

PELICAN RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Regular Monthly Managers' Meeting

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

8:30 AM

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

AGENDA

8:30 AM	<b>1. Regular Meeting - Call to Order</b>  <b>2. Approval of Consent Agenda</b> A. Secretary Report—July 19, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes and July 26, 2023 Workshop Minutes B. Administrator's Report C. Ditch Inspector's Report D. Rules/Permitting Report
8:45 AM	<b>3. Attorney's Report</b> <b>4. Engineer's Report</b>
8:50 AM	<b>5. Committee Reports</b> A. Otter Tail River Watershed—Policy, Technical, Stakeholder B. Permit/Rules Stakeholder Advisory C. Personnel Committee
8:55 AM	<b>6. New Business</b> A. MN Watersheds—Jan Voit & Linda Vavra B. Review 2024 Preliminary Budget
10:30 AM	<b>7. Unfinished Business</b> A. Reschedule date Campbell Creek Project Tour for September B. Facilitator/PRAP Grant Application
11:00 AM	<b>8. Treasurer's Report</b> A. Approve August 2023 Bills B. Approve August Fund transfer C. Review January-July 2023 Revenue & Expenses Report
11:15AM	<b>9. Public Forum</b>
11:20 AM	<b>10. Pulled Consent Agenda Items</b>
11:25 AM	<b>11. Announcements</b> September meeting will be held on Wednesday, 9/13, with a Public Hearing prior to board meeting.
11:30 AM	<b>12. Meeting Adjournment</b>  (action items in bold face)



**PELICAN RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING BOARD MINUTES  
JULY 19, 2023**

**Managers Present:** Dennis Kral, Orrin Okeson, Chris Jasken, Rick Michaelson, Charlie Jasken, Laurie Olson, Phil Hansen

**Managers Absent:** NONE

**Staff:** Administrator Guetter, Moses, Kemper

**Consultants:** Attorney Skoyles

**Others:** John Okeson (Becker County Commissioner), Rob Bredeson (City of Detroit Lakes Wastewater), Oliver Kritzberger & Owen Reding (PRWD Summer Interns), Raymond & Lynn Reading (10:00 AM)

**CALL TO ORDER.** The Regular Managers' meeting was called to order by President Kral at 8:30 AM.

**APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA.** Motion to approve the Consent Agenda including the Secretary's Report –June 14, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes; July 2023 Administrator's Report; July 2023 Rules/Permitting Report, and the July 2023 Ditch Inspector's Report, (Okeson, Michaelson), carried unanimously.

**UPDATES.** Manager Hansen reported on attending the BWSR Manager Training in Detroit Lakes and encouraged other managers to attend in the future. He noted other watershed districts are using Nancy Solberg or Brady Marks to conduct their annual audits if the District would need to use another audit firm. Kral reported that he had attended the Long Lake Association meeting on July 15, 2023. Association members had concerns about near shore actions and the effects of wake board boats.

**BWSR Grants.** Guetter stated the grant application is due in August and will start working on it with the City of Detroit Lakes. **Motion to approve a BWSR Clean Water Grant application for the Washington Square Mall parking lot stormwater improvement project (Michaelson, Hansen), carried unanimously.**

**ATTORNEY REPORT.** Nothing to report.

**ENGINEER REPORT.** Engineer Absent – no report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

- a. **Otter Tail River 1W1P Policy, Technical Advisory, and Stakeholder Advisory Committees.** Nothing further to report.
- b. **Permitting Process/Rules Clarification.** Jay Michels is planning to continue with another stormwater education session for the managers. The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 26 at 12:30 PM. Mr. Michels will meet with Manager Chris Jasken at 11:00 PM to review the material he covered in the first workshop.
- c. **Personnel.** Otter Tail 1W1P Implementation Funds - Guetter reported Colton Utecht from Grand Rapids, MN, has been offered and accepted the shared Shoreland Technician position (Pelican River WD, Cormorant WD, Becker SWCD) and would be starting as soon as he could secure housing.

**NEW BUSINESS.**

- a. **Intern Presentation.** Summer Interns, Oliver Kritzberger and Owen Reding gave a presentation on the work they do including lake and stream monitoring, flow measurements, vegetation surveys, mapping, equipment use. They talked about their day experiences with MN DNR and USFWS activities.
- b. **MN Watersheds Board Training Survey.** Surveys were sent to managers in their board packet, and several returned them to staff at the meeting.
- c. **Cost Share Grant Applications (1) Lorren Crawford (Floyd Lake), (2) Jill Thomas/Rob Hart (Detroit), and (3) John McLaughlin (Fox).** Moses reviewed the applications for near shore plantings, completed pictures and costs for each project. **Motion to approve the Crawford, Thomas/Hart, and McLaughlin cost share applications in the amount of \$500 each (Hansen, Olson), carried unanimously.**
- b. **Investments:** Manager Hansen and Moses reviewed CD rates with Bremer Bank staff on Monday, July 17. Moses and Guetter compiled 3 different options for a CD purchase. Hansen recommended to the board Option #3, to invest



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\$400,000 for 6 months at a rate of 4.15% annually. **Motion to invest \$400,000 for six months at a rate of 4.15% annually with Bremer Bank (Olson, Kral) carried unanimously.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

- a. **Rice Lake Phase II and Little Floyd Lake Rock Arch Rapids Projects.** An easement is needed from the Bristlins for Rice Lake project. Plans are complete for the Little Floyd Lake Rock Arch Rapids project.
- b. **Rule Clarification/Update.** The next meeting is scheduled for July 26 at 12:30 PM.

