

PELICAN RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Regular Monthly Managers' Meeting

Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 3:00 PM

Wells Fargo Building, Second Floor Meeting Room, 211 Holmes St. West,
Detroit Lakes, MN
(218) 846-0436

AGENDA

3:00 PM	1. Call to Order 2. Approval of Consent Agenda A. Secretary Report—Feb. 17, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes & Feb. 23, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes B. Administrator's Report C. Ditch Inspector's Report D. Rules/Permitting Report
3:10 PM	3. Committees Reports A. Personnel B. Citizen/Technical Advisory C. Otter Tail 1W1P Updates-Policy and Technical Committees
3:30 PM	4. New Business A. Education Mini Grant—Roosevelt Elementary B. South Shore Park pollinator seed
3:40 PM	5. Unfinished Business A. 2022 Work Plan, Monitoring Plan, Education Plan B. Project 1B & 1C Roadside pick up Program Update
4:30 PM	6. Treasurer's Report A. Approve March 2022 Bills B. Approve March Fund transfer C. Review January –February 2022 Revenue & Expenses Report
4:45 PM	7. Public Forum (5 minutes)
4:50 PM	8. Attorney's Report 9. Engineer's Report 10. Pulled Consent Agenda Items
5:05 PM	11. Announcements—
5:10 PM	12. Meeting Adjournment (action items in bold face)
	Manager Okeson attending electronically at 101 East Sioux Rd. #1183, Pharr, TX

**PELICAN RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING BOARD MINUTES
FEBRUARY 17, 2022**

Managers Present: Dennis Kral, Orrin Okeson (via IT), Rick Michaelson, Charlie Jasken, Ginny Imholte,

Managers Absent: Chris Jasken

Staff: Administrator Guetter, Kemper, Moses

Consultants: Attorney Skoyles, Marlon Mackowck (via IT)

Advisory Committee: John Okeson, Becker County Commissioner **Others:** Nick Kludt- MN DNR, Steve Olson - Beachcombers, and lake property owners- John Holland, Wanda Roden, Ron & Sandy Sprafka, John Cox, Laurie Olson, Chad Weatherman

CALL TO ORDER. The Regular Managers' meeting was called to order by President Kral at 3:02 PM.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA. Motion to approve PRWD Secretary's Report – January 20, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes; February 2022 Administrator's Report; February 2022 Rules/Permitting Report, and the February 2022 Ditch Inspector's Report (Charlie Jasken, Imholte). Roll Call Vote: Kral- AYE; Imholte AYE; Charles Jasken- AYE; Michaelson- AYE; Okeson-Aye; Chris Jasken- Absent; carried unanimously. It was requested to move New Business (Nick Kludt) and the Treasurer's Report up on the Agenda as Manager Michaelson need to leave by 5:30pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Personnel Committee: Nothing to report

Citizen Advisory Committee: Nothing to report.

Otter Tail 1W1P: PRWD will request adding lakes Sallie and St. Clair to the primary focus areas. Kral stated he emphasized at the recent policy committee meeting the District's plan is expected to be incorporated within the 1W1P. On March 1st, Guetter, Bryan Malone (Becker SWCD), and Kyle Varberg (Becker Zoning) will present a brief update to the Becker County Commissioners.

NEW BUSINESS.

- a. **Little Floyd Lake Dam Modification– Nick Kludt, MN DNR Fisheries.** Dr. Kludt presented slides demonstrating the bank erosion issue on Ditch 13/Pelican River between Little Floyd Lake and the township road, and presented two rock ramp/arch rapids options which: (1) stabilize the stream/ditch bank, (2) provide fish passage in the river/ditch and Little Floyd Lake, and (3) maintain the fixed crest water level dam elevation (Little Floyd). The first option involves building a series of rock weirs between the dam and the township road culvert. This could be constructed and paid for by MN DNR. There would be no repair work on the concrete dam. Another option would be to partially remove the side sections of the concrete dam that tie into the ditch/stream banks and replace with rock – the dam would be covered by the rock and would be a more permanent, long-term repair. This option will require applying for a Clean Water Legacy grant and the District providing the required 10% cash match (estimated at \$15-\$30 K), hiring an engineer and a contractor to complete the work. The MN DNR does not have the equipment needed for this type of repair work. Should the District want to proceed with the second option, the CWF grant application must be submitted by Sept. 20, 2022, with work anticipated to be completed in 2023. Both options require landowner permission to complete the work. The next step is to contact the two landowners to review and discuss the options.
- b. **Bucks Mill Dam CPL Grant-Nick Kludt, MN DNR Fisheries.** Dr. Kludt updated the managers on the Buck's Mill Dam modification project. In June 2021, PRWD approved sponsoring a CWF Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage grant application and to serve as the grant fiscal agent. Dr. Kludt informed the Managers a grant application will be submitted in March 2022 for the Clean Water Legacy state funds and expects to be awarded USFWS federal grant funds that can be used as the match funding source. He expects the earliest date construction would commence would be in the fall of 2023. Meanwhile, MN DNR is working with Becker County to complete the land acquisition.
- c. **MAWD Annual Dues:** A discussion ensued regarding the value of belonging the MAWD organization. It was generally agreed to hold payment and find out when MAWD plans to revise their current dues structure to make it more equitable between the metro and non-metro member districts. Kral and Haggart had volunteered to serve on the committee, but no meeting has been held this year.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

