

**TRAILL COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
RECURRENT MEETING  
NOVEMBER 17, 2020 ~ HILLSBORO, ND**

The District Board convened on this date and came to order at 8:00am at the office of the Traill County Water Resource District in Hillsboro, ND. Managers present were Jason Lovas, Gary Thompson, Joel Halvorson, and Andy Neset with Jason Siegert presiding as Chairman. Also present was Chris Gross of Moore Engineering, Inc. and Attorney Sean Fredricks (virtually)

**AGENDA**

Manager Lovas moved to approve the order of the agenda as amended. Manager Thompson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**

Manager Thompson moved to approve the November 3, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Manager Lovas seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT**

It was moved by Manager Neset and seconded by Manager Lovas to approve payment of the November 4 - 17, 2020 bills and the electronic funds transfers as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Manager Lovas and seconded by Manager Thompson to approve the October 2020 checking and savings bank account statements. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Johnson informed the Board that FEMA has obligated 85% of the \$42,562.50 (\$36,178.13) costs that were submitted for disaster relief for 12 drains that were affected by spring flooding and needed emergency work performed.

**GRAND FORKS-TRAILL JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT**

(11-17-20) Chris Gross told the Board that no new purchase agreements have been signed and returned. Four remain to be received. Discussion was revisited on the Mark and Eileen Johnson property issue. Chris said that he has been working closely with Mr. Johnson on tree and other matters. Manager Lovas moved to approve Farmers National's appraisal regarding the Mark and Eileen Johnson property as just compensation, with the just compensation offer for permanent right of way easement acreage values equivalent to the 'fee simple' values identified in the appraisal. Manager Halvorson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

## **SNAGGING & CLEARING**

(11-17-20) Discussion was revisited on the snagging and clearing for both the Goose and Elm Rivers for the 2020 – 2021 season. The SWC has approved cost-share for both projects. After further discussion, the Board chose January 19, 2021 to hold public hearings for both rivers with the County Commissioners and landowners involved in the assessment district.

## **DRAIN BUSINESS**

### **Camrud Drain No. 79**

(11-17-20) Discussion was held on when construction of this drain will commence. Chris Gross told the Board that he will be preparing bid packets to be distributed to several contractors in the near future.

Two more purchase agreements for the Project were received. Manager Lovas moved to approve the purchase agreement for the Marc & Marjorie Derider and Kenneth and Mary Knutson properties. Manager Thompson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Norway Drain No. 38**

(11-17-20) The Board and contractor have decided that because of the lateness of the year, the rest of the spoil will have to wait until 2021 to be levelled.

(11-3-20) Chris Gross specified that there is approximately 1.5 miles of spoil to be spread. After this has been performed, the project can then be deemed complete.

### **Kelso Floodway**

(11-17-20) Discussion was held on culvert work that is being planned. It has been decided because of the lateness of the year, the two intercept pipes will have to wait until next year to be installed.

(10-20-20) Chris Gross told the Board that the 2-30" x 80' inlet culverts (see below) remain to be installed by Northern States Excavating.

(9-15-20) Discussion was held on placing 2 new culverts during the work that is currently underway. Manager Neset moved to install 2-30" x 80' intercept culverts in the NE corner of Section 23 of Kelso Township. Manager Halvorson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Stavanger-Belmont Drain No. 52**

(11-17-20) The Board all agreed that the Project (below) will have to wait until next spring to completed by the contractor.

(8-4-20) Discussion was revisited on a culvert in Section 8 that is leaking and has caused a hole in the road on the west side of the north culvert. On the drain tour the Board discovered that the leaks are occurring due to inadequate bands. Mr. Siegert said that he has spoken to the

contractor (JAV) who said he will dig back the dirt to get a better look at what can be done. It will most likely have to be filled in with CDF (flowable cement). The contractor was also asked to place 3 caps on culverts that are missing in the drain.

#### **Buxton Drain No. 68**

(11-17-20) Chris Gross told the Board that the contractor has completed site 4. Talk was held on the erosion that is occurring on the east end and downstream of the drop structure. This work will be completed by the contractor in 2021.

(10-20-20) Chris Gross indicated that the contractor is anticipating completion of site 4 today or tomorrow.

#### **Paulson Drain No. 7**

(11-17-20) Jason Siegert said that KRB has about ½ mile left on the lateral. Utility issues were talked about and Manager Siegert said that there are 2 drop lines in the vicinity that the utility company, CenturyLink, has abandoned. Since CenturyLink still owns the easement, the Board asked if the easement can be bought and transferred to the water board. Attorney Fredricks stated that since the land is owned by the landowner, they would also have to be involved in the transfer. This will be addressed further in the future.