**TREASURER'S REPORT.**

- a. **Approval of July 2023 Bills.** Treasurer Michaelson reviewed the July 2023 claims, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Manager Compensation & Expenses, and the three Cost Share Grant Applications reviewed earlier. **Motion to approve the July 2023 claims, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Manager Compensation and Expenses, and Cost Share Grant applications (Checks 15112-15127 and EFT 2182-2188, EFT 2194-2207) in the amount of \$95,238.58 (Michaelson, Olson), carried unanimously (attached hereto).**
- b. **July 2023 Fund Transfer.** Michaelson recommended transferring \$124,000 to cover the regular monthly expenses. **Motion to transfer \$124,000 from the Bremer Bank savings account to the checking account (Michaelson, Okeson), carried unanimously.**
- c. **Financial Report.** The January-June 2023 Revenues and Expenses Report was reviewed by the managers. **Motion to approve the January-June 2023 R & E Report (Michaelson, Chris Jasken), carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC FORUM.**

**Raymond Reading** - Kral reviewed the site on July 7, 2023, took site photos and noted recent unpermitted actions in the shore impact zone not in conformance with the board approved site remediation plan. A stop work order was issued by Attorney Skoyles. Extensive discussion was held by the Managers regarding the District's role with Water Management Rules (near shore actions and stormwater management). Manager Charles Jasken responded to Kral's comments stating permitting should go back to the County and City and that the District should focus on larger projects. Manager Chris Jasken stated the public doesn't want these Rules, they want change, and are threatening to start a petition. He agreed with Charles Jasken that there is too much overlap between the District, City, and the County. Manager Michaelson stated there are four issues that need to be addressed: 1. The Reading Issue - There are certain rules in place that need to be followed. Were they followed or not?; 2. Rules Revision Issue- we need to follow the science and not to change the Rules for what the contractors want just to make it easier for them. The Rules have not been updated in 20 years and that is why we hired Jay Michels, EOR to help with the science and evidence with updating the Rules; 3. Address the County Zoning department and District cooperation and working relationships. We need to get that fixed and Commissioner Okeson is our liaison, and we are asking him to follow up with the County to address and fix this. 4. Managers Roles - Our board needs to work together. Managers do not act on their own but act together and appropriately.

Manager Olson agreed that Managers should be the oversight and staff should be charged with the work, but in this case, there is a conflict between the watershed and the Readings, and we need to put this issue to rest. Manager Hansen stated this issue was put to rest last fall, money was put aside (letter of credit), and Reading was going to implement the [remediation] plan and this is not plan that was approved, and questioned if a re-permit was applied for before this work had been conducted. Administrator Guetter said Mr. Reading had not contacted the office. Manager Olson stated that [remediation] plan didn't work and that there was erosion on the sloped bank. Attorney Skoyles asked if there was any contact with the watershed district office. Manager Olson said we needed to hear from Raymond Reading. Manager Chris Jasken thinks other engineered plans should be considered and not one engineer making the decision. Mr. Reading passed out handouts (permit application, Apex site plan and letter, application check, photos) and requested to make a slide presentation to the Managers. Attorney Skoyles asked what is the issue and the purpose of the particular presentation? Are we acting as though this is a new application for a permit, are we addressing that there was a permitted plan and has not been complied with, perhaps that would assist for a more focused presentation. Mr. Reading said his ask is for a re-application to fix the issue the watershed asked him to do, and there is erosion to fix. In his opinion, the erosion has been created by the advice the watershed has given and is relevant. He is asking for a re-application so he can fix his issue and go off his engineer's report to fix the problem. He presented photos from this spring. Manager



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Hansen asked if there were pictures of the site before he bought the property. The permit pictures were reviewed. Mr. Reading stated his engineer's report stated the removal of the existing wall will result in a steeper slope and result in increased runoff rates. Pictures were reviewed and extensive discussion continued by Reading.

Manager Okeson stated listening to your side and their side, maybe the smoothest thing is to just to turn this over (Permits) to the Soil and Water Conservation and the Zoning and let them handle it. **Motion to give the county back the District's permitting (Okeson).** It will be one less thorn in our side and maybe we can make this board work again. As of right now, this board is shot, totally. I just want to get out of this quagmire. Manager Hansen asked if it was shot from years or because of this meeting. Okeson replied this shot led up to this from last fall.