- a. **Approval of February 2022 Bills.** Treasurer Michaelson presented the February 2022 claims. **Motion to approve the February 2022 claims (Checks #14934-14937 and EFT 1834-1839) in the amount of \$2,610.71 with the**

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exception of paying the MAWD Dues for \$5845 (Michaelson, Imholte); Roll Call Vote: Kral- AYE; Imholte AYE; Charles Jasken- AYE; Michaelson- AYE; Okeson-AYE; Chris Jasken- ABSENT; carried unanimously (attached hereto).

- b. **February 2022 Fund Transfer.** Treasurer Michaelson recommended transferring \$30,000 to cover the regular monthly expenses. **Motion to transfer \$30,000 from the Bremer Bank savings account to the checking account (Michaelson, Okeson); Roll Call Vote: Kral- AYE; Imholte AYE; Charles Jasken- AYE; Michaelson- AYE; Okeson-AYE; Chris Jasken- ABSENT; carried unanimously (attached hereto).**
- c. **Financial Report.** The January 2022 Revenues and Expenses Report was reviewed by the managers. **Motion to approve the January 2022 R & E Report (Michaelson, Charlie Jasken); Roll Call Vote: Kral- AYE; Imholte AYE; Charles Jasken- AYE; Michaelson- AYE; Okeson-AYE; Chris Jasken- ABSENT; carried unanimously (attached hereto).**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

- a. **Project 1B & 1C Roadside pick up program update.** Attorney Skoyles gave a brief history of the District and establishment of Projects 1B & 1C for in-lake aquatic plant management. The Managers provided an opportunity for meeting attendees to provide comments. The managers stressed the District is exploring options and no decision has been made.

Manager Michelson left the meeting at 5:30pm.

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

- a. **Renew MN HCSP Agreement for Employees: Motion to approve the Post-Retirement Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) with the State of Minnesota through the Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS) Agreement, effective April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2024, and will remain in force for 2 years or until renewed by the parties, whichever is later (Kral, Imholte). Roll Call Vote: Kral- AYE; Imholte AYE; Charles Jasken- AYE; Okeson-AYE; Michaelson- ABSENT; Chris Jasken- ABSENT; carried unanimously.**

Manager Imholte left the meeting at 5:45pm.

- b. **2022 Work Plan, Monitoring Plan and Education Plan.** Guetter reviewed the 2021 Work Plan and all that had been accomplished, including Phase I of the Rice Lake Project, hiring a new Water Resource Coordinator, setting up the DCM-01 Project for Data Collection and Monitoring, MPCA 319 small watershed grant, Rules/Permitting program, South Shore Park project with City of Detroit Lakes staff, FEMA grant funding, Environmental grants implemented, etc. It was a very productive year considering staff change and the many hours required on the Otter Tail 1W1P meetings and events. Many of these projects will continue into 2022 along with Buck's Mill Dam modification and Little Floyd Lake fish passage improvement. Kemper reviewed the District's 2022 Monitoring Plan including lakes to be monitored and the budget required. Moses presented the 2022 Education Plan including a seminar in June involving staff from the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center in Minneapolis, and the return to school classrooms for education events after 2 ½ years absent due to COVID-19.

PUBLIC FORUM. See Project 1B & 1C where public comments were received. No other comments given.

ATTORNEY REPORT. Attorney Skoyles had nothing further to report.

ENGINEER REPORT. Mackowick stated he reviewed the Storage Place project plans, noting additional design changes were needed to address adequate separation between treatment and groundwater. Stantec Engineers are working with Guetter on the FEMA Grant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS. None

ADJOURNMENT. President Kral adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meeting Approved: _____

