NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Not published
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"BRRWD Managers to Attend MAWD Annual Meeting"

At their meeting held on Monday, November 12, 2018, at 7:00 PM in Barnesville, the Board of Managers, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (BRRWD), addressed several items in preparation for the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) Annual Meeting and Trade Show on November 29 through December 1, 2018, at the Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria, MN. Managers Jay Leitch, Peter Fjestad, Gerald Van Amburg, John Hanson, and Mark Anderson plan to attend. The Board appointed Managers Anderson and Hanson to be the meeting delegates and Van Amburg as the alternate. They discussed the proposed 2019 MAWD budget, MAWD Resolutions, and Bylaws Amendment. The Board also authorized staff to set up a free booth at the Trade Show but decided not to give out promotional items during the event.

Other business included:

- Reviewed the BRRWD’s monthly financial statements, including the project account balance sheet, administrative disbursements, summary of income, and the accounts receivable report. Cash on hand is $2,084,112.74. Administrative disbursements for the month are $24,728.98 and for the year total $316,395.37. Current 2018 accounts receivable are $3,518,729. Income received since the 10/9/18 meeting totaled $93,448.81, primarily from Otter Tail County ($10,672) and Wilkin County ($69,607.54) for their 2018 property/ditch systems 2nd half tax settlements, and a 2018 State Market Value Credits payment ($8,664.09). The balance of income came from Midwest Bank account interest ($2,894.19) and HEI office rental ($225). Total income this year is $2,957,753.82. The Board approved the payment of bills, totaling $499,841.90.

- Approved permits to the Wilkin County Highway Department to install a 40” dia. steel liner with grout in each of the two lines of 48” dia. sectional reinforced concrete pipe on the east side of Interstate-94 in the SE¼, Section 15, Prairie View Township, Wilkin County, on County Road No. 188, subject to plan revision if the pipe lining can’t be completed as proposed; Ron Conzemius to install 125 acres of pattern tiling in the SW¼, Section 27, Manston Township, Wilkin County, along County State Aid Highway No. 26, outletting to a natural waterway, subject to our standard tiling disclaimer and the stipulation that the natural waterway must be maintained to provide adequate upstream drainage; Luther Blilie to lower an existing 24” dia. driveway culvert along Trunk Highway No. 75 by approximately 0.52’ and to clean the ditch bottom to grade in the NW¼, Section 5, Wolverton Township, Wilkin County, subject to the receipt of a Minnesota Department of Transportation permit to work within their road right-of-way.

- Discussed a ditching complaint in Section 17, Norwegian Grove Township, Otter Tail County, where the landowners are draining water into a landlocked wetland basin. BRRWD staff will contact the landowners and the Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District regarding a potential Wetlands Conservation Act violation.

- Approved Pay Request No. 3 in the amount of $315,825.41 to Sellins Brothers, Inc. for their work on Project No. 79, Wolverton Creek Channel Restoration.

- Approved the buyout and sale of a farmstead and surrounding property in Section 10, Wolverton Township, Wilkin County, associated with the Wolverton Creek Restoration project easement acquisitions.
• Approved a $750 contribution to the International Water Institute's River Watch Forum, scheduled for February 27, 2019, at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks, ND.

• Approved repairs for Project No. 19, Becker County Ditch No. 21 in Section 3, Riceville Township, estimated to cost $10,000-$12,000. The work will include beaver dam removal and ditch cleaning.

The Board of Managers, BRRWD, will hold their next regular meeting on Monday, November 26, 2018, at 7:00 PM in the BRRWD office, located at 1303 4th AVE NE, Barnesville, MN. All meetings are open to the public. For more information about the BRRWD, please visit our website at www.brrwd.org.