Attorney Skoyles stated part of the trouble is that we are all forgetting you are a board. "The Board" is the entity that has the authority that no one of you has any right, authority, or business, acting on behalf of the whole Board and it would appear as though you have people who are acting for the whole without the Board's authority and that creates tension and difficulty. The Board has the responsibility to make policy and to enact the big picture of things, work on Rule revisions or whatever. Your staff executes the policy that the Board adopted and the Board does not have the responsibility of oversight for the daily operations or minutiae of whether or not a permit should be approved or not, that's why you hire staff and why you hire consultants. If you don't like the consultant, then you can decide if you want a different one, but your job as Managers is not to micromanage. Manager Chris Jasken said yes unless we need to. In managing his construction staff, his wish would be the "jobs sups" would do their job, but there are times we all know they don't in which case he has to insert himself. In this case, nobody here is usurping authority, we are simply gaining knowledge to ultimately, in his opinion, help improve the Board, help improve the health of this Board, and the activity of the watershed district. He understands what Skoyles is saying, and no one is arguing that. Manager Kral stated what Attorney Skoyles is alluding to is that we have formally accepted Stantec engineering firm. For each and every individual project we cannot be running around looking for, as she just said, if that firm is wrong, then together we would decide that. In the interim, I would say we have to follow who we have trusted with the ultimate oversight and what the existing Rules are. As a rhetorical question, Manager Michaelson asked if the Readings had considered themselves in violation, but he is not asking it as a rhetorical question, do you consider yourself at this minute in violation of the permit you were given? Reading stated he fixed an issue, the only thing he did differently was to put one more stone on top of those other ones to keep all that from washing, so he did do that. The advice that was given to him, it seemed like retaliation, he got another engineer involved and Guetter didn't like it and she was going to punish him. Manager Michaelson stated this conversation of retaliation is not what we are here for. Gina Kemper asked Mr. Reading to show the pictures of the erosion. She told the Managers that there were only seeing one-half of the picture. She asked when the pictures were taken. He replied 7-18-23. Kemper had pictures from 6-29-23 which showed soil erosion occurring on the retaining wall picture. Prior to this when Adam issued you a permit, you did not have the slope you have now, and if there was a second retaining wall, it was not brought to our attention. So instead of informing us about the second wall, you basically dug that wall out to make a steeper slope, causing more erosion to your property. When we got called out to this issue, this is what he said he did before we got called out to it, he caused no erosion. But here you can clearly see what he cut out of his pictures so you don't see the erosion that is coming down the steps around his rocks and he has straw blankets. But in the picture he shows from this spring, "Where are the erosion control silt fences you said you were going to put up for your stormwater?" Manager Jasken showed one picture where there was a silt fence, and stated even with that, it's still going to erode. Kemper held her picture up showing work on his house and there is supposed to be a silt fence up and there is no silt fence up in that picture, and that's why the water off the house is going down that hill causing erosion. Manager Chris Jasken asked if he is asking for what he had in the handout. Mr. Reading stated he is asking for the second row of rock and the landscape edger. Manager Jasken stated this would be a mild alteration that would help his erosion issue.

Manager Kral stated there is still a formal motion on the table by Okeson, that requires a second. **Manager Charles Jasken seconded the motion.** Kral clarified the motion to have the watershed suspend as of today, all permitting activities. Charles Jasken stated first of the year. Okeson clarified to give it back to the county zoning. Okeson stated as far as he is concerned, we can stop it right now. I am doing this for two reasons: 1. Get out of these "pickles" and we haven't been in many "pickles", let's face it we haven't. This went pretty good with the rules. This has all gotten bent out of shape. It's not fair to our staff. We have lost staff over visits and confrontations on these sites. It's not fair to our staff and we need to give it back to the county and see how well they like it. Let them and Soil and Water Conservation figure it out. **Motion by Charlie Jasken to amend the motion to the end of this construction season, December 31, 2023.** Kemper stated permits are good for 18 months, how are we going to handle that? Guetter asked what is the district supposed to do if we are not going to manage stormwater? Okeson stated we will just do the big projects. Guetter



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reminded the Board, watershed districts are required by statute to have Rules. **Okeson rescinded his motion.** Chris Jasken stated that is what we are trying to figure out with Jay Michels, EOR – who does what – stay in your lane.

**Motion to have Jay Michels, EOR, as an independent source to meet with the Readings, address and resolve this singular issue with a solution in the near future, with the District paying the expenses, contingent upon his agreement (Hansen, Michaelson).** Discussion: Reading agreed to this solution. Kral and Hansen clarified this does not affect whether we have Stantec as our engineering firm. Manager Michaelson asked if this was the new application. Point of clarifications: the approval is for the second course of rock on the backside of the sand blanket as per picture and the proposed start and end dates need to be revised from 2020 to 2023. **Motion to grant Readings their permit with current dates (Olson).** Manager Charlie Jasken stated we don't know if Jay Michels will accept it and it will get kicked down the road. Manager Chris Jasken asked why do we need Jay Michels? He is not an engineer, and we don't need Marlon. Jon Pratt is an engineer and why isn't that plan good enough? **Michaelson rescinds his second and Kral makes a second to the Jay Michels motion.** Kral stated he wants to act on this motion. People have called him and want to have the district maintain consistent rules. Michaelson asked Kemper if in her opinion the action was non-compliant – work was done without a permit and not following the Rules. Manager Chris Jasken stated the work conducted was not within the scope of the (District) permit and voted on (by the Board) and an alternative plan was not addressed. The extra cost to have Michels review is not necessary. **Motion to have Jay Michels, EOR, as an independent source to meet with the Readings, address and resolve this singular issue with a solution in the near future, with the District paying the expenses, contingent upon his agreement (Hansen, Michaelson).** Roll Call: AYE– Kral, Michealson, Hansen, Okeson; NAY – Olson, Charlie Jasken, Chris Jasken, carried.

**Motion to approve the permit with the corrected start/stop dates and a revised plan, if Jay Michels EOR, declines to review the site (Olson, Charles Jasken).** Roll Call: NAY– Kral, Michealson, Hansen; AYE – Olson, Charlie Jasken, Chris Jasken, Okeson. Carried.