Charlie Jasken, Acting Secretary

**Pelican River Watershed District
Claims Paid - February 2022**

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Employee Expenses (ACH)</u>			
*Guetter, Tera	2/22/2022	EFT1834	120.04
*Moses, Brenda	2/22/2022	EFT1835	40.50
			<u>160.54</u>
<u>Vendor Expenses (ACH)</u>			
Bremer Bank	2/15/2022	ACH	30.00
Lakes Computer, Inc.	2/22/2022	EFT1836	200.00
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	2/22/2022	EFT1837	452.50
Wells Fargo-Office Lease	2/22/2022	EFT1838	1,299.58
Xerox Corporation	2/22/2022	EFT1839	253.48
			<u>2,235.56</u>
<u>Vendor Expenses (Checks)</u>			
Arvig	2/18/2022	14934	61.95
MN Department of Public Safety	2/18/2022	14935	77.00
Office of MNIT Services	2/18/2022	14936	67.31
Premium Waters, Inc.	2/18/2022	14937	8.35
			<u>214.61</u>
<u>Payroll Expenses</u>			
Employee Payroll	2/3/2022	EFT 1825-1827	4,807.60
Supplemental Benefits	2/4/2022	EFT 1828-1830	2572.50
Federal Withholding	2/7/2022		2,187.92
Employee Payroll	2/17/2022	EFT 1831-1833	4,807.61
Federal Withholding	2/28/2022		1,625.90
MN State Retirement	2/28/2022		2626.00
MN Revenue	2/28/2022		631.00
PERA	2/28/2022		2223.84
			<u>21,482.37</u>
Total February Expenses:			\$ 24,093.08

PELICAN RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

SPECIAL MEETING BOARD MINUTES –FEBRUARY 23, 2022

Managers Present: Kral, Okeson (virtual), Imholte, Michaelson, Charlie Jasken,

Managers Absent: Chris Jasken

Staff: Administrator Guetter, Kemper, Moses

Consultants: Attorney Skoyles

Advisory Committee: Becker County Commissioner John Okeson **Others:** John Holland, David Pratt, Aaron Dallmann, Lance Akers, Jane Spaeth, Julie Raphael, Ed Welke, Chad Weatherman, Mike Stearns, Justin & Jamie Skarie, Jill Unruh, Ron & Sandy Sprafka, Wanda Roden, Steve Olson, Vicki Gerdes, Bill Jordan Sr., Bill Jordan Jr., Carl & Carol Oberholtzer, Laurie Olson **Attending Virtually:** Lisa Buck, Lisa Piche, Dick Hecock, John Flynn, Richard Lee, Linda Moses, Mike & Carolyn Becraft, Roger Demers, John Cox, Robert Susan, John 022, Kristen Tayler, Jim Bond, Mary Brill, Patti Ziebell, Julie Herman, Karine, Terry Maier, Liz Hathaway Castelan, and two unidentified attendees.

1. CALL TO ORDER. The Special Managers' meeting was called to order by President Kral at 2:02 PM.

President Kral welcomed the in-person and virtual meeting attendees. He indicated the Managers are seeking input and comments.

2. Overview. Attorney Skoyles reviewed the statutory duties and authorities of a watershed district, noting they are a special purpose unit of government (MN Statute 103D) which were created to conserve natural resources and operate differently than cities and counties. The Pelican River Watershed District was created to protect and enhance water quality in 1966. Attorney Skoyles reviewed the purposes and establishment of Projects 1B (Sallie/Melissa) in 1984 and Project 1C (Detroit/Curfman) in 1990. The projects are paid for by a special assessment on riparian properties. Attorney Skoyles reviewed the aquatic plant management program activities, noting as best available technology/techniques were found, the management strategy changed from in-lake mechanical harvesting to a more effective chemical treatment. She noted all the harvesters were sold by 2015, however the roadside pickup program continued. The roadside pickup program was not contemplated as a "stand alone" activity when the projects were established. Attorney Skoyles reviewed the roadside pick-up maps (created by District staff), highlighting areas where the service was used heavily and sections where the service is never or rarely used. The managers must decide if the standalone roadside pickup program is a benefit to all assessed properties.

Administrator Guetter reminded the attendees, that the success of the in-lake chemical treatments is a "big win" for all property owners and some may not remember the piles of aquatic vegetation that were picked up on the shorelines during the harvesting era. Some in attendance may remember the "Crush the Rush" movement on the City Public Beach where concerned community members were in the lake trying to hand pull the invasive plant Flowering rush (but was later determined to be a detriment and contributing to its spread).

3. Public Comments/Questions. The floor was opened for comments and questions.

John Flynn: North Shore Drive of Detroit Lake. We need this service now more than ever and does not understand why the language in Project 1C does not support it. It should not be just limited to harvesting. He stated there was more aquatic plant material this past summer than in previous years due to the low water levels.

Jim Bond: Mel/Sal Assoc. Supports John Flynn comments and stated if property owners are removing vegetation from their shoreline they should be reimbursed. [Admin. Guetter: We no longer use mechanical harvesters and cannot retool this project to include roadside pick up as a stand-alone activity as it would not be used by all, thereby would not be a benefit to all riparian properties].

Laurie Olson, LDA: What has changed since the establishment of the project?

