

# Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District

## Meeting Minutes #649

### March 6, 2024

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was held in the Commissioners' room, Courthouse, Madison, MN with a virtual ZOOM login option. The meeting was officially called to order by Chairman Andrew Weber at 10:00 a.m. **Managers Present:** Chairman Andrew Weber, Secretary David Craigmile, Treasurer Jon Olson, and Publicity Michael Knutson. **Managers absent:** Vice-Chairman John Cornell. **Staff present:** Administrator Hastad, Park Manager Ethan Kack, Environmental/Feedlot Specialist Abby VanKempen, Ditch Specialist Cindy Brehmer, Ditch Inspector Jared Roiland, & Coordinator Eric Stall. **Staff Absent:** Environmental/HHW Specialist Jennifer Schuelke. **Others present:** Gary & Cade Robertson.

#### **Approval of the Agenda**

Chairman Weber asked for additions to the agenda. There were none. Manager David Craigmile motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Manager Jon Olson. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 4-0.

Administrator Hastad reported there was a 1W1P contract for approval. The contract is for Loran Haas in the NW1/4 Section 8, Florida Township, Yellow Medicine County for an underground outlet with cost of \$17,550.00 Discussion followed.

Manager David Craigmile motioned to approve the 1W1P contract with Loran Haas in the NW1/4 section 8, Florida Township, Yellow Medicine County for an underground outlet with cost of \$17,550.00, seconded by Jon Olson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

#### **Staff Reports:**

##### **Park Report:** Ethan Kack

- Del Clark Lake is about 90% open water since the weather has been so nice.
- Picked up the Kubota and have been using it. It is really nice.
- The on-line booking platform is working well and the non-seasonal sites are almost booked for 2024.
- Discussed putting in a food plot at the park by the trails. Will talk to Pheasants Forever.
- The T-dock (big fishing pier) at the park needs some repairs. Contacted DNR to help with fixing the dock and hoping the repairs can be made in the water. Discussed putting up buoys to slow down boats coming up to the dock.
- Still working on estimates for the generator.
- Yellow Medicine County is redoing CR #30. Ethan is going to talk to them about getting some millings for the road.
- Discussed the possibility of wind towers on the Canby Creek sites. A wind tower company is trying to get easements in the Canby/Porter area. Discussion followed. Hastad will send a copy of the contract to Attorney Kolb for review and the Board asked to have the salesman attend our April meeting.
- ITC internet will run a cable to the park house, but not to the campground. That could possibly be done next year if they do the next stage. If they ran it to the campground it would delay the project by several months as they would have to have an engineering study done.
- Looking into a face photo cutout sign for the park. Discussed putting this on steel instead of plywood to last longer.
- Manager Craigmile discussed weeds in the lake, concerned it may be worse this year due to the mild winter. Ethan will check with DNR on what can be done.

**Environmental/HHW Specialist:** Trudy Hastad for Jennifer Schuelke

- Finished the SCORE report and submitted to the State.
- Finished up the rest of the 2023 year-end reports and submitted.

**Environmental Feedlot/Planning & Zoning/SSTS Specialist:** Abby VanKempen

- Received an intermin permit for a landowner who wants to expand cattle yard, limited by his adjacent swine barn numbers.
- I will be attending the annual feedlot conference the end of March.
- Had the annual feedlot review with MPCA. We met 17/17 program requirements and got 15.5 performance credits (bonus for extra work). Last year we got 12.5 performance credits for an extra \$2,500.
- Held a conditional use hearing for a landowner requesting to restore 60 acres of farmland to a wetland to be used for wetland credits. This will go to the County Board at their March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Had just a few zoning permits this month. This is typical and should pick up this next month due to warmer weather.
- A wind energy company is looking at a project in the southwest part of LQP county. They are contacting landowners right now, no CUP application in yet.
- Planning to review wind energy setbacks and compare to other counties.
- Attended a field safety training with family services and the assessors led by Eric from the Sheriff's dept.
- We had 11 new passports last month and assisted with several renewals.

**Eric Stahl: Coordinator**

- We are waiting for the MS4front program. Houston Engineering is inputting the data from our 1W1P and am anxious to start working in this program.
- Went on a site visit with Quintin Peterson with SWCD and Chris Domeier, DNR to the Florida Creek proposed restoration site. We walked the majority of the historic river bed, learned of the culvert replacements, and reason behind the project is for fish habitat and fish species rejuvenation. Chris was very confident with the project and the outlook. He believes project will flow very quickly when it gets the go ahead.

**WCA: Eric Stahl**

- Signed up for another 2-day virtual training with BWSR; planning for environmental review in stream and habitat restoration projects, along with brome conversion and long-term grassland management.
- Reviewed permits for WCA. Beginning of the month was slow for permits but picked up significantly the end of the month.