**Revised Plan:**

1. Approval of the existing stone retaining wall, with the current addition of stone course/layer as shown on the PRWD photo dated July 7, 2023 (attached hereto). No further additions of stone to the stacked stone wall located on the southside of the lake access steps on the backside of the existing sand blanket.
2. Installation of stone landscape edging (less than 6" in height), construct earthen soil berm, swale and raingarden on top of the vegetated slope as depicted on the APEX Plan, Figure No. Conceptual Site Sketch, dated September 29, 2022, to direct runoff to the raingarden. An earthen berm will be constructed and maintained to prevent runoff to the existing lake access stairway.
3. Install and maintain site appropriate native vegetation species (i.e., Forbes, grasses, shrubs, or trees) and number to stabilize and prevent erosion on the sloped bank.
4. Provide rain garden and swale schematics, dimensions, capacity, planting plans, and maintenance plans.

Manager Olson suggested to Mr. Reading he contact Becker Soil and Water Conservation District for planting plans or ideas as they assisted her on her property. Manager Kral stated staff should feel free to monitor the Reading property and that individual Managers or groups of Managers are not to give the Readings any assurances – that is staff's job. Guetter clarified that she will call Jay Michels to find out if he will review the Reading site and if he declines to review the site, then a permit will be issued based on the revised plan. Managers were advised not to call Jay Michels to influence his decision.

**Planning Tour** – August 16<sup>th</sup> after regular meeting. Campbell Creek.

**PULLED CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

**ADJOURNMENT.** Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 12:01 PM (Kral, Chris Jasken) carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Jasken, Secretary

Meeting Approved: \_\_\_\_\_



# Pelican River Watershed District

## Claims Paid - July 2023

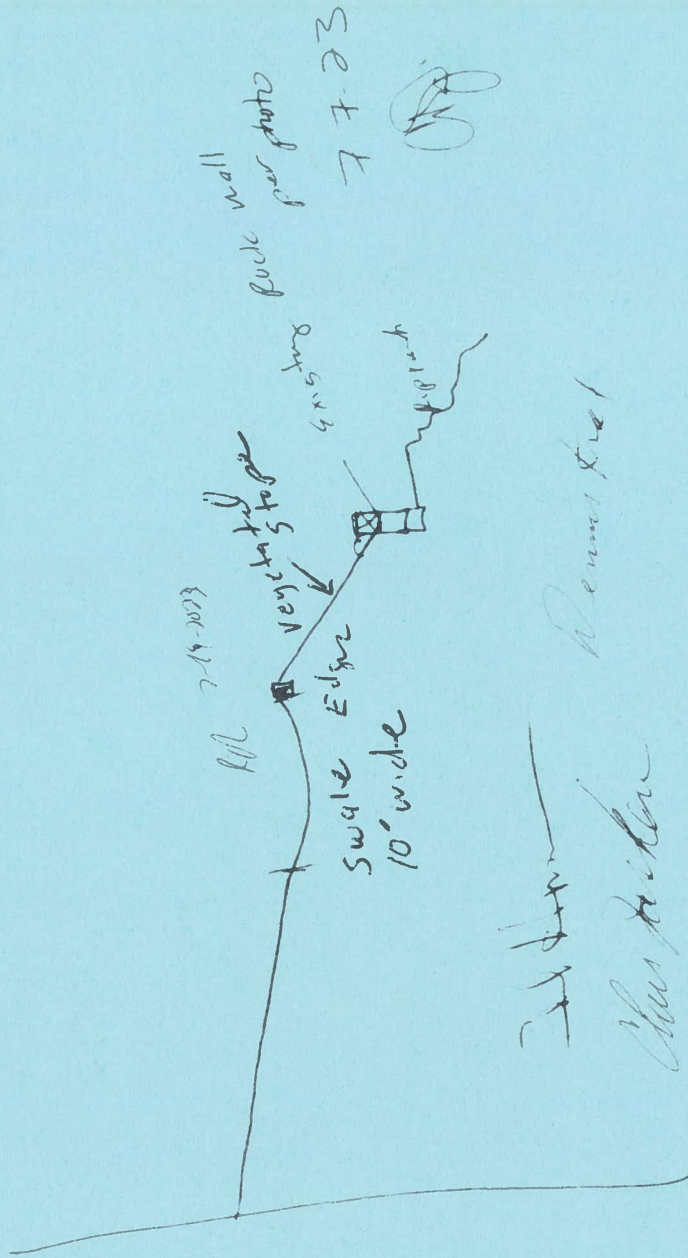
	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b><u>Employee Expenses (ACH)</u></b>			
*Guetter, Tera	07/20/2023	EFT2194	75.00
*Kemper, Gina	07/20/2023	EFT2195	39.95
*Moses, Brenda	07/20/2023	EFT2196	82.35
			<b>\$197.30</b>
<b><u>Vendor Expenses (AutoPay)</u></b>			
Bremer Bank	07/19/2023	ACH	18.50
Loffler Companies, Inc.	07/19/2023	ACH	176.91
			<b>\$195.41</b>
<b><u>Vendor Expenses (ACH)</u></b>			
Lakes Computer, Inc.	07/20/2023	EFT2197	190.00
RMB Environmental Labs, Inc.	07/20/2023	EFT2198	2,949.00
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	07/20/2023	EFT2199	19,951.25
Wells Fargo-Office Lease	07/20/2023	EFT2200	1,299.58
			<b>\$24,389.83</b>
<b><u>Vendor Expenses (Checks)</u></b>			
Arvig	07/20/2023	15112	70.95
Bank of America	07/20/2023	15113	3,550.50
County 6 Amoco & Bait	07/20/2023	15114	172.79
Detroit Lakes Public Schools	07/20/2023	15115	1,956.20
Detroit Lakes Tribune	07/20/2023	15116	120.00
Holiday Division of Circle K	07/20/2023	15117	6.50
Loffler	07/20/2023	15118	150.39
Office of MNIT Services	07/20/2023	15119	68.03
PLM Lake and Land Management	07/20/2023	15120	14,344.50
Premium Waters, Inc.	07/20/2023	15121	9.18
Tech Sales Co.	07/20/2023	15122	165.00
Village of Riverview	07/20/2023	15123	10,000.00
Houston Engineering Inc.	07/20/2023	15124	34,510.76
^Crawford, Lorren	07/20/2023	15125	500.00
^McLaughlin, John	07/20/2023	15126	500.00
^Thomas, Jil	07/20/2023	15127	500.00
			<b>\$66,624.80</b>
<b><u>Manger Expenses (ACH)</u></b>			
.Hansen, Phil	07/21/2023	EFT2201	34.06
.Jasken, Charles	07/21/2023	EFT2202	36.03
.Jasken, Chris	07/21/2023	EFT2203	26.20
.Kral, D.	07/21/2023	EFT2204	32.75
.Michaelson, R.	07/21/2023	EFT2205	55.02
.Okeson, O.	07/21/2023	EFT2206	65.50
.Olson, Laurie	07/21/2023	EFT2207	26.20
			<b>\$275.76</b>