Manager Kral: The maps (reviewed by Skoyles) indicate that many riparian properties have never used the service. Does picking up vegetation for some affect water quality of the lake? Studies indicate that water quality is improved very little if any. He invited local contractors to speak.

Steve Olson of Beachcombers, Contractor: He has been in the landscape business for several years in this area and works for many lake property owners, sometimes just cleaning the beaches, but sometimes hauling away the vegetation, also. He has the equipment, the DNR license, and would be willing to provide this service.

PELICAN RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT SPECIAL MEETING BOARD MINUTES –FEBRUARY 23, 2022

Bill Jordan, Jr. Lakes Sal/Mel, Contractor: He would like to see the watershed district stay involved for one more year so that local contractors would have time to assess the program: time and cost involved. He formerly worked for the District harvesting and on the road side pick up program.

Mike Becraft, Lakes Sal/Mel: When did harvesting stop? [Admin Guetter: In the 2005-2006 timeframe when experiments with chemical application began. The harvesters were sold in 2013. During this time the LMP-01 Project was established to help pay research costs on invasive plants and is funded by a district-wide ad valorem tax and not just riparian property owners.]

Jim Bond, Lake Sal/Mel: There are 700 property owners on lakes Sallie & Melissa and we want the roadside pickup service to continue. He does not believe there is a legal argument to stop and may have lawyer look at language. Weed removal on shoreline is for the betterment of the lake. How can we help continue this service? What is the cost of machinery? [Manager Michaelson: We want solutions. People keep belaboring the point of legality/precedence. We have received and read your emails and understand the importance of finding a viable solution to this issue.]

Roger Demers, Lake Sal/Mel: What is the cost of the program? [Manager Michaelson: An average cost is \$30,000 per year for both projects, including labor, fuel, equipment maintenance. The managers understand the roadside pickup activity is important to property owners]

Mike Becraft, Lake Sal/Mel: States they would like to be collaborative and supportive. Has a decision been made to abandon the program? If so, will they receive a tax break. [Manager Michaelson: The program is inexpensive for the District to operate, there will not be a reduction in assessment. Admin Guetter: Chemical costs for in-lake treatments are greatly increasing for 2022].

Roger Demers, Lake Sal/Mel: LDA could raise funds

Jim Bond, Lake Sal/Mel: Money is not the real problem and wants to know what the real reason is.

Lisa Piche, LDA: Is the \$32 charge on her tax statement for this program? [Admin Guetter: No. That is a Stormwater Utility fee that is paid by the entire district. Your special assessment would be listed as Project 1C.]

Ed Welke, LDA: Spoke in favor of privatizing the roadside pick up program

David Pratt, LDA: What we have been enjoying must end. He understands clearly the points made by Skoyles and Guetter. This should not be a legal discussion. Property owners need to be working with the private sector for this service and we need to find a way to transition at this point. The District can't assess for this service, but the vegetation should be taken out of the lake so we need to find a solution.

Manager Imholte: An "old time" Lake Detroit who lives on Nason Bay, which is shallow and has many weeds. She has seen how much vegetation is on the North Shore of Detroit Lake. The special assessment collected for 1B and 1C can only be used for projects on those lakes for the benefit of the lakes. The District is not looking to dump the project – we are looking for a solution. Wants people to understand that if lawyers are involved in this issue, the District will use funds from 1B and 1C to defend the District.

Carl Oberholtzer, LDA: Some people don't use the service, so it can't be argued that it benefits all. Calculates the cost of roughly \$21/parcel for the program. Need to find solutions to continue the program.

Julie Herman, LDA: Asked for a definition of harvesting. [Admin Guetter: It includes mechanical harvesting only, not the removal of lake vegetation.]

Mike Becraft, Lake Sal/Mel: The contractors need time to get ready for this – can PRWD pick up weeds this summer? [Manager Michaelson: We want help to solve the issue – what can we do? If we went forward for one more season, a driver with a CDL is needed. Pres Kral: There are equipment issues to be considered.]

John Flynn, LDA: Thanks for getting this meeting together. Perhaps LDA could assist with finding employees. [Admin Guetter: We are at a crossroads and need input on how best to move forward within our guidelines.]

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Bill Jordan, Sr., Lakeview Township: Suggested that perhaps Lakeview Township could set up an assessment and continue the program. Was disappointed there was no mention of this topic in the Sal/Mel newsletter he recently received.

Lance Akers, Local Landscaper: He has no interest in running this program but ran some numbers based on his experience. The cost would be considerably higher for a contractor to be profitable with equipment, labor, and insurance costs. He stated many contractors in the area are not geared toward this type of work. [Pres. Kral: Acknowledged this program has been a real bargain for property owners and thanked Akers for his insight.]

