgar Scheurer – Red River S.D.
PHONE IN: Brad Ingles - Upper Cooks Creek S.D.

STAFF Danica Racicot – Manager
Starr Harder – Administrator
Makayla Baldwin – Program Coordinator

GUESTS Colleen Cuvelier – Provincial Watershed Planner

REGRETS Jonothon Roskos - Carrs Creek/Lower Seine S.D
Roger Vaags – Carrs Creek/Lower Seine S.D
Greg Mandzuk – Catfish Creek /Gull Lake S.D.
Scott Spicer – Red River S.D.
Brian Chorney – Devil’s Creek S.D.
Dave Horbas – Catfish Creek /Gull Lake S.D.
Glen Fuhl – Lower Cooks Creek S.D.
Elwood Lamont – Lower Cooks Creek S.D

Call meeting to order at 9:03 am

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 2024-54

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the agenda as provided.

Moved: Marc Ross

Seconded: Russ Gawluk

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Resolution No. 2024-55

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves meeting minutes from Northeast Red Watershed District (NRWD) Board Meeting August 22, 2024 with correction of Conservation Programming presentation available on request (not attached).

Moved: Jack Kowalchuk

Seconded: Edgar Scheurer

CARRIED

3. FINANCIAL

a. Approval of financials reconciled to August 31, 2024

Resolution 2024-56

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves the financial statements reconciled to August 31.

Moved by: Marc Ross

Seconded by: Russ Gawluk

CARRIED

b. Review of the YTD 2024-25 budget

Tier 2 money spent so far was for LiDAR and survey of a retention area. Budget numbers have dropped due to lost GROW funding. Pool of funding that was supposed to end in 2023 has now been extended to 2026. These are the funds our program coordinator will help our residents spend. Unlikely to use full Tier 2 this year, plan to make use of extensions as possible. Hiring our program coordinator late in year leaves portion of Tier 1 funding unspent to date. We received half of the available funding for PWCP position (\$20,000) since it is a joint position including GROW projects.

4. REPORTS

a. Provincial Update

Highlights, financial policies already shared with NRWD staff.
Delegation including Danica and Colleen headed to RM of Alexander tonight.
Review of the possible Winnipeg River district on the map and the 8 municipalities included in area. *Report attached.*

b. Manitoba Association of Watersheds

Next meeting October 1st, Conference meeting November 6th.
Danica inquired about using Watershed District Capacity funds available through MAW for GIS or survey funds. Directed to reach out to Lynda as the funds are always there.

c. Manager Report

Russ requested share of Watershed Classification information to help the RM understand development restrictions.
Report attached.

d. Administrator Report

Setting up new employee, meeting with contractors and accumulating quotes to share with building committee.
Dugald Community Centre confirmed for November 21, 2024 with caterer lined up.

Need to set up Infrastructure Committee meeting with Springfield Public Works.

e. Program Coordinator Introduction

Makayla Baldwin introduced.

f. Sub-District Committee Chair Updates

Upper Cooks Creek– update of 45E from Brad, having trouble getting a contractor and now it's flooded with 8" of rain. Length of fall weather will determine if it is done this year or next spring. Marc mentioned new trapper Ed Bergen, dams at Cooks Creek on both side of 302. Manager looking into use of blasting permit to get rid of large dam. Possible additional contacts through RM of Reynolds. Reynolds only deal with dams affecting municipal infrastructure, and individual landowners make their own arrangements.

Brokenhead River- Russ Gawluk

Fall tour to Gibson Berry Farm and Greenwald Colony Community site bordering the Brokenhead River. Great conversations with lots of options for programming. Jack- Colony is a golden opportunity currently in five year planning stage and making long range plans. Manager looking for confirmation on who has authority over the Brokenhead River, Province may not take responsibility but will likely require a license.

Devils Creek - Jack Kowalchuk

We had our meeting September 17. Field trip planned for October 10, any board members welcome to attend. Bring rubber boots. Visiting Brian Chorney's site bordering Devils Creek and Smith Retention project.

Red River – Ed Scheurer

Sub district meeting was held Sept 12 where programs were discussed.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Annual meeting update, November 21, 2024

Will decide at our October meeting if a board meeting is required in advance, detailed invitation to follow.

b. Update on AMM Resolution for Provincial Drainage Support

Suggested Manager reach out to Dennis Volkov, head of administration at the AMM.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Program Coordinator Expenses

A new computer was budgeted for, quote presented \$1,343.84 from Powerland Computers.

Resolution 2024-57

BE IT RESOLVED that the board approves the purchase of a laptop for the program coordinator spending up to \$1,500.

Moved: Marc Ross

Second: Jack Kowalchuk

CARRIED

Resolution 2024-58

BE IT RESOLVED that the board approves the \$50 a month allowance for the program coordinator to use their existing phone.