**Drainage Inspector Report:** Jared Roiland

- Trudy, Cindy, & I attended the AMC drainage conference held in Alexandria, MN. Commissioner Patzer, Trudy, & myself sat on a panel to discuss redetermination of benefits.
- Trudy & I attended the LQP County GIS committee meeting to discuss applying for a section corner survey grant that would help us locate and GPS the section corners for the County.
- Listened in on a couple of House files that were presented dealing with tiling.
- Held landowner meetings yesterday for the group 4 redetermination of benefits. There are 27 ditches in this group. We had approximately 53 people present.
- FEMA approved costs related to the repair projects that have been approved up to this point
- I worked with SWCD to locate 6 parcels that had non-compliant buffers listed on the state mapping site that had adequate buffers in place.

- Took the truck to Lee's in Dawson to install a replacement part on the wiper arm recall. They also installed the A/C hose that they had received, but are still waiting on A/C compressor that is on backorder.
- Submitted an application to the DNR to cleanout the outlet of CD #97 in Arena, 6. We will be meeting with the DNR hydrologist to discuss the proposed project.

**Ditch Specialist:** Cindy Brehmer

- Finished up the year-end balancing for the ditch assessments.
- Double checked tax statements to reflect the correct assessments.
- Attended the ditch committee meeting Feb 28<sup>th</sup> in the morning. In the afternoon I attended a meeting with MCIS on the ditch system rewrite. They are purchasing a new computer program which will be great and simplify how we use this system. I will be testing the new ditch system to insure that it is easy to use and makes sense for what we use it for before they role it out to the other counties.
- I prepared and filed the CD liens with the Land Records office for all the ditches with multi-year assessments.
- Balanced the February bank statements and did the second February payroll.
- Starting to help the County and Watershed with audit prep.
- Attended the landowner meeting for the group 4 redetermination of benefits.

**OTHERS:**

Gary & Cade Robertson met with the Board to discuss a proposed tiling project in Section 34, Maxwell township. Discussion followed.

Manager Jon Olson motioned to conduct a site visit and if the project seems reasonable, sign/approve the permit, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Manager Craigmile abstained from voting due to conflict of interest with downstream landowner. Upon vote, motion passed 3-0.

Manager Knutson & Weber will visit the site later in the week.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Manager Jon Olson read the Treasurer's report.

Manager David Craigmile motioned to accept the Treasurers' report as read, seconded by Manager Michael Knutson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

- The following warrants were presented for approval:

		<u>Number</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Details 02/13/2024 to 03/6/2024</u>	
<b><u>General Klein Account:</u></b>					
Debit	Deluxe for Business		500 checks & envelopes		<u>\$666.12</u>
			<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$666.12</b>
<b><u>Park Expense Account:</u></b>					
TRANSFER	to UPB General acct		March 5 park payroll		\$896.05
1767	Lac qui Parle Environmental Office		park cell phone		\$41.24
1768	Ag Plus Cooperative		unleaded, wintermaster,roadmaster		\$103.03
1769	Running's Supply, Inc.		lubricator diesel treat		\$20.98
1770	Midcontinent Communications		park internet		\$70.00
1771	Canby Builders Supply		stain & lumber		\$85.29
1772	Canby True Value		taping knife, frog tape,brush		\$38.11
1773	Olson Sanitation Inc		February park trash		\$90.51
1774	Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water		park water		\$51.89
1775	EMK Properties		February snow removal		\$125.00

1776	Canby Print Shop	500 #10 envelopes	\$155.30
1777	US Postal Service	yearly PO Box 2 rent	<u>\$84.00</u>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,761.40</b>
<b><u>UPB GENERAL ACCT:</u></b>			
4718	LQP-YB Liability Acct		\$2,903.60
4719	LQP-YB Liability Acct		\$2,023.61
24026-24031	semi-monthly payroll	February 1-15 payroll	\$9,833.28
24032	David Craigmile	per diem, mileage	\$167.40
24033	John Cornell	per diem, mileage	\$161.67
24034	Andrew Weber	per diem, mileage	\$130.18
24035	Michael Knutson	per diem, mileage	\$151.62
24036	Jon Olson	per diem, mileage	\$124.81
4712	LQP County Auditor/Treasurer	2025 tabs for '21 Ford pickup	\$440.25
4713	LQP-YB Liability Acct	PERA	\$2,490.28
4714	LQP-YB Liability Acct	Federal withholding	\$3,379.84
4715	LQP-YB Liability Acct	State withholding	\$958.00
4716	LQP-YB Liability Acct	February sales & use tax	\$2,438.00
24037-24042	semi-monthly payroll	Feb 16-29, 2024	\$9,833.26
24043	park payroll	February park payroll	\$896.05
4717	Association of MN Counties	Roiland, Brehmer, Hastad registration	\$780.00
4720	ESRI	Arc GIS license	\$5,455.00
4721	Rinke Noonan Attorneys @ Law	monthly retainer, CD #42 legal	\$739.50
4722	Valley Office Products, Inc	labels	\$16.28
4723	Rodney Hansen	12 nuisance beaver	\$300.00
4724	Richard Mortenson	22 nuisance beaver	\$550.00
4725	Patrick A Johnson	9 nuisance beaver	\$225.00
4726	Brent Mortenson	80 nuisance beaver	\$2,000.00
4727	MCIT	Kubota insurance	\$192.00
4728	MADI	2024 dues & registration fee for Roiland	\$100.00
4729	Eric Stahl	mileage reimbursement	\$23.51
4730	LQP County Auditor/Treasurer	February postage	\$98.83
4731	City of Madison	shop utilities	\$127.95
4732	LQP County Auditor/Treasurer	health insurance	\$12,510.67
4733	LQP County Auditor/Treasurer	eyemed,dental,life,LTD insurance	\$2,494.99
4734	Quill	labels	<u>\$60.98</u>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$61,606.56</b>
<b>Debit Card</b>			
	Insta Ink		<u>\$12.81</u>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12.81</b>
<b><u>DITCH ACCT</u></b>			
	None		<u>\$0.00</u>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