Kirsten Taylor/Feste, Lake Sal/Mel: Uses the service regularly and would like to see it stay in place.

Mary Brill: The watershed district used to harvest mechanically, now chemically, what happens when vegetation dies? We are doing the work of the District – homeowners are the harvesters. [Admin Guetter: Plants are chemically treated when they are very small and plant die off is minimal – little plant material.]

Administrator Guetter: Asked Dick Hecock, former PRWD Administrator, if he had any comments. Dick Hecock: no comments.

4. Closing Remarks/Meeting Adjournment.

Administrator Guetter: We are open to all suggestions and please contact us. We also welcome the townships involvement and want to work together towards a solution.

Manager Kral: Thanked everyone for attending the meeting and felt the input was helpful and hopes that the PRWD Managers can come up with a solution that can satisfy the needs of the property owners.

The meeting was adjourned by President Kral at 3:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted, Charlie Jasken, Acting Secretary

Meeting Approved: _____

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 11, 2022

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Rice Lake Capital Improvement Project (CIP). Pete Waller met with Guetter on Feb. 28th to review the grant status report and made minor edits to the report, reviewed the process for payment of PRWD claims request, and discussed potential next steps for Phase II lower structure.

Campbell Creek Project (CIP). Staff are continuing to work with MPCA to develop the 319 Grant Work Plan for the Campbell Creek Area. A meeting was held on February 17th with Scott Schroeder, MPCA, Bryan Malone, Becker SWCD and Ed M., NRCS, to identify potential upstream land practices which will help reach the Campbell Creek sediment and nutrient reduction goals. Since there is no staff at Becker SWCD who are trained to run the PTM model, the MPCA staff will run the EPA STEPL and the PTM program for the entire HUC 12 sub-watershed (includes area down to Detroit Lake) area and we will use the outputs to help identify potential project areas. Ed and Bryan will email a map/GIS points of the installed past practices on Campbell Creek area that were installed after 2005 and if available provide the estimated pollution reduction estimates. Scott is also checking with the MPCA Healthier Watershed's database, and if state/federal funds were used for those Campbell Creek projects, they would be listed in the database as well. Another meeting was held on February 25th with Scott Schroeder, MPCA, and Lori Clark & Jason Vinge, MN DNR, to review potential streambank erosion reduction practices. The workplan will include the areas identified by the MN DNR streambank study for restoration work. Other ideas to further investigate feasibility include partial restoration of Campbell Lake, 2-stage ditch improvement between Campbell Lake and the ag field. The updated LiDAR elevation maps will be available soon for our use and will be helpful.

FEMA Flood Hazard Grant. Grant agreement documents were submitted to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Homeland Security and Emergency Management department. Two Stantec employees are now authorized to enter information into the files for reporting purposes. The latest email message on 3/4/22 was, "You will be notified when your grant agreement is available for signature".....so we wait to be notified!

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (Website, Social Media, and Workshops)

Hodge Podge. Guetter and Moses were the guests on Hodge Podge on February 18. The topics included projects from the 2022 workplan. Moses talked about the upcoming MAISRC seminar to be held June 9, 2022, the Water Fest event for local 5th grade students, and Summer Internship posting.

Social Media Posts (Facebook) –February 2022

- 2-4-22 – Climate change awareness
- 2-18-22 – Special Meeting notice
- 2-25-22 – DL online-Possible loss of roadside pick up
- 2-28-22 – PRWD staff visit 5th grader classes
- 2-28-22 – Farewell to DL ice castle

Water Fest for 5th Grade: Kemper and Moses were able to participate in the scaled back version of Water Fest for area 5th Grade students on February 15, 16, and 17 at Holy Rosary, Rossman, and Roosevelt. Presenters included PRWD, Becker County Environmental Services, Becker Soil and Water Conservation District, MN DNR and the City of Detroit Lakes. The Waubun school also contacted the District and asked if we would come and present to their 5th graders, so we travelled out to them on February 25. It has been great to be back in the classrooms with local students and the engagement has been awesome.

MN Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) Regional Conference. The February planning meeting was cancelled due to weather, but a meeting was held on March 2 at the PRWD office. A flyer and booklet, including a QR code or a link for easy registration, have been created and are being sent to MAISRC for their approval before distribution. Assignments for notifying various newspapers, radio stations, government agencies, lake associations, etc.,

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

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for promoting the event have been given and food items have been arranged for the day. The next meeting is scheduled for March 31 and we are hoping that MAISRC approvals have been received by that time so we can begin in full force with promotions.

ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

Aquatic Plant Management Programs.

Project 1B (Sallie/Melissa) & Project 1C (Detroit/Curfman)

After the Special Meeting held on Wednesday, Feb. 23, staff reached out to the Lake Detroiters and the Sallie/Melissa organizations to set up a follow up meeting and discuss possible next steps forward. They declined to meet as they were "researching" their options. A joint letter was received by the District on March 1 from Lake Detroiters and the Melissa/Sallie Improvement Associations urging the District to continue the aquatic plant roadside pick-up program for this season.