(11-3-20) Jason Siegert told the Board that the contractor (KRB) will be there to finish the work this week and will be installing one 36" x 60" culvert in the SE ¼ and SW ¼ between Section 5 of Eldorado Township as well. He added that there may be another culvert installed also and asked Chris Gross to provide a recommendation for it.

#### **Hillsboro Drain No. 26**

(11-17-20) Manager Siegert said that KRB has completed the dirt work and excavation on this drain. Questions were asked about who is responsible for the costs between the WRD and the County. The WRD figures that the County owes them approximately \$80,000.00. Chris' office will be working with the Traill County Auditor's office on this matter.

#### **Blanchard-Norman Drain 23-40**

(11-17-20) This Project is anticipated to be completed this year rather than next year as first considered at the October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

(10-20-20) Chris Gross told the Board that culverts will be delivered and stored on the contractor's land until they can be installed; most likely in 2021. The contractor's agreement will be revised to change the deadline date of the completion of the project.

(9-1-20) Chris Gross presented bids from two contractors to do the work on this drain. After further discussion, Manager Lovas moved to award the contract to KRB Contracting to do the work for the amount of \$44,835.56 and to order the drop structure from TruNorth Steel in the amount of \$9,313.18. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Nelson Drain No. 28**

(11-17-20) Chris Gross told the Board that the culverts have been delivered and the contractor (Bohlman) will be commencing with the project soon.

(9-15-20) Discussion was revisited on the existing culverts in Section 25. Manager Lovas moved to award the bid to Bohlman Trenching, Inc. and choose Option No. 1 to replace the culverts between Section 25 of Hillsboro Township and Section 30 of Herberg Township with 3-71" x 47" corrugated culverts and accept the contractor cost of \$57,990.00 to do the work. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Murray Drain No. 17**

(11-17-20) This work will be performed in 2021.

(11-3-20) Discussion was held on a rusted culvert in the NE ¼ of Section 33 of Mayville Township through County Road 11. Manager Neset said that the culvert is 30" x 50' but thinks it should be longer. This will be investigated further.

**Leirness-Steenerson Drain 34-20**

(8-4-20) Jason Lovas and the Board held a discussion on a possible new lateral being built in Section 21 of Hillsboro Township under Highway 200. Mr. Lovas will obtain more information from the Department of Transportation and Ellingson Drainage.

**DRAIN SPRAYING FOR WEED CONTROL / TREE REMOVAL**

(11-17-20) The Board revisited the costs for the drains that were sprayed by hired contractor Dakota Helicopter this year. The Board and the engineer found many discrepancies again this year. The Board discussed what the fair payment for the acres that were ordered sprayed this year would be. Manager Lovas moved to approve payment to Dakota Helicopters in the amount of \$18,158.40. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**PERMITS AND COMPLAINTS**

(11-17-20) Discussion was revisited on the complaint filed on September 22, 2020 by Scott Krogstad against Jeff Eliason. Manager Thompson told the Board that Mr. Krogstad has withdrew his complaint against Eliason. The complaint is now considered null and void.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

(11-17-20) Jason Siegert presented a new rental agreement submitted by LEP Management. After further discussion, Manager Neset moved to approve the rental agreement reflecting an increase of \$100.00 per month, for 2 years, with the conditions that the furnace vents be cleaned annually and the filters replaced when needed. Manager Lovas seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

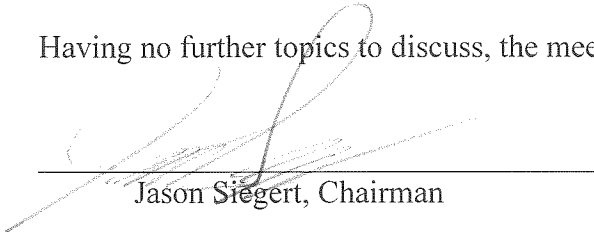
(11-17-20) Moore Engineering, Inc. and Houston Engineering, Inc. have both submitted Statement of Qualifications for the Board to review for the purpose of moving forward with the

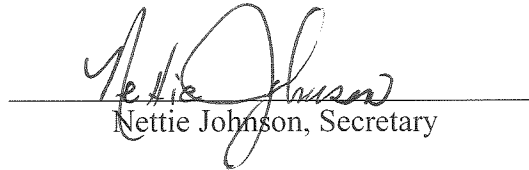
Engineering Selection Services which the State Water Commission requires be performed every three years by Water Resource Districts. After further discussion, Manager Lovas moved to approve the ESS Second Report and to set both interviews for January 19, 2021. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

(11-17-20) Discussion was revisited on the new GIS web map that Moore Engineering has created for the purpose of assisting water managers locate land parcels, etc. The Board would like to purchase an I pad for each water manager for the use of the web page. Secretary Johnson said that she will contact a Verizon representative in an effort to purchase these products.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further topics to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:45am without objection.

  
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Jason Siegert, Chairman

  
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Nettie Johnson, Secretary