

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts

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Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts

37th ANNUAL MEETING & TRADE SHOW
November 29-December 1, 2007
Arrowwood Conference Center
Alexandria, MN

Watershed District Member Material

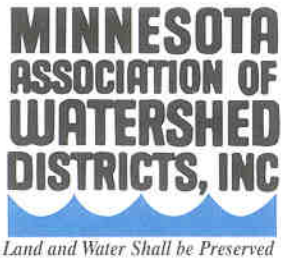
This packet of information is being sent to each watershed district office. ***Please see that appropriate copies are distributed to your managers.*** If you have any questions, please contact Ray Bohn at 651-452-8506.

This packet includes:

- * Legal notice of the Annual Meeting
- * Preliminary Meeting Agenda
- * Certificate of Membership; Voting Delegates
- * Proxy for Annual Meeting
- * Media Spokesperson Form
- * Watershed District Booth Reservation Form
- * Minutes of the 2006 Annual Meeting

Please complete all necessary forms and return them to the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, 540 Diffley Road, St. Paul, MN 55123 by November 23, 2007.

Thank you!



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Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc.

Notice of Annual Meeting of Members November 29 - December 1, 2007

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc., will be held at the Arrowwood Conference Center, Alexandria, MN, beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, November 30, 2007 for the following purposes:

1. To receive and accept the reports of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer regarding the business of the Association of the past year;
2. To receive the report of the auditor;
3. To elect three directors, one from each of three regions;
4. To consider and act upon proposed resolutions;
5. To take action upon any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

The business meeting of the Association will begin at 9:00 a. m., Friday, November 30, 2007. A preliminary agenda for the meeting is enclosed.

Only members duly designated as delegates are entitled to vote at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Tom Ebnet
Secretary

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc.

2007 Certificate of Membership & Delegate Appointment Form

_____ Watershed District hereby certifies that it is a watershed district duly established and in good standing pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103D, and that it is a regular member of the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc. for the year 2007.

_____ Watershed District hereby further certifies that the names of its two official delegates to the Association are _____ and _____, and the name of the alternate delegate is _____, all of whom are managers in good standing of the _____ Watershed District.

Dated: _____

Watershed District

by: _____

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc.

Proxy for Annual Meeting of Members

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENCE, that the undersigned delegate of the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, Inc. from the _____ Watershed District, hereby appoints _____ as the true and lawful attorney of said delegate, with full power of substitution and revocation to him for and in the name of the undersigned to vote on all issues which the undersigned would be entitled to vote if personally present at the annual meeting of the members of said corporation, called to be held November 29 - December 1, 2007, and at any adjournment or adjournments thereof, with all the powers the undersigned would possess if personally present, for the election of directors, for approval of the corporation's budget for the ensuing year, for the amendment of the by-laws of the corporation, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before said meeting.

The undersigned hereby revokes any proxy or proxies heretofore given.

Delegate

Watershed District

I hereby certify that _____ was duly designated a delegate from the _____ Watershed District for the purposes of the annual meeting to be held on November 29 - December 1, 2007, and that the person named herein as the attorney for said delegate is a member of the _____ Watershed District.

Secretary

Watershed District

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2007

**Minnesota Association of
Watershed Districts**

Public Information

To help tell our story of the importance of watershed districts, it is critical that we communicate with our local media during the 2007 Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting gives us a news opportunity to speak to the media and to our constituents about why watershed districts are important. Many people don't understand the role of watershed districts, so any time we get the chance to talk about what we do, we should take full advantage of that opportunity!

We are requesting that each watershed district assign a "media spokesperson" from their watershed who will be attending the Annual Meeting . We will work with them before and at the Annual Meeting for media opportunities in your area. Please don't forget to note your daytime phone number where you can be reached.

Please complete the following form by November 9th and return to MAWD, 540 Diffley Road, St. Paul, MN 55123, or fax to 651-686-8679, or e-mail to raybohnmg@aol.com. Call Ray Bohn at 651-452-8506 if you have any questions. Thank you!

Media Spokesperson

Watershed District _____

Media Spokesperson _____ E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone (day) _____

Cell _____ Other _____

Please list your local media outlets: _____

Preferred Radio Station: _____

Please complete and return as soon as possible to MAWD, 540 Diffley Road, St. Paul, MN 55123, Fax 651-686-8679, or e-mail to raybohnmg@aol.com

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts

Watershed District Exhibits

This year we are again asking watershed districts from around the state to present their activities in our Trade Show area. We had excellent participation from watershed districts last year and we hope to do even better this year!

Watershed districts are invited to set-up their information in booth space which will be available for a fee of \$50.00. Booths may be shared between watershed districts.

One 6' draped table, two chairs, one sign with your watershed district name, and electrical will be provided (if requested). WD's will have access to the exhibit hall to set-up on Thursday, November 29 from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m. Booths should not be removed prior to 3:30 p.m. on Friday afternoon, November 30. Tables must be cleared and exhibits removed by 5 p.m. on Friday. The loading dock is located on the west side of the building, behind the tennis court.