# Pelican River Watershed District Claims Paid - July 2023

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b><u>Manger Compensation (ACH)</u></b>			
.Hansen, Phil	07/21/2023	EFT2182	420.19
.Jasken, Charles	07/21/2023	EFT2183	535.63
.Jasken, Chris	07/21/2023	EFT2184	461.75
.Kral, D.	07/21/2023	EFT2185	535.63
.Michaelson, R.	07/21/2023	EFT2186	572.57
.Okeson, O.	07/21/2023	EFT2187	494.08
.Olson, Laurie	07/21/2023	EFT2188	535.63
			<b><u>\$3,555.48</u></b>
<b><u>Employee Compensation (ACH)</u></b>			
Employee Payroll	7/6/2023	EFT 2174-2178	5,493.84
Supplemental Benefit	7/7/2023	EFT 217-2181	3,018.60
Federal Withholding	7/10/2023	ACH	2,540.82
Employee Payroll	7/20/2023	EFT 2189-2193	6,116.43
Federal Withholding	7/31/2023		2,541.88
MN State Retirement Systems	7/31/2023		5,676.00
MN Revenue	7/31/2023		726.00
PERA	7/31/2023		2,563.06
			<b><u>\$28,676.63</u></b>
<b>Total July Expenses:</b>			<b><u><u>\$123,915.21</u></u></b>



R



Edison

Chas. D. Allen

Edison

Green. D. Allen

Edison

Removal

Vegetation  
14' x 8' x 6"



**PELICAN RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT  
SPECIAL MEETING BOARD MINUTES  
STORMWATER 101 WORKSHOP – PART 2  
JULY 26, 2023**

**Managers Present:** Dennis Kral, Charlie Jasken, Phil Hansen, Laurie Olson, Orrin Okeson, Rick Michaelson, Chris Jasken

**Managers Absent:** None

**Staff:** Administrator Guetter, Kemper, Moses

**Consultants:** Jay Michels (EOR), Pete Waller (BWSR)

**Agenda - Stormwater 101 Workshop – 12:30 PM – 2:25 PM**

Jay Michels of Emmons & Olivier Resources (EOR) opened the meeting stating that reviewing the Raymond Reading property would not be in his best interest as he has personal, ethical and legal liability with issue. The Reading issue opened a gaping hole and the Board is hitting different notes and how can we move forward together on water quality? He also stated that the Watershed District board managers are very divided in their views, and in his opinion, it would not be productive to spend \$25,000 to review and update the District Rules until the board is more united in the direction they would like to go. Mr. Michels left the meeting at 12:40 PM.

Manager Kral state since Mr. Michels has opted not to view the Reading site, the agreed upon revised site plans signed by all the managers and Mr. Reading at the July 19 board meeting will go into effect. How do we move forward as a board?

Peter Waller (BWSR). The MN Board of Soil and Water Resources oversees Watershed Districts and wants to see watershed districts successful in reaching their objectives. There are BWSR grants (PRAP) to apply for that will help pay for an outside facilitator to work with the board to resolve issues and help them to move forward. He will send materials to Guetter who can forward them on to the Managers. He suggested contacting other watershed districts for consultants as well. Moses brought in older, hard copies of the Watershed District Handbook and the updated version is now in electronic format at: <https://www.mnwatersheds.com/handbook-links>

Board managers were in general agreement that a facilitator would be useful and asked Mr. Waller to send more information to the managers on the subject before the August 16 board meeting so that it could be discussed further. Kral stated the Rule/Permit process is pulling the board apart. Michaelson urged the Board to work together calmly going forward.

Manager Chris Jasken does not think the Watershed District should be involved in the Water Management Rules and Permitting process and the County and City should enforce their own ordinances. He feels strongly that our focus should be in other areas and the Reading matter was a catalyst for underlying issues.

Towards increasing communication and streamlining the permitting process (Eagleview, Schneider software), a meeting between the County zoning and the District staff should be set up in the near future. If such a meeting doesn't occur in the next month to address communication issues, then the next step will be to meet with the Becker County Commissioners.

