

**TRAILL COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
RECURRENT MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2021 ~ 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 Gary Thompson (by phone), Joel Halvorson, Jason Lovas 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 Halvorson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Manager Halvorson moved to approve the January 5, 2021 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 Halvorson to approve payment of the January 6 - 19, 2021 bills and the electronic funds transfers as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was revisited on the costs for the spraying of our legal drains in 2020. After further discussion, Manager Thompson moved to approve a final payment to Dakota Helicopters in the amount of \$5,439.17 which would cover the cost of chemical and additional acres that were sprayed that were not on the list to do. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Roll call taken: Thompson-yea, Neset-yea, Halvorson-yea, Siegert-yea, Lovas-nay. Motion carried.

It was moved by Manager Neset and seconded by Manager Halvorson to approve the December 2020 bank statements as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Secretary-Treasurer Johnson presented the semi-annual reports for the Pledges of Assets and Journal Entries. Manager Lovas moved to approve the reports as displayed. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

GRAND FORKS-TRAILL JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

(1-19-21) The office of Ohnstad Twichell sent out invite letters on January 13th, 2021 to Carolyn Heskin, David and Amy Bohlman, and Mark and Eileen Johnson to join the Board in discussing property right of way issues, appraisals, and offers. If the TCWRD cannot come to a mutual agreement with landowners, the TCWRD will have to approach the respective County Commissions to request permission to utilize our statutory authorities to acquire the right of way necessary to accommodate the project(s). By statute, the TCWRD has to invite all landowners

who have not signed purchase agreements to a meeting with the GF-Traill JWRD. This meeting will take place on February 16th, 2021 at 8:00am either by phone or electronic means.

SNAGGING & CLEARING

(1-19-21) At 9:00am the Board met with the Traill County Commissioners and held a Public Hearing to hear comments from both the County and landowners on the 2021-2022 Snagging Goose River & Elm River & Clearing projects. Brady Woodard of Moore Engineering, Inc. presented and described the scope of work, showed the location maps of each project, and explained the requirements for special assessments for both projects as well. Chris Gross added that cost-share funding has been secured for the snagging & clearing of both rivers. The Commissioners have "tabled" the Elm & Goose River snagging & clearing project until the next meeting. They would like to research this a little more and perhaps have a tour.

DRAIN BUSINESS

Camrud Drain No. 79

(1-19-21) Chris Gross stated that the bid opening will take place on February 15th at 2:00pm. A recommendation will be brought forth to the Board on February 16th as to which contractor should be awarded the bid to commence with the construction of this drain.

Hong Drain No. 81

(1-19-21) Chris Gross informed that his office has been working on utility issues and has been communicating with the petitioners regarding these issues. He added that the design is ongoing.

Norway Drain No. 38

(12-1-20) Chris Gross told the Board that he is currently working on right of way issues.

Stavanger-Belmont Drain No. 52

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

Blanchard-Norman Drain 23-40

(1-19-21) Discussion was revisited on the possible reconstruction of this drain including costs of performing improvements from Section 10 & 11 of Blanchard Township through Section 15 of Norman Township. This will be discussed further at upcoming meetings. An informational meeting is being considered.

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 tile 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.

Miller Drain No. 29

(1-19-21) Andy Neset told the Board that Jon Bakkum has contacted him regarding installing an 18” culvert with a cap in the NW ¼ of Section 30 of Norway Township. Manager Thompson moved to approve the request of Mr. Bakkum and hire a contractor to do the work. Manager Halvorson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

PERMITS AND COMPLAINTS

OTHER BUSINESS

ENGINEERING SERVICES SELECTION INTERVIEWS

The Board conducted interviews this morning with the following engineering firms as part of the Engineering Selection Process which is required by the State Water Commission to be eligible for 35% cost-share for pre-construction engineering:

- a. Moore Engineering, Inc.
- b. Houston Engineering, Inc.

In accordance with the SWC Policy and Chapter § 54-44.7 of the North Dakota Century Code, the Committee evaluated and analyzed the firms interviewed on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Professional qualifications necessary for satisfactory performance of requested services, including past performance on behalf of water resource districts;
2. Qualifications of personnel;
3. Ability and willingness to meet time and budget requirements;
4. Recent, current, and projected workloads;
5. Related experience on similar projects; and
6. Recent and current work for water resource districts.

The District will provide written notice of its decision, including the priority order of the firms, to all firms that submitted Qualification Statements.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Manager Thompson moved to hire Attorney Sean Fredricks, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C. as the Board’s attorney for year 2021. Manager Lovas seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Reorganization of the Board: Manager Thompson moved to elect the following managers for the following positions for year 2021:

- Chairman: Jason Siegert,
- Vice-chair: Jason Lovas,
- Board Managers: Joel Halvorson, Gary Thompson, and Andy Neset.

Manager Halvorson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further topics to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:30am without objection.



Jason Siegert, Chair

Nettie Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer