

Unapproved  
Morton County Water Resource District  
November 29, 2023

1. The Morton County Water Resource District met in regular session at 10am on Wednesday, November 29, 2023, at the Missouri West Water offices at 286 37t St. NW, Mandan, ND

2. The following persons were present: Chairman Wade Bachmeier, Managers: Jamie Wetsch, Bruce Engelhardt, James Schmidt, Brenda Winckler, Sec-Treas., Karin Garvie, MWWS, Bryan Ziegler, Bartlett & West, Jesse Kist, MC P&Z, Joel Rostenberg and Patrick Martin, MCEAP, Tom Bair, Tim Nilsen, MC Parks, Andy Zachmeier, MC Commissioner, and Mike Gunsch, Houston Engineering,

3. Chairman Bachmeier called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes: Mgr. Engelhardt moved to approve the October 25, 2023 minutes and the minutes from the November 9, 2023 special meeting. Mgr Wetsch seconded the motion. MCU. Discussion was held concerning the loss of our Board Member Michael Kemnitz. Position for new member will be posted at a later date.

4. MWWS: A moment of silence was held in respect to the loss of our Manager Kemnitz. Mgr. Garvie reported on the following items: Monthly reports were reviewed. The Board reviewed the income, totaling \$244,862 and expenditures, totaling \$184,711, of the MWWS for the month of October 2023. Manager Schmidt made a motion to accept and place these reports in file. Seconded by Mgr. Engelhardt. MCU. Discussion was held on employee compensation for 2024. Mgr. Garvie suggested a COLA increase of 5% which would equal an additional \$25,000 expense for the year. Mgr. Schmidt moved to approve the COLA increase of 5% for 2024. Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. MCU. Mgr. Garvie is asking for a one time \$25,000 performance bonus to be prorated per years of experience in appreciation of their work. Mgr. Wetsch moved to approve the one time performance bonus of \$25,000 split between the MWWS employees based on years of service, responsibility, and accomplishments with the system. Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. Discussion was held. MCU. As an added benefit to payroll, Mgr. Garvie found a plan to cover dental for the employees of the MWWS at an additional \$5,250 yearly expense. Mgr. Schmidt moved to provide the Solutions 2000 dental plan at 20% employee paid and 80% paid by MWWS. Mgr. Wetsch seconded the motion. MCU. Mgr. Garvie is looking for approval for 2<sup>nd</sup> payment of \$409,912 to Karstenson Construction for the 2.4 miles installed on the Lyons Road Project. Mgr. Schmidt moved to approve payment of the bill. Mgr. Wetsch seconded the motion. MCU. Pasture taps, 204, have been switched over to auto reading. 1,380,475 gallons were used totaling \$123,559.79. SWC granted funds for the \$267,761.64 eligible for cost share. \$195,571.23 has been received from SWC so far. Lead service line survey from DEQ, Bartlett & West will be able to service MWWS for gathering information. Natalie Pearce requested a memorandum requirement in order to have rural water. A form must be filled out but this issue has been resolved.

5. MC Emergency action: Joel Rostenberg introduced the new Emergency Manager, Patrick Martin. Joel also presented a proposal for the qualifications for the Emergency Management Performance Grant Equity Project. If the Board thinks it's feasible, they would like to add a card in the water bill requesting enrollment in Code Red. Consensus of the Board is to assist with this. Joel will work with Karin on this.

6. Morton County Parks: Tim Nilsen reported: Winter mode at the Parks. Shelter is not complete. Tim is waiting for the welding to be completed by MC Highway. Flag pole guy, estimate at \$800 per pole, with light and flag. Consensus is to proceed. Mgr. Kemnitz had requested a list of fish stocked in HL so

Tim presented the stocking report. \$ 33,969 income at HL. Tim will start advertising for Campground Host in January. Low water draw down is closed. 1 toe drain is under about 1 foot of water. May need to do a clean out downstream or channel including beaver dams and cattails. Mgr. Schmidt moved to appoint Mgr. Wetsch to coordinate an engineering company to determine channel clean out cost from the dam to the railroad crossing to include original elevations and current elevations to be used to determine amount and length of cleanup and report back to the Board. Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. MCU. Mgr. Engelhardt called Frontier Precision for an estimate for a gate gauge, estimate \$2250.

7. Meeting with Dept. Of Public Instruction: Mgr. Schmidt attended meeting to find out what water and science topics can be taught to our kids. They were very interested in advancing Missouri River information in K thru 12. Parks and Rec has a class on parks and camping. Jim will make presentation on water topics on updates.

8. O&M payment: Discussion on moving funds from the O&M Savings account and make a CD at 6 months @ 5.06% interest. Mgr. Schmidt moved to move \$200,000 from the HL O&M Savings account to a 6 month CD at Dakota Community Bank at the current interest rate. Wetsch seconded. MCU.

9. Mgr Schmidt moved to approve and pay the following bills. Mgr. Engelhardt seconded the motion. MCU.

<b>CK#</b>	<b>NAME:</b>	<b>AMOUNT:</b>	<b>MEMO:</b>
1500	HUB International Ins	\$41.00	Insurance shop/shelter
1501	Morton County Parks	\$8570.76	Reimbursed for shelter expense
1502	Bruce Engelhardt	\$299.16	Meetings, mileage
1503	Michael Kemnitz	\$299.09	Meetings, mileage
1504	James Schmidt	\$561.07	Meetings, mileage
1505	James Wetsch	\$424.24	Meetings, mileage
1506	Brenda Winckler	\$1316.53	Salary, equipment rent
Eft	IRS	\$622.16	Payroll taxes
1507	Dakota Community Bank	\$23,800.00	Annual O&M pmt
1508	ND Water Res Dist	\$675.00	2024 Dues
1509	ND Water Users	\$300.00	2024 Dues
1510	Bair Law Firm	\$675.00	Legal Fees
1511	Ronald Sando	\$467.50	Consultant Fees
1512	Starion Financial	\$12,860.13	SBC Dredging Pmt

There being no further business, motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

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Wade M. Bachmeier, Chairman

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Brenda Winckler, Sec-Treas.