# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT Thursday, October 12, 2023

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#### 1. Call to Order

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President Schmaltz called the October 12, 2023, regular board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the CLFLWD office at 44 Lake Street South, Forest Lake, MN and via online video conference.

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#### **Managers Present:**

12 Steve Schmaltz, President

13 Christopher Loth, Vice President (virtual attendance)

Dave Bakke, Secretary (virtual attendance)

Jackie Anderson, Treasurer (virtual attendance)

Douglas Toavs, Assistant Treasurer (virtual attendance)

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#### Staff Present:

19 Mike Kinney, Administrator

20 Blayne Eineichner, Project Coordinator

Emily Heinz, Planning Coordinator

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#### Others Present:

Cecilio Olivier, Emmons & Olivier Resources

Greg Graske, Emmons & Olivier Resources

Anne Wilkinson, Emmons & Olivier Resources

Kyle Crawford, Emmons & Olivier Resources

Chuck Holtman, Smith Partners

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### 2. Setting of Meeting Agenda

Agenda items 3a EOR Staff Introduction and 4c Credit Card Policy were added to the agenda.

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Manager Toavs moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Manager Anderson. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	Χ			
Christopher Loth	Χ			
Doug Toavs	Χ			
Jackie Anderson	Х			

Stephen Schmaltz	X		

3. New Business

#### a) EOR Staff Introduction

Cecilio Oliver introduced the new Emmons & Olivier Resources (EOR) staff member, Dr. Anne Wilkinson. Dr. Wilkinson introduced herself to the Board. She is a limnologist and water quality scientist. She received her PhD from the University of Minnesota as a researcher at the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory. She has expertise in watershed modeling, subwatershed assessments, diagnostic and feasibility studies, aquatic invasive species management, grant preparation, and lake eutrophication/algae management. Dr. Wilkinson noted she specializes in algae identification. Managers welcomed her aboard.

#### 4. Old Business

#### a) Moody Lake Capstone Project Contract Award

 Kyle Crawford presented the recommended contract award. He explained that the low bidder out of seven bidders is Dimke Excavating. The project includes three components: Moody Lake Round Barn Soil Excavation, Park Improvements (raingardens, path stabilization), and South Moody Wetland Excavation.

President Schmaltz moved to adopt resolution 23-10-01, awarding the contract, consisting of the base bid and three add alternates, to Dimke Excavating in the amount of \$167,843.10. Seconded by Manager Bakke.

Manager Anderson noted that the low bid is significantly lower than the engineer's estimate and the grant budget. She recommended increasing the administrator's authority to approve change orders that increase the contract amount. She proposed item c under Therefore Be It Resolved read as follows: "The District administrator is authorized, in his discretion and on advice of counsel and the Board President, to sign task orders increasing the contract price to an aggregate amount equal to the portion of the grant allocated to the construction contract."

The motion was amended accordingly by unanimous consent.

Manager Toavs suggested planting more shoreline buffer vegetation. Mr. Crawford explained that the District has been coordinating closely with Chisago Lake Township on this project, as the Township is the landowner. He indicated that the Township hasn't been interested in planting an extensive buffer, but staff can discuss this again with the Township. Manager Anderson recommended that staff try to utilize excess grant funds in respects that enhance the project.

 President Schmaltz noted that the District has not worked with Dimke Excavating before. Mr. Crawford explained that EOR has worked with Dimke on a few projects recently and has been satisfied with its work.

<u>Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.</u>

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	Χ			
Christopher Loth	Χ			
Doug Toavs	Χ			
Jackie Anderson	Χ			
Stephen Schmaltz	Χ			

#### b) Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Agreement

Administrator Kinney noted that the first resolution is similar to past resolutions authorizing execution of the grant agreement. He noted that the second resolution would adopt a conflict of interest policy that is a requirement of the Lessard-Sams grant.

Manager Toavs moved to adopt resolution 23-10-02, authorizing the Board President to execute the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund grant agreement. Seconded by President Schmaltz.

