MAWD Board Meeting
June 22, 2016 - Winona, MN

Board members present: Jerome Deal, Darrell Ellefson, Ruth Schaefer, Craig Leiser, Lee Coe, Perry Forster, Barbara Haake, Larry Kuseske
Others: Cliff Aichinger, Daniel Wilkens, Kevin Bigalke, Gene Tiedemann, Emily Javens, Ray Bohn, Peg Bohn

The meeting of the MAWD Board of Directors was called to order by President Lee Coe at the Winona Plaza Hotel in Winona, MN.

The meeting agenda was amended to include a presentation by Cliff Aichinger regarding the education consultation survey he conducted. Motion to amend by Ruth Schaefer. Second by Barbara Haake. Approved.

The secretary’s report of the March 30, 2016 meeting were approved as submitted. Motion by Ruth Schaefer. Second by Jerome Deal. Approved.

The treasurer’s report was presented by Craig Leiser. He explained the $8,000 in other income and reviewed the balances of the checking, savings, and CD accounts. Motion to accept the treasurer’s report by Perry Forster. Second by Barbara Haake. Approved.

President’s Report – Lee Coe
Coe has been hindered by knee replacement but was able to attend a Local Government Round Table and a Buffers workshop.

Coordinator’s Report – Ray Bohn
- Bohn reported on the Legislative Breakfast and Day at the Capitol and the necessary lobbying report required by legislative mandate.
- Legislative Update:
- The revisions made to the buffer law made the legislation workable and included dollars to watersheds districts and counties.
- Bohn views the special session as unlikely.
- Local Government Roundtable – there will be joint regional meetings around the state in the months of July and August concerning the buffer bill and how it affects watershed districts, counties and cities, and soil and water conservation districts.
- $11.5M was earmarked for flood hazard mitigation
- RIM/CREP were designated $10M

ADA Report – Kevin Bigalke
Administrators had a good meeting in conjunction with the Summer Tour. Bigalke announced he is leaving Nine Mile Creek to join the BWSR staff. Matt Moore will take his place as president of ADA. Scott Henderson and Tera Guetter assumed leadership positions and Dianne Lynch was assigned to the Strategic Planning Committee.
BWSR Report – Gene Tiedemann
A bank stabilization form draft was reviewed.

Committee Reports:
Legislative Breakfast Committee Review – the reception room was much too warm and logistically having free drinks and treats in the lobby area discouraged watershed guests from using the cash bar and attending the watershed reception.

The Transition Committee will wait for the Strategic Planning Committee to convene again.

Strategic Planning Committee – the committee has met two times in person and has version eight of the draft prepared. The survey responses number 115, two-thirds being from managers and one-third administrators.
Perry Forster explained charts associated with the survey. His suggested goal for MAWD would be for “MAWD to become the premier water organization on water in the state”.
The next step – according to chair Craig Leiser; will be to present revision #8. Version 9 will be ready in a few weeks. Version 9 will incorporate the survey and the reaction to it along with the approximate dollars needed to support the plans.
Matt Moore pointed out that the dollar amount estimated by ADA would be $327,000 if all districts paid and equal percentage.

Old Business:
Local Government Roundtable – Matt Moore
The group thinks too much money is going to state agencies rather than to support watershed activities.
An advisory committee has been established for OneWatershed – OnePlan. Pilot programs are presently active in North Fork Crow River, Yellow Medicine River and Middle Fork watershed districts.
A white paper explaining the use of money allocated to OneWatershed-OnePlan is available. Sixty percent of all clean water money is designated to be used by the plan with SWCD’s, cities, counties and watershed districts all working together.
Moore said predictable funding will come but it is necessary to move forward.
Craig Leiser moved to authorize watershed district representatives on the LGRT to support the working committee report. Jerome Deal seconded the motion. Approved.

Training Study - Cliff Aichinger
The purpose of the training needs committee is to determine and evaluate the existing training needs and those still needed.
New manager training rated highest.
93% of districts employ staff. Staff responded that the BWSR academy is too SWCD oriented and SWCD training takes too much time.
Some special needs for training requests included Roberts Rules of Order
Perry Forster moved to have Bohn request funding from BWSR for funding educational program.
Second by Craig Leiser. Approved.

The meeting concluded with director's reports.

Meeting adjourned.
Respectfully Submitted,

Barb Haake
Secretary