Moved: Russ Gawluk

Second: Edgar Scheurer

CARRIED

According to policy the benefits are 50/50 based on a mutual agreement of employee and staff. Makayla is interested in option in immediately. We can choose to waive the 3-month probation.

Resolution 2024-59

BE IT RESOLVED that the board waiving the probationary period for the Health, Pension and Disability benefits for Makayla Baldwin.

Moved: Edgar Scheurer

Second: Marc Ross

CARRIED

b. Winnipeg River Watershed District formation meeting- September 19, 2024.

Informational, by invitation only.

c. Settlers Road Crossing

Received estimate of \$226,000 from GDS Survey Inc. for replacement of bridge with culvert crossing. RM of Springfield previously committed \$80,000 when the cost was anticipated to be \$160,000. Manager reached out to RM of Springfield that the excess would be in 2025 and needs council approval. Will attempt to get some written documentation of agreement. It will be at least three weeks to order culverts and licensing takes time. With South Bibeau drain delayed the funds may be reallocated this year.

Resolution 2024-60

BE IT RESOLVED the Board approves the replacement of the Settlers Road Bridge at Prairie Grove drain with Northeast Red Watershed District contribution up to \$150,000.

Moved: Jack Kowalchuk

Seconded: Edgar Scheurer

CARRIED

d. RM of Springfield Water Treatment Plant

RM of Springfield Water Treatment Plant plan to discharge RO waste into Cooks Creek Diversion. Manager reviewed the Environmental Act Proposal (available on request). No record of communication between the RM of Springfield and NRWD regarding use of CC Diversion. Discharge stated as 29L/s for 3 weeks in April with continuous discharge throughout remainder of season. Consider a meeting with Water and Waste in order to review this information. Review map to see where it is entering the drain. Interest in knowing what the definition of this

concentrate water. Associated Engineering is the consultant on this. Colleen advises this all needs to tie into the District goals and IWMP. Verner mentions the flow west of 206 has a steeper grade and may likely be able to handle the water. Provincial Watershed Planner advises to contact the name of the person on the ad and inform them that we should have been consulted. RM has requested a meeting to discuss this and another water treatment item.

e. MAW conference attendance

Replies of interest received from Dennis Petaski in Red River district, Rene Grift from Upper Cooks (no hotel needed) and Rick Hofer from Brokenhead district to date. Russ asked that Brent Bjorklund be reminded of opportunity.

Resolution 2024-61

BE IT RESOLVED the Board approves the attendance of 5 ratepayers to December 2024 MAW conference.

Moved: Marc Ross

Seconded: Jack Kowalchuk

CARRIED

f. Wetland Education for Schools with Oak Hammock Marsh

Water festival budget is available to be used toward sponsoring the schools in our district. With \$1600 available and \$100 per program we can target up to 16 programs within our district. Oak Hammock handles logistics and we get the invoice. Great opportunity to make contacts for future Water Festival. Program Coordinator is currently making a tally of schools in our district. Jack requested details for Brokenhead Environmental Committee meeting, Manager to provide contact information.

Pamphlet attached.

g. Project proposals

I. Abandoned Well Sealing application -34111 Oakwood Road

Received a quote for an artesian well with a quote for \$11,000. Reason for sealing is it is pumping into the weeping tile. Maple Leaf says it may not be successful.

Resolution 2024-62

BE IT RESOLVED the board approves adjusting the well sealing program to pay landowner 100% of the cost of well sealing up to \$3,000 based on completion invoice.

Moved: Russ Gawluk

Seconded: Marc Ross

CARRIED

II. Crossing application- 28121 Zora Road

Located on a first order drain, 900mm culvert nearby. Appears to have other options, no restrictions to access the back of the property. Asking for permission for a culvert, landowner would pay now to our specifications but then we are responsible for upkeep and replacement. Recommend to defer to Infrastructure meeting with more Springfield members present to comment.

h. Cost Share Account application

Dealing with the \$60,000 set aside in 2022-2023 and again in 2023-2024 for a total of \$120,000. Any new funds amounts would require a new application. Intention remains the same, to repair listed bridges.

Resolution 2024-63

Whereas the Northeast Red Watershed District would like to establish a cost-shared reserve account;

And whereas the Northeast Red Watershed District is requesting a cost-shared reserve account to complete infrastructure projects such as bridge/crossing repairs and replacements with a proposed maximum annual contribution of \$60,000 for fiscal years 2022-23 and 2023-24 in cost-shared dollars, and a proposed maximum cost-shared reserve account balance of \$120,000.

And whereas the Northeast Red Watershed District agrees to follow program guidelines and procedures to set-up and utilize a cost-shared reserve account;

Therefore be it resolved that the Northeast Red Watershed District requests approval from Watershed Planning and Programs to establish a cost-shared reserve account.

Moved: Russ Gawluk

Seconded: Marc Ross

CARRIED

Next meeting Thursday October 17, 2024 9:00 a.m.

Adjourned 12.:05 PM

Verner Johnson- Chairperson

Starr Harder, Administrator