WATER MANAGEMENT RULES – see monthly report.

INCENTIVE PROGRAMS –A second application for science supplies has been received from Roosevelt Elementary for board review.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS/ADMINISTRATION

2022 Work Plan, Education Plan, Monitoring Plan – The annual work plans were reviewed at the Board meeting in February but due to a lack of quorum, they could not be approved. They will be on the Agenda in March for approval.

2021 Annual Report – Staff continue working on the report as time allows.

Office Equipment: The computer monitor for the conference room has been ordered from another vendor and we expect it to arrive within the week.

MAWD Legislative Days and MN Administrator's Meetings. Kral and Guetter are registered for the meetings to be held from March 16-17th. Guetter will set up meetings with legislators. The Administrators meeting is on March 16th.

Grant Oversight.

- **Campbell Creek Watershed Restoration (MPCA Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus Group C Grant Funding).** The work plan is in progress, see CIP section
- **FEMA Grant** – FEMA localized flooding study. Waiting for FEMA grant approval/signatures prior to commencing work.
- **BWSR Clean Water Rice Lake Project.** Amendment request submitted.

Manager Training- Orientation/Refresher Course (BWSR): Due to weather conditions, this meeting was rescheduled to Monday, March 14 in Barnesville. Kral and Jasken are not able to attend due to conflicts.

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

2021 Audit – Moses continues to compile information for the audit.

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER UNITS OF GOVERNMENT AND PARTNERS

Otter Tail 1W1P Partnership – Work Plans, Meeting Agendas and Minutes can be found on the website.

WEBSITE: <https://www.eotswcd.org/ot1w1p/>

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- a. **Policy Committee (Kral, Imholte-Alt).** A tentative next meeting date is March 24th.
 - b. **Steering Committee (Guetter).** The committee met on Feb 15th to plan for the upcoming policy and technical committee meetings. The next steering committee meeting is on March 15th.
 - c. **Technical Advisory Committee (Guetter)** –Guetter and Kemper attended the March 7th meeting where the group re-visited the focus lake and stream segments, goal themes and metric exercise. The committee discussed what type of goals themes that will be used for each issue statement, how those goals will be measured and what tool, model, or data source will be used. The next meeting will be on April 4th.
 - d. **Citizen Advisory Committee.** No meetings have been scheduled since January 2022.
 - a. **Forest Land Stewardship Plan (Kemper)** - Kemper attended the meeting in Perham on March 2nd.
- Updates** – Guetter, Malone, Vareberg gave a brief update to the County Commissioners on March 1st. A copy of the slides is attached. Following a recommendation at the Policy committee meeting, a one-page monthly summary will be emailed to all entities for inclusion in their monthly meeting packets.

Becker County Board of Adjustments and Planning Commission: A meeting was held on February 8th – no comments given; Board of Adjustments (January 11th) – no comments given.

City of Detroit Lakes Planning Commission –January 27th meeting – no comments given.

DRAINAGE SYSTEM REPORT

March 2022

DITCH 11/12 (Moon Lake to Campbell Lake to North Floyd Lake)

Ditch 11 - Nothing to report

Ditch 12 - Nothing to report.

DITCH 13 (Little Floyd Lake to Big Detroit) - Nothing to report.

DITCH 14 and BRANCH 1 (HWY 10 to St. Clair Lake to Pelican River) - Nothing to report.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

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DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING PROGRAM