Mr. Kinney reported that staff will meet with the landowner again within the next few weeks to discuss the landowner's asking price for the acquisition. Manager Anderson noted that the Lessard-Sams grant is not enough to cover the entirety of the acquisition cost. She expressed concern that this project may require a larger amount of local funding from the District than most of the District's other projects. Mr. Kinney explained that he is keeping this in mind during his discussions with the landowner. Mr. Kinney noted that the purchase price decision will ultimately be up to the Board's discretion, and he will bring a recommendation forward to a future board meeting. Manager Bakke indicated that he believes this property presents an opportunity to achieve a multitude of water resource benefits, and he believes it is worth devoting the time necessary to close the deal.

President Schmaltz noted the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council's requirement that grantees cannot pay more than 110% of the appraised price of a property. Mr. Kinney explained that this requirement is intended to prevent land prices from becoming inflated and to ensure public funds are being spent wisely. Mr. Kinney noted that Washington County will not pay more than the appraised value for an acquisition or an easement.

115 <u>Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.</u>

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	Χ			
Christopher Loth	Χ			
Doug Toavs	Χ			
Jackie Anderson	Χ			
Stephen Schmaltz	Х			

Manager Anderson moved to adopt resolution 23-10-03 establishing a conflict of interest policy for the purpose of the grant agreement. Seconded by Manager Toavs.

Manager Anderson asked if the conflict of interest policy is meant to be a protection for the District. Mr. Holtman noted that the District already has a conflict of interest policy in its bylaws. This additional policy is meant to address the specific language that the State stipulates. It does not change the District's existing policy.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	Χ			
Christopher Loth	Χ			
Doug Toavs	Χ			
Jackie Anderson	Χ			
Stephen Schmaltz	Х			

#### c) Credit Card Policy

Manager Anderson requested that the first bullet under Therefore Be It Resolved in the resolution be amended to read as follows: "The District Administrator is the account administrator, and the Board Treasurer is the secondary administrator for the District's credit card account(s)."

Manager Anderson moved to adopt resolution 23-10-04 as amended. Seconded by Manager Toavs. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	Χ			
Christopher Loth	Χ			
Doug Toavs	Χ			
Jackie Anderson	Χ			
Stephen Schmaltz	Χ			

### 5. Program/Project Update

#### a) Project Update

Blayne Eineichner provided an update on the following projects:

• Forest Lake Alum Treatment: SOLitude Lake Management completed the treatment during the last week of September. The District held a demonstration day/kickoff meeting on Tuesday, September 26th. Mr. Eineichner noted that staff and EOR monitored the water and ensured pH was maintained. President Schmaltz noted that there were high winds during the week of the alum treatment, and he asked if the alum treatment effectiveness is at risk. Mr. Kinney indicated that SOLitude would have implemented the treatment within the acceptable conditions range, and the floc should have good coverage, as planned. Ms. Wilkinson noted that wind and precipitation conditions were within the acceptable range, according to the plans and specifications. Mr. Graske noted that the District will collect soil cores and perform additional testing next year in order to determine treatment effectiveness and inform required dosing for a treatment in 2025.

• WJD-6 Western Tributary Wetland Enhancement: Mr. Eineichner reported that the contract was recently awarded, an open house is scheduled for November 8<sup>th</sup>, and construction is slated for this winter.

 Moody Lake Capstone Projects: Mr. Eineichner reported that the contract was just awarded at this meeting, this project will be covered during the November 8<sup>th</sup> open house, and this project is also slated for winter construction.

• Sunrise River/Highway 61 Wetland Enhancement: Project closeout to occur shortly.

• CR50 Iron Enhanced Sand Filter: Project closeout to occur shortly.

• Little Comfort Lake Subwatershed Enhancement: The District is working with a landowner off Heath Avenue and is evaluating feasibility for a potential stormwater treatment project.

## 6. Summary and Approval of Board Direction

No board directives were recorded.

## 7. Adjourn

a) Next regular board meeting – October 26, 2023, 6:30 pm

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183	Manager Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Manager Bakke.
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185	President Schmaltz noted he will not be able to attend the next board meeting.
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187	Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:36
188	<u>p.m.</u>
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Manager	Aye	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Dave Bakke	Χ			
Christopher Loth	Χ			
Doug Toavs	Χ			
Jackie Anderson	Χ			
Stephen Schmaltz	Χ			

191 Dave Bakke, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_