Watershed districts are encouraged to reserve space by completing the form below and returning to the MAWD office at 540 Diffley Road, St. Paul, MN 55123 ***no later than November 16, 2007.*** Booth space cannot be guaranteed after November 16th. For more information call Ray Bohn at 651-452-8506 or email raybohnmg@aol.com. Thank you for your participation!

MAWD Trade Show Booth Reservation Form

Please reserve a booth in the MAWD Trade Show area for our watershed district to present information on our activities.

Watershed District: _____

Contact Person: _____ E-mail _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone(day): _____ Electric-Yes ___ No ___ Phone Service (\$75) Yes _____ No _____

Please return by November 16, 2007 with \$50 payment to: MAWD, 540 Diffley Road, St. Paul, MN 55123

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts
2006 Annual Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2006

The meeting convened at 9:15 a.m. The meeting was presided over by Warren Seykora, President.

President Seykora gave the President Report. Seykora reviewed the 1st Annual Report.

Secretary Don Craigmile gave the Secretary's Report. The Minutes of the 2006 MAWD Annual Meeting and Trade Show were sent out to members prior to the meeting.

Secretary Craigmile moved to adopt the minutes. Lee Cole, Red Lake Watershed District, seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Treasurer Marvin Brunsell presented the 2006 Treasurer's Report. Manager Brunsell moved to approve the 2006 Treasurer's Report. Manager Delmar Mamer, Yellow Medicine Watershed District, seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Manager Marvin Brunsell reviewed the proposed 2007 budget. The budget will be approved at the December 2nd meeting.

Ray Bohn gave an update on the status of the termination of the South Two Rivers Watershed District. The MAWD Board continues to support the South Two Rivers Watershed District.

Manager Haake reviewed the proposed amendments to the MAWD By-laws. The By-laws will be approved at the December 2nd meeting.

Faye Sleeper from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency gave an update presentation on Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) issues.

LuAnn Tolliver, Manager, Nine-Mile Creek WD and Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) representative gave a brief update on the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) recommendations and stakeholder process. Tolliver introduced the other two BWSR representatives Manager Kay Cook, Sauk River WD, and Manager Gene Tiedemann, Red Lake WD.

The meeting was recessed until 10:30 a.m. for the resolution portion of the business meeting.

The meeting was reconvened at 10:45 am. At that time President Warren Seykora turned the podium over to the Resolution Committee to preside over the resolution portion of the business meeting. Seykora, in his capacity as Resolutions Committee Chair, introduced Resolution #1.

Resolution # 1 was presented by Roger Ellefson from the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, Compensation for past Managers Involved with Litigation. Craig Leiser asked if there was a time limitation on the resolution. Ellefson said there was no time limitation. Lee Cole from Red Lake Watershed District supports the resolution with an amendment at the end of the resolution stating “*or watershed district legal council or otherwise deem their participation in the litigation necessary*”. Lee Cole made a motion to approve the amendment, seconded by Dave Brainerd, Pelican River WD. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Manager Ellefson made a motion to approve Resolution # 1 with the amendment. Jim Skaurud, Wild Rice WD seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Chair Seykora introduced Resolution #2. Manager Jim Skaurud from the Wild Rice WD presented Resolution # 2, Permitting Rule Violation Penalties. Craig Leiser questioned the difference between “Urban and Rural Environment and Individual and Developer”. Ray Bohn mentioned that there is a standing policy that was adopted a couple years ago that Minnehaha Watershed District brought forward regarding the civil penalty authority. There was an attempt to push this type legislation through the legislature along with the Department of Natural Resources, but it was met with a lot of resistance from the House of Representatives. Ray Bohn is working with Minnehaha Creek on moving forward on a more comprehensive package as it relates to civil penalties. Joel Carlson, lobbyist for Minnehaha Creek WD also addressed the resolution. Barb Haake made a motion to add a friendly amendment to Resolution # 2 “*up to \$5000....*”. Craig Leiser seconded it. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Manager Craig Leiser from Brown’s Creek WD made a motion to approve Resolution # 2 as amended. Barb Haake, Rice Creek WD seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

President Seykora reviewed ADA Resolution # 3 on watershed termination statute changes. With an addition to the resolution termination request to add after termination request “*a replacement plan for more effective governance and implementation of needed programs and improvements*”. Cliff Aichinger and Ray Bohn addressed the amendment to the resolution. The resolution was carried over until December 2nd

Ray Bohn reviewed the Drainage Work Group recommendations. Al Keen and Doug Thomas, BWSR, have a set of preliminary recommendation for review and would like feedback before the December 11th meeting.

Chair Seykora recessed the meeting until Saturday, December 2, 2006.

Chair Seykora reconvened the business meeting at 9:50 a.m. on Saturday, December 2, 2006.