No business was conducted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meeting Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Chris Jasken, Secretary



## DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

### AUGUST 9, 2023

#### A. Surface Waters Protection and Enhancement

##### 1. Capital Improvement Projects/Structural and Non-Structural Practices

- a. **Rice Lake Capital Improvement Project (CIP). Phase 2- Lower Structure.** Project permit application has been submitted to MN DNR.
- b. **Campbell Creek Project (CIP).** Approval was received by the EPA. A meeting is scheduled for August 24<sup>th</sup> with landowners and the technical team. A two-year workplan will be developed in the next month.
- c. **MN DNR FEMA Otter Tail River HUC8 Watershed on a "Risk Map" project.** Guetter and the project work team will be meeting this month to review project progress.
- d. **St Clair Lake TMDL – Regional Urban Stormwater Treatment – Fairgrounds Area Regional Treatment Enhancement Study (OTW \$50K); Washington Mall City parking lot – Discussion to apply for a competitive BWSR grant for the treatment improvements (\$1.5-2.0M project construction).** Guetter met with Kelcey Klemm, City Administrator, and a grant application will be submitted to BWSR and discussion took place on using the Otter Tail 1W1P funding for the Fairgrounds improvement study.
- e. **Becker County Drainage Systems 11, 12, 13 and 14**
  - a. **Ditch 11** - No activity to report.
  - b. **Ditch 12** – No activity to report.
  - c. **DITCH 13 (Little Floyd Lake to Big Detroit)** – Need to check out the area between 8<sup>th</sup> Street and HWY 10. There appears to be a dam/blockage north of 8<sup>th</sup> street and near Lakeshirts and stormwater pond. Intern Owen Reding kayaked from Rice Lake control down to Hwy 34 and located 2 dam/blockage and Intern Ollie Kritzberger located one just south of the PR4a site.
  - d. **DITCH 14 and BRANCH 1 (HWY 10 to St. Clair Lake to Pelican River)** – Nothing further to report.
  - e. **Training** – Drainage Inspectors Conference in St. Cloud August 17 – 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### WATER MANAGEMENT RULES – see enclosed report.

##### Water Management Rules Update/Clarification.

- a. **Stormwater 101 Workshop.** At the second workshop on July 26, Consultant Jay Michels of Emmons & Olivier Resources, attended for only a short time. He said this process is on hold until the board can agree what the ultimate goals are for updating/clarification of the Rules, and it is a waste of \$25K and board time as some board members are suggesting eliminating Water Management Rules and leaving it to the County and City. Watershed Districts are required by MN State statute to have Rules.

#### B. HABITAT PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

- a. **River/Stream Connectivity – Barriers to Fish Movement**
- b. **Little Floyd Lake Structure Modification** –Guetter contacted the landowner to set up a meeting.
- c. **Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Management.**
  1. **Project 1B (Sallie/Melissa) & Project 1C (Detroit/Curfman).** The second treatment occurred on Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Detroit, Curfman, and Melissa had the same treatment acres at treatment 1, but Sallie's treatment areas increased by 4.88 acres along the north shore area.

#### Administration

- a. **2024 Preliminary Budget** –Guetter and Moses have been reviewing 2023 expenses and compiled a draft 2024 Budget for manager's review at the August meeting.

#### C. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH (Website, Social Media, and Workshops)

- a. **Local Media/Mailings.**

**Hodge Podge Radio**-Michaelson was the guest on Thursday, July 20, and talked about Flowering Rush treatments, good lake water quality due to the lack of rainfall/stormwater runoff, Campbell Creek Work Plan



## DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

### AUGUST 9, 2023

is under development, BWSR staff reviewed the Rice Lake Project, and PRWD will have a booth in the MN DNR building at the Becker County Fair.

#### **Social Media Posts (Facebook) –July 2023**

- 7-13-23 – Warning: Blue-green algae
- 7-14-23 – PRWD interns assist with goose banding
- 7-21-23 – Decontaminate your boat when moving from lake to lake
- 7-25-23 – Notice: upcoming FR treatment
- 7-28-23 – Come see us at the Becker County Fair
- 7-31-23 – Becker County Fair photos.

- Becker County Fair.** Moses, Kemper, and summer Interns, Kritzberger and Reding, staffed the PRWD tables at the Fair from July 26-29. The heat was brutal the first two days but cooled down slightly the last two days. Hundreds of environmental buttons were colored by local children.
- Lake Association meetings.** Guetter is scheduled for August 19 for the Floyd Shores Point meeting.
- Facilitator** – Pete Waller sent the PRAP grant application information. It's a fairly simple grant application. Guetter contacted two potential agencies who may provide assistance and will hopefully get quotes for services before the August meeting.
- PRWD Project Tour** – The project tours will be rescheduled for September after some preliminary technical meetings have taken place in August.

#### **D. DISTRICT OPERATIONS/ADMINISTRATION**

**Grant Oversight** - Campbell Creek Watershed Restoration (MPCA Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus Group C Grant Funding), FEMA Grant, BWSR Clean Water Rice Lake Project – Phase 1 & Phase 2. MN DNR – Conservation Partners Legacy Grant, Otter Tail 1W1P Implementation Grant.

