

**Minutes of the Cedar River Watershed District
1408 21st Ave NW, Austin, MN 55912
Wednesday, January 15, 2025
Meeting held at the Austin office**

Managers Present: Mike Jones Steve Kraushaar
Mike Merten Kevin Kiser
Jason Weis Sue Olson

Manager via Zoom: Jim Gebhardt (non-voting)

Others Present: Cody Fox, Administrator
Jeanne Crump, Mower SWCD
Dave Livingston, Dodge SWCD

Administrator, Fox, called the board meeting to order.

Organization of Board Officers

Fox opened the floor for nomination of officers.

Jones nominated Olson for Chairman. Kraushaar made a motion that nominations cease and to elect Olson for Chairman. Jones seconded the nomination.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Merten nominated Weis for Vice Chairman. Kiser made a motion that nominations cease and to elect Weis for Vice Chairman. Merten seconded the nomination.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Jones nominated Kiser for Secretary. Kraushaar made a motion that nominations cease and to elect Kiser for Secretary. Jones seconded the nomination.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Kraushaar nominated Jones as Treasurer. Weis made a motion that nominations cease and to elect Jones for Treasurer. Kraushaar seconded the nomination.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

2025 Office Holders are:

Sue Olson, Chairman
Jason Weis, Vice Chairman
Kevin Kiser, Secretary
Mike Jones, Treasurer

Agenda

Weis made a motion to approve the January agenda. Merten seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Public Input

No public input.

Secretary's Report

The minutes were presented to the board from the December 18, 2024, board meeting. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes. Kraushaar seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Treasurer's Report

The payables report was reviewed with the board. Kiser made a motion to approve the payables for January. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Action Items

Set Location & Time of CRWD 2023 Meetings

The board held discussion on the location and time for the 2025 Monthly Board Meetings. Weis made a motion to keep the time of the meetings at 6:00pm and the location for meetings at the Mower SWCD office. Kiser seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Designate Bank

Kiser made a motion to keep US Bank as the District Bank of depository for checking and the current, 1st State Bank MN in LeRoy for Savings. Jones seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Legal Paper

Kraushaar made a motion to keep the district's legal paper with the Austin Daily Herald. Weis seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Dobbins Phase III Initiation

Fox informed the board of the Dobbins Phase III project. The board held discussion. They were concerned about the rising cost of engineering fees. Jones made a motion to initiate Project #29-25 Dobbins Creek Phase III Habitat Restoration, to authorize District Staff to secure the proper agreements with the landowner, along with project development with consultants and permitting authorities, to develop a suitable implementation plan and also, to authorize District staff to conduct work as needed to present this project to the Board for review and public hearing as required by law. Weis seconded the motion.

Crump led a roll call of votes.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Administrator Signoff Authority

Kraushaar made a motion to assign the CRWD Administrator as the authorized signatory for the watershed district. Merten seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Jones, Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Partners Reports

Dodge SWCD, Dave Livingston

No Report

BWSR, Dave Copeland

Not in attendance. Fox explained that BWSR has rearranged Board Conservationist work areas and Copeland will no longer have Mower County in his area. Ann Gunness will be his replacement.

Discussion and Updates**Joint SWCD/CRWD Meeting**

The joint meeting is scheduled for February 19th starting at 4:30 with the SWCD meeting. Supper will be at 5:30. The board discussed a possible lack of quorum for the CRWD meeting that night, so the business meeting was rescheduled for Wednesday, February 12th at 6:00.

MPCA Climate Resiliency Project Funding

Fox talked about additional funding for the MPCA Climate Resiliency project.

Manager's Reports**Chairman Report**

Nothing new.

Merten made a motion to adjourn the board meeting. Kiser seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Kraushaar, Merten, Kiser, Olson, Weis

Opposed: None

Next meeting will be Wednesday, February 21, 2024.

Submitted by,

Kevin Kiser, Secretary, jkc