Chair Randy Kraemer gave the BWSR report. BWSR has established a HR committee to interview and replace the Executive Director position that has been held by Ron Harnack for the past 16 years. Kraemer introduced and thanked Ron Harnack for his dedicated services.

Ron Harnack complemented MAWD on another successful conference. Harnack gave an update on the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA), Stormwater issues and Drainage Laws. The Clean Water Legacy success is due to the work of the G16. Protection, preservation and partnership are the key to the future for Watershed Districts to keep their water off the impaired waters list. Harnack thanked MAWD for supporting BWSR for the last 16 years and encouraged continued support in the future. Harnack received a standing ovation.

Ray Bohn gave the Administrative Report. Bohn thanked Tom Ebnet and members of the MAWD Annual Meeting Committee and BWSR staff for their help in developing another very successful MAWD conference.

Bohn gave an update on the 2006 Legislation Session. Major legislative activities included;

- Clean Water Legacy policy & funding passed.
- Monitoring and helping craft acceptable Eminent Domain legislation.
- Formation of the Clean Water Council.
- Helping craft and pass a \$25 million flood damage reduction-funding package.
- Begin addressing the Drainage Work Group buffer issues.
- Involvement in WCA Assessments.
- Legislative breakfast activities

Other administrative issues included:

- SRWD – Summer Tour
- Clarify legal status for MAWD

Bohn thanked Peg Bohn for all her help. He couldn't have done it without her.

Craig Leiser gave the Region III Report. Region III officers are Tom Ebnet Chair, Craig Leiser – Reporter, Barb Haake, MAWD Board member. Resolution discussion focused

on the third resolution. They strongly concurred that any action should be taken on documented facts rather than politics, rumors, innuendoes, emotions or other less than factual elements. In the process of probation, a merger with an adjacent district should be one of the considered action rather than termination of the District. To also develop a short term corrective action thru MAWD to provide guidance to the District under probation. Region III unanimously supported Resolution #3.

Loren Harste gave the Region II Report. Kay Cook is also one of the MAWD Board members from Region II. They discussed the difficulty in dealing with various agencies and questioned if the region needed special training sessions held with the region to deal with these problems. Region II felt that MAWD sessions are sufficient training.

Bruce Albright gave the Region 1 Report. Robert Roach from Bois De Sioux was elected Region 1 Chair; Bruce Albright, Recording Secretary, and Roger Hanson was elected MAWD Board member to fill the unexpired term of Don Craigmile. Albright also reviewed several projects within the Region.

There was no Administrator present to give the ADA Report.

ByLaws

Barb Haake reviewed the Bylaw changes. Haake moved to include under Article 4.8, Region I, add *Middle River-Tamarac-Snake River watershed district*, Region II, add *Middle Fork Crow River* and *Shell Rock River watershed districts*, and strike *Cooks Valley*, Region III, add *Capitol Region* and *Comfort Lake Forest Lake watershed districts*. In addition, Haake further moved to amend Article 4.9 as follows: *Chapters. For educational purposes and the sharing of information and ideas any five or more watershed districts in a region may organize into a chapter of MAWD*. Craig Leiser seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Resolutions

Chair Seykora brought Resolution #3 back before the membership. Craig Leiser moved to amend Resolution # 3 as follows: “5. *Action taken during the probationary period should include the consideration of a merger and development of an BWSR and MAWD action team to assist the troubled watershed district during probation period*”. Barbara Haake seconded the amendment. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Manager Craig Leiser then made a motion to approve Resolution # 3 with the two amendments. Manager Robert Roach seconded the resolution. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Final Report on attendance was given by Ray Bohn – 500 people

- 232 registered for the conference
- 13 Guest Speakers
- 73 Spouses
- 92 Trade Show

- 35 Drainage Seminar
- 22 Managers Seminar
- 30 ADA Meeting

MAWD Board Member Loren Harste reviewed the Audit Report. Harste then made a motion to approve the audit report. Barb Haake seconded the motion. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Manager Jack Lavold, South Washington WD made a motion to approve the 2007 Budget. Dave Brainerd, Pelican River WD seconded the motion and suggested an amendment to the budget to increase the dues by 10%. Ray Bohn noted that a change in dues would require a Bylaw change and such an amendment would be out of order. After discussion the motion to adopt the budget as proposed passed on a voice vote.

Dave Brainerd, Pelican Lake WD made a motion to have the board address the need for a membership dues increase to stay within an acceptable 80% budget reserve figure for MAWD. Seconded by Dennis Kral, Pelican Lake WD and passed.

Jack Lavold made a motion to allow the MAWD Board to decide on the location for the 2007 MAWD Annual Meeting. Craig Leiser seconded it. The motion passed in a voice vote.

Introductions were given to the new and returning MAWD Board Members. Barb Haake, Region III, Roger Hanson, Region I and Kay Cook, Region II

A special thank you was given to the retiring members.

Craig Leiser made a motion to adjourn. Jack Lavold seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Craigmile
Secretary