

**TRAILL COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
RECURRENT MEETING  
FEBRUARY 2, 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, 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 Halvorson moved to approve the order of the agenda. Manager Thompson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**

Manager Halvorson moved to approve the January 19, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Manager Thompson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT**

It was moved by Manager Thompson and seconded by Manager Halvorson to approve payment of the January 20 – February 2, 2021 bills and the electronic funds transfers as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

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

(2-2-21) Chris Gross told the Board that his office has made several attempts to contact Carolyn Heskin and the latest call found that her phone had been disconnected. Mark Johnson indicated that he will be in touch with Chris' office today, and David Bohlman has specified that he is unwilling to sign the purchase agreement.

(1-19-21) The office of Ohnstad Twichell sent out invite letters on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 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 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 8:00am either by phone or electronic means.

**SNAGGING & CLEARING**

(2-2-21) At 8:35am Jason Siegert and Andy Neset met with the Traill County Commissioners regarding their stance and decision on financially supporting the 2021-2022 Goose River & Elm River Snagging & Clearing projects. At 9:00am they returned and reported that the County Commission approved the request to cost-share the Goose River Snagging & Clearing project but denied cost-sharing the Elm River Snagging & Clearing project. After further discussion, Manager Thompson moved to approve the TCWRD *Resolution Declaring the Necessity to*

*Create the Goose River Snagging & Clearing District No. 2021-01.* Manager Lovas seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The Board agreed that they should continue to speak to landowners to gain support for the snagging & clearing of the Elm River and then reapproach the County Commission on cost-sharing the Project.

### **DRAIN BUSINESS**

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

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

#### **Hong Drain No. 81**

(2-2-21) 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 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**

(2-2-21) Chris Gross provided the Board with drain information on the grade, bottom width, and side slopes, along with a summary of estimated costs and estimated assessments. The Board asked Andy Neset to reach out to landowners to gage interest in going forward with this project. An informational meeting will be considered closer to spring.

#### **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.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Engineering Selection Process**

Interviews with Moore Engineering, Inc. and Houston Engineering, Inc. for this Process were held on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in accordance with the ND State Water Commission's Cost-Share Policy and General Requirements. Manager Lovas moved to approve the FINAL REPORT, including the final recommendation regarding Moore Engineering, Inc., as the most qualified firm. Manager Halvorson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The District will provide written notice of its decision, including the priority order of the firms, to all firms that submitted Qualification Statements. In addition, the District will provide a copy of this FINAL REPORT to the North Dakota State Engineer.

The District will commence negotiations with Moore Engineering, Inc., and will ultimately enter into a written agreement with the firm if the parties can agree on a compensation that is reasonable and fair to the District. If the parties cannot negotiate a satisfactory agreement, the District will terminate negotiations and will commence negotiations with the second-ranked firm. If the District cannot negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the second-ranked firm, the District will otherwise continue its selection process as required under Section 54-44.7-03(7).

### **Joint Power Agreement – Traill County – Legal Drain Crossings**

The District and the County have agreed that for all future township road culvert improvements necessary to accommodate new or existing legal assessment drains, the County will not be responsible for its statutory 40% cost-share obligation, and that the District or the assessment district for the corresponding legal assessment drain will be responsible for those costs, less any cost-share from other sources.

As partial consideration for the District's willingness to refrain from requesting or pursuing the County's 40% cost-share responsibility for township road culvert improvements to accommodate new or existing legal assessment drains, the District and the County have agreed that for all county road or highway crossing improvements to accommodate new or existing legal assessment drains, the District and the County will cooperate and mutually agree on the proper crossing improvement.