Manager Jon Olson motioned to approve the warrants as presented, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 4-0.

**SECRETARY REPORT:** Secretary minutes #648 as mailed.

Manager David Craigmile motioned to approve minutes #648 as mailed, seconded by Manager John Mike Knutson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

**Administrator Report/Old & New Business: Trudy Hastad**

- The final hearing for the CD #42 improvement project is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2024 in the Commissioners Room.
- Discussed rules update and hiring Rinke-Noonan Law firm to help with rule revisions.
- Pasture rent is due and two of the landowners have paid. Reminder notices will be sent to the others.
- The coordinator 6 month review will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024. Chairman Andrew Weber will also be present.
- MCIT will be out on April 4, 2024 for building assessments for the Watershed District.

- Invenery recently acquired the Bitter Root Wind AKA Avingrid and hosting a landowner dinner on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Marshall Golf Course. Mike Knutson will attend on behalf of the Watershed District.
- Discussed leaving the Watershed Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month but decided to change the start time to 9:00 a.m. Everyone was in agreement.
- Spoke at the AMC drainage conference about LQP Counties Redetermination of Benefits. It went well and different Counties have reached out since to ask questions on how we do things in LQP.

**PERMITS:**

14043	Cori Bothun	Riverside, 29	seepage, new intakes	03/06/24 DC
14044	Cori Bothun	Providence, 28	seepage lines	03/06/24 DC
14045	Greg Brown	Baxter, 33	seepage lines, intakes	03/06/24 DC
14046	Cori Bothun	Providence, 33	seepage lines, intakes	03/06/24 DC
14047	Brian Fernholz	Madison, 14	seepage lines	03/06/24 DC
14048	Aaron Enevoldsen	Camp Release, 27	seepage lines	03/06/24 DC
14049	Aaron Enevoldsen	Camp Release, 26	seepage lines	03/06/24 DC
14050	Gary Bauler	Hamlin 17/8	seepage, main tile, intake	03/06/24 JO
14051	Steve Kemen	Hamlin, 16	seepage lines, intake	03/06/24 JO
14052	Ben Schmidt	Freeland, 8	seepage lines	03/06/24 MK
14053	Jacob Dove	Cerro Gordo, 10	seepage, main, intakes	03/06/24 JO
14054	Jacob Dove	Cerro Gordo, 10	seepage, main, intakes	03/06/24 JO
14055	Roy Tonn	Lake Shore, 17	road ditch cleaning	03/06/24 JO
14056 Renew	Ryan Smith	Perry, 35	seepage, main, intakes	03/06/24 AW
14057	Warren Trygestad	Perry, 24	ditching reshape	03/06/24 AW
14058	Donn Larson	Arena, 16	seepage, main, pump	03/06/24 AW
14059 Renew	Tom Nelson	Agassiz, 20	seepage, main tile	03/06/24 AW
14060	Richard Maatz	Walter, 22	main tile, pump	03/06/24 AW
14061	Aaron Olson	Arena, 34	seepage, main, pump	03/06/24 AW
14062	Gary Robertson	Maxwell, 34	seepage lines	03/06/24 AW
14063	Donn Streich	Mehurin, 3	seepage, main, pump	03/06/24 AW
14064	BNSF Railroad	Riverside, 22	bridge replacement	03/06/24 DC


Permits Denied: Tony Ludvigson, Gary Peterson, Brian Lee, Donn Streich, Gary Robertson pending field reviews.

Manager David Craigmile motioned to approve the permits, seconded by Manager Jon Olson. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

  
 Andrew Weber, Chairman

Attest:

  
 David Craigmile, Secretary

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District is Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in the LQP County Commissioner Room, Courthouse, Madison, MN.