**Otter Tail River 1W1P Partnership – WEBSITE:** <https://www.eotswcd.org/ot1w1p/>

- 1W1P Shared Shoreland Technician** — Colton Utecht will start with us on August 14 as the Shoreland Technician working between Pelican River WD, Cormorant Lakes WD, and Becker SWCD.
- OTW Policy Committee** (Kral, Hansen-Alt). No meetings scheduled.
- OTW TAC Committee** (Guetter). A technical meeting was held on August 7<sup>th</sup> and updates were given by all agencies including WBIF Budget Review, Project Updates, Otter Tail County Impervious Surface Tool (Eagle View), Future WBIF Funding (an additional \$300K is expected for the OTW basin!).
- OTW Stakeholder Advisory Committee.** No meetings scheduled.
- OTW Forest Land Stewardship Plan** (Kemper). No meetings scheduled.

#### **MN Watersheds Association**

- MN Association of Watershed Administrators (MAWA)** - MAWA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, September 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:30 at the Arrowwood Lodge in Baxter. The Joint MAWA/SWCD Administrators meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:00- 12:00.
- Awards Committee** (Olson-Alt) – Projects/Programs for award consideration are due this month.
- Education Needs Survey** – Moses returned the PRWD survey (completed by managers and staff).
- Finance** – A virtual meeting is scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup> @ 9 AM.
- Resolutions** – At this time PRWD is not proposing any resolutions, however, if you have any ideas, contact our office.
- MN Watersheds Annual Conference.** Tuesday November 28 - Thursday, Nov 30, 2023, at Arrowwood Conference Center - Alexandria, MN



# DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

## AUGUST 9, 2023

### DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING PROGRAM

#### Stream and Lake Data

**Streams** – Water quality continues to remain relatively good due to the dry weather; drought causes less stream bank erosion and sediment loads. The last week of July there was no samples taken in the Campbell creek area due to no flow. We are still about a month behind on receiving lab reports. It will be interesting to see how or if things changed with the storm event that happened towards the end of the month that brought 0.87 inches of rain (July 24-26).

**Lakes** – the interns are on their 6<sup>th</sup> round of sampling. There were reports around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July of Blue-Green Algae blooms on the north shore of Detroit and Little Floyd near the public access. But with some cooler weather it seems to have dispersed.

#### Weather

##### July 2023 Temperatures

July was cooler, Detroit Lakes reported four days in the 90s °F and 1 night when temperatures were above 70°F. There were only 6 days that were above the historical average, and 5 of them occurred on the 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>.

Hottest Day - 98°F – July 26<sup>th</sup>

Monthly average temperature 70°F

Daily average High for Detroit lakes is 82°F.

Daily average low temperatures are 57°F.

### 2023 July Temperature - Detroit Lakes, MN (Daily Average)

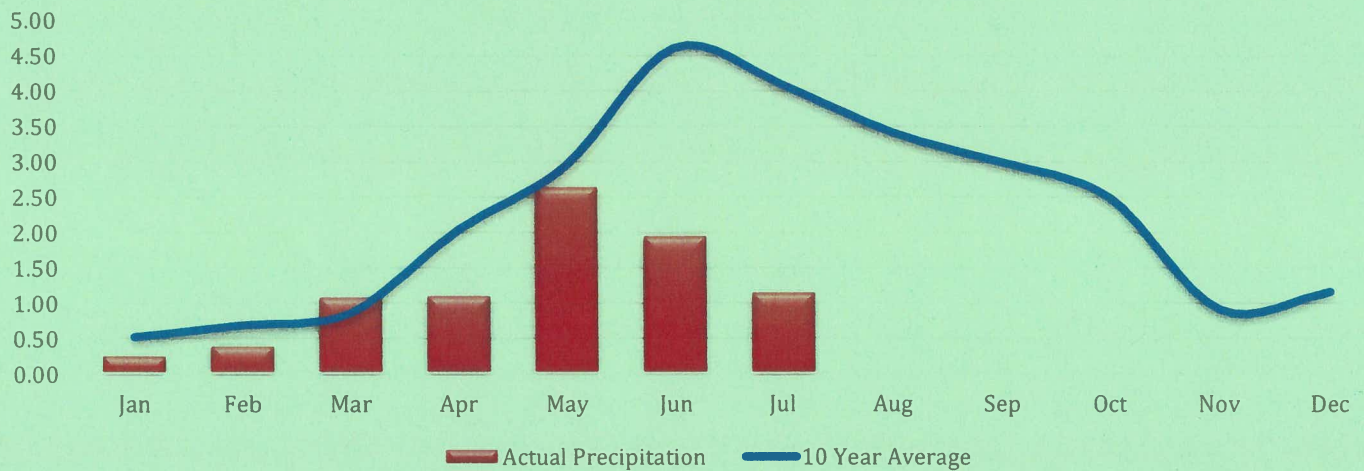




# DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

## AUGUST 9, 2023

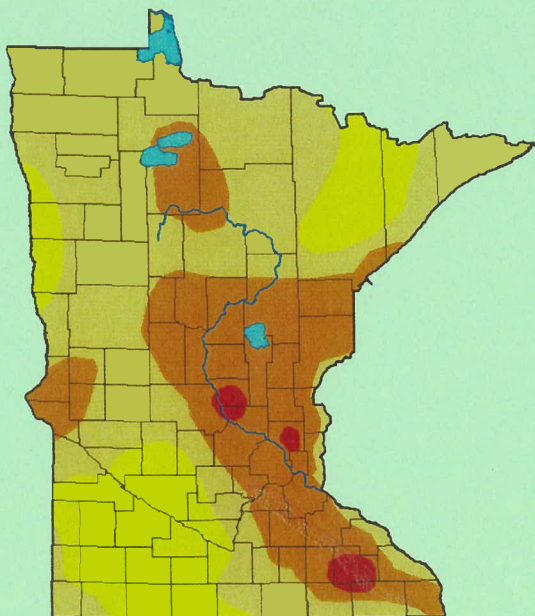
### 2023 Rainfall - Detroit Lakes, MN



#### July 2023 Rainfall

Climatologically, June is generally the 2<sup>nd</sup> wettest month of the year for most of Minnesota, yet we only received 1.14 (0.84 inches of that occurred on July 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>) inches of rain which is a huge difference from the 10 Year Average of 4.08 inches of rain. That's almost a 3 inch difference (2.94 inches). Becker county drought conditions went from abnormally dry to Moderate drought conditions. Lakes around the Detroit Lakes area are experiencing very low water levels.