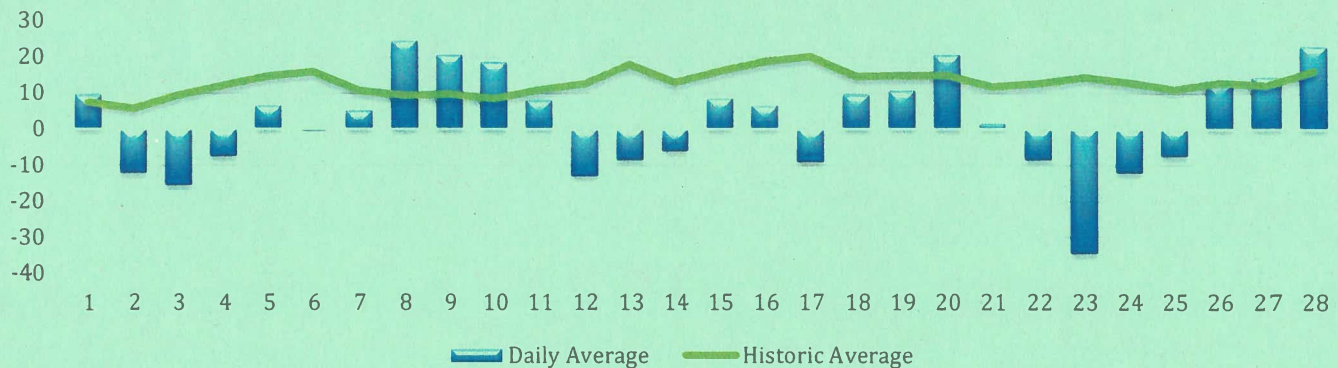
March 2022

2021 Annual Monitoring Report – Kemper is currently updating the report.

2022 Monitoring Plan – Kemper finished the 2022 Monitoring Plan and presented it at the February board meeting.

2021 Monitoring Data – MPCA is currently reviewing and finalizing the District's water quality monitoring data which will be uploaded into the public EQIS database.

February Temperature



February 2022 Temperatures

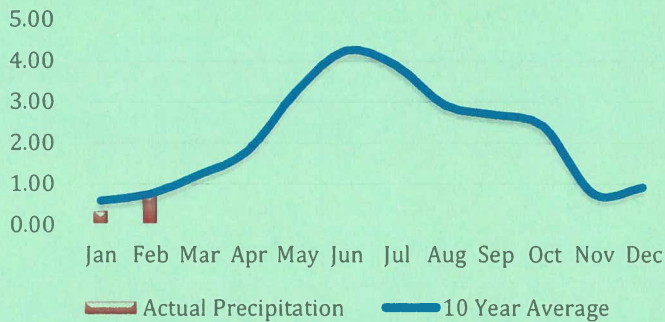
Colder than normal describes this February. Most climate stations report a mean monthly temperature that is 5 to 11 degrees F below normal. Extremes for the month ranged from a high of 25°F on the 8th and -35°F on the 23rd. Minnesota reported the coldest temperature in the 48 contiguous states on eleven dates during the month, with many stations reporting lows in the minus 30s to minus 40s F.

It was a windy month as well, with several days of wind gusts above 30 mph. We experienced high winds on the 18th creating whiteout conditions and major road closures across Becker County and neighboring counties.

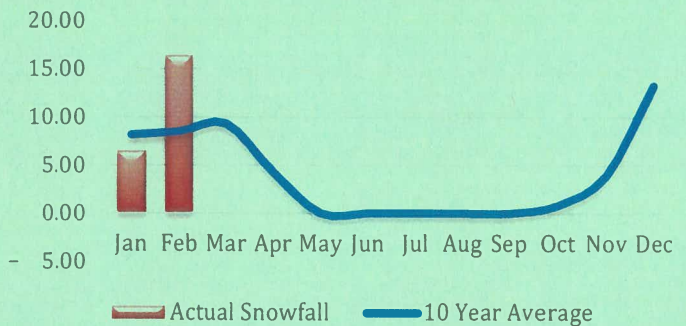
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

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2022 Precipitation



2022 Snowfall

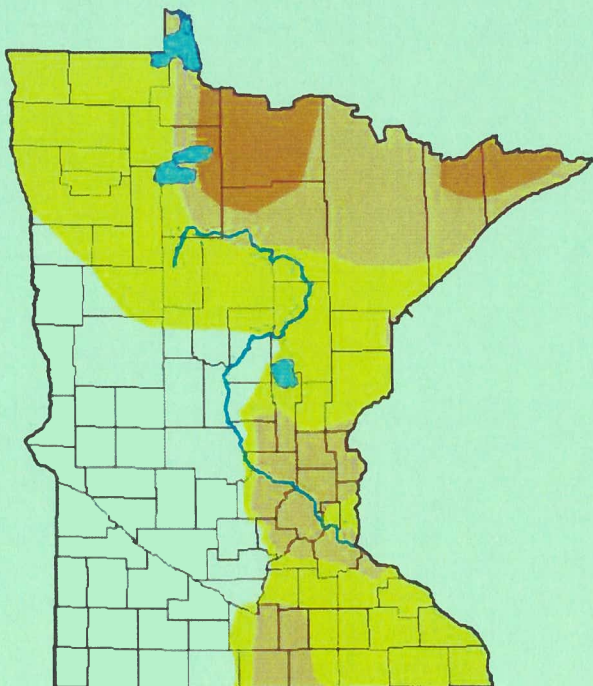


February Precipitation

It was a wetter than normal February with about twice the normal amount of precipitation. Many observers reported over 15 inches of snowfall for the month, and the liquid content of that snow varied from 1 to 2 inches. In Detroit Lakes we received a total of 16.40 inches of snowfall for the month and a total of .74 inches of liquid content from that snow. Storms from February 21-23 brought significant snowfall to many parts of Minnesota. Many areas in the state reported storm snowfall totals of 5 to 12 inches, here in Detroit Lakes we received 5.6 inches.

High winds that accompanied the storm produced blizzard conditions in northwestern Minnesota counties on Monday (Feb 21), marking the 11th time the National Weather Service has issued blizzard warning for that part of the state this snow season. This storm added significantly to the monthly total snowfall reports from around the state, as well as the seasonal totals.

U.S. Drought Monitor Minnesota



February 22, 2022

(Released Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	33.28	66.72	28.98	5.95	0.00	0.00
Last Week 15-22-2022	26.27	73.73	39.30	7.50	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 11-23-2021	28.11	71.89	51.79	27.06	3.15	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2022	30.22	69.78	38.55	9.28	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2021	5.50	93.50	75.21	50.44	23.58	0.00
One Year Ago 02-23-2021	0.00	100.00	24.44	0.28	0.00	0.00

Intensity

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu

RULES OF ENFORCEMENT

March 2022

SS: Small Site LS: Large Site Gov: Government Project

Permits Issued

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address/Area</u>	<u>Approved Project</u>
LS	22-01	Midco Comm	Ditch 14 (4) Crossings	Directional board 1.25" conduit w/fiber optic cable Under water source (Ditch 14)
LS	22-02	Midco Comm	Ditch 13 (4) Crossings	Directional board 1.25" conduit w/fiber optic cable Under water source (Pelican River).

Permit Applications submitted

Nothing Pending at this time

Violation *****

SS Oehlke, Tim & Angela, 1836 East Shore Drive, trees removed in SIZ without a permit. A stop work order has been issued and a letter of credit has been received from the owner. A follow up virtual meeting was held on 2/10/2022 with Bryan Leininger (landscape architect), Priscilla Gurath (City of DL), and Guetter & Kemper (PRWD staff). PRWD and City Staff outlined expectations to bring the site into compliance and what would be needed in regard to anticipated development. A March 1 deadline was given to submit site plan. However, this has not been received. Spoke with Landscape Architect on 3/10/22, he indicated he would have it to us by 3/11 but would also like another follow up meeting to discuss.

SS Kylo, Chad & Jacobson, Brenda, 1324 East Shore Drive, trees removed in SIZ without a permit. A Notice of Violation has been sent and a Letter of Credit has been received. No further action.

SS McCollum, Joe & Amy, 21749 Floyd Lake Dr., SIZ alterations-work did not comply with permit 20-27. A plan has been received to bring the site into compliance. They continue to work on plant species. Will continue to monitor spring 2022

Village of Riverview-Easement Violation— Surety document and fee has been received from their board. They will work with Becker SWCD to complete plantings in Spring 2022.

District Comments to City of Detroit Lakes Planning & Zoning—March 3, 2022 Meeting

RCH Custom Homes (Long Pine Estates) - 1. The North development- the pond will need to be checked to make sure it is in compliance for a stormwater retention pond. 2. The South development - if mitigation is not connected to a large regional collection plan pond, they will have to designate some land into making one.

Long Bridge of Detroit Lakes, Inc.— Any changes in the parking lot plan or increasing the impervious surface will require an updated Stormwater management plan.

Tanner & Stephanie Goodrich, 611 North Shore Dr.— 1. If this action is approved, it will trigger a need for a new storm water management plan from the District. 2. Will this proposed action trigger a shoreline buffer as required in the ordinance?

District Comments to Becker County Planning & Zoning—February 8, 2022 Meeting

Staff discussed the wetland setback amendment with Bryan Malone and Ed Clem of Becker SWCD, Pete Waller, BWSR, Roger Hemphill, MN DNR, and Kyle Vareberg for clarification. No comment was needed from PRWD.

Progress Report

Long Lake Road— Vegetation establishment looked good in 2021. Staff will continue to monitor in 2022.

18-41— Highland Estates—City approved changes to the PUD. District permit has expired and developer will need to reapply.

Midtown Dev. —1281 Washington Ave. No work being done at this time. SW is in compliance.

RULES OF ENFORCEMENT

March 2022

Pending Permit Updates:

Residential Subdivision—14795 US Hwy 59/Pelican River, Detroit Lakes—Owners Jesse and Karen McCollum and Dave Stall. The District has had two meetings with the Developers regarding a potential subdivision along the Pelican River, across from River Hills RV Park. Nothing further to update.

Curtis and Alisa Kuntz—26319 Paradise Point Rd.—On 3/8, Kemper and MN DNR State Forester, Kent Wolf, went to assess the leaning tree they would like to remove on shoreline. Wolf stated the tree is alive and it would be extremely difficult to remove that tree without damaging those nearby. He stated it would need to be removed from the top down and the stump would need to be left in place. Other work on the property can not be permitted until site can be inspected without snow cover.