### U.S. Drought Monitor Minnesota



**July 25, 2023**

(Released Thursday, Jul. 27, 2023)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	80.32	29.66	1.49	0.00
Last Week 07-18-2023	0.00	100.00	70.19	18.23	1.49	0.00
3 Months Ago 04-25-2023	59.70	40.30	1.60	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	29.19	70.81	44.90	15.91	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	45.67	54.33	22.48	4.37	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 07-26-2022	69.97	30.03	6.97	1.46	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>

#### Author

Brian Fuchs  
National Drought Mitigation Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



# RULES OF ENFORCEMENT

## August 2023

### Permits Issued

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address/Area</u>	<u>Approved Project</u>
23-50	Anderson, Jan	13294 Fairhaven Lane	SIZ: Install riprap, install fill around trees with Geotech fabric and Front with riprap. Move fire pit outside of Shore Impact Zone.
23-51	Otto, Roger & Kim	21749 Floyd Lake Dr.	SIZ: remove landscape rock and firepit, fill and re-slope and plant Grass or shrubs. Plant shrubs and plants along shoreline on both Parcels. Planting of 3 native species trees in shore impact zone.
23-52	Krueger, Michael	667 Lake Forest Circle	Residential SW Management: Addition of 385 SF patio and 125 SF sidewalk. Will construct two rain gardens to mitigate a total of 130 SF of stormwater.
23-53	Oihus, Connor & Lark	834 Shorewood Dr.	Tree removal: remove dying/hazardous tree, will replace 1:1 with native species 1.5" - 2" caliper trunk in SIZ. Plant Gro-low Sumac behind existing riprap on north side of dock.
23-54	Mauch, Tom & Yvonne	1718 East Shore Dr.	SIZ: Install a 50'x10'x6" perched sand blanket and native shrubs/plantings behind perched sand blanket.
23-55	Reading, Raymond	25213 Town & Country Est Rd	SIZ: Retaining wall, swale, berm, and raingarden
23-56	Askew, Jeffrey	25183 Englewood Dr.	SIZ: Installation of riprap and replenishment of perched sand blanket.
23-57	NMG LLC	24724 Cty Rd. 6	Commercial SW Management: > 1 acre impervious surface coverage.

### Permit Applications Pending

**Brian & Sandy Korbel**— 944 South Shore Dr. Replace existing garage. Per L Remmen, the City has approved. **8/9/23:** PRWD has not received application. Owner stated he may hold off until fall 2023.

**Restemayer, Doug & Constance**—997 & 1001 Lakewood Dr. Shoreline restoration and removal of trees.

### Violation \*\*\*\*\*

**SS Oehlke, Tim & Angela**, 1836 East Shore Drive, trees removed in SIZ without a permit. **8/9/2023**—Kemper and City Staff viewed perc test on site. The site will be visited again in the next couple of weeks to verify that all permit conditions have been met and if so, the Letter of Credit for \$10,000 will be released.

**Corey Maple**, 12010 County Rd 17. 8/12/22: Majority of work completed. **8/9/2023**— Site scheduled to be reviewed week of 8/7/23. Majority of work is complete.

**Marty Solmon**, 12044 Cty Rd. 17: Work done in the SIZ without a permit. Permit 21-12 for riprap and grading has expired. A boulder wall was constructed on the shoreline. A Stop Work Order was issued on 6/29/23. **8/9/23:** Staff is following up with MN DNR for update on remediation plan.

**Goetz, Jordan & Marianna**, 1422 East Shore Dr., Vegetation clearing in SIZ without a permit. A restoration plan and letter of credit due by 8/18/23.

**Hausmann, Jeffrey & Diane**, 1670 East Shore Dr. Work in SIZ without a permit including extensive vegetation clearing and excessive riprap. A restoration plan and letter of credit are due by 8/16/23.

**Deadshot Condo Association**. Removed trees in SIZ w/o a permit. Restoration plan to be submitted by 8/12/23.



# RULES OF ENFORCEMENT

## August 2023

### Permit Applications Expected

**Gehrig Properties/Southwood Shore Estates**— New development off of South Shore Dr. The City of Detroit Lakes did approve R-2 zoning for residential development and the Developer will begin with 7 lots. **8/9/23:** The City bid the infrastructure, however all were rejected because they were too high. Due to the late summer timing, they don't anticipate going out for more bids until next year. To date, the developer has not sold any of the lots.

**City of Detroit Lakes-MN Flyers**— Met with architect and MN Flyers staff to discuss building addition and parking lot improvements. Nothing further to report at this time.

**Zion Lutheran Church**— The District has been contacted that a new church will be constructed.

### District Comments to Becker County Board of Adjustments— Comments for August 10, 2023

No comment made.

### District Comments to City of Detroit Lakes Planning & Zoning— Comments for August 8, 2023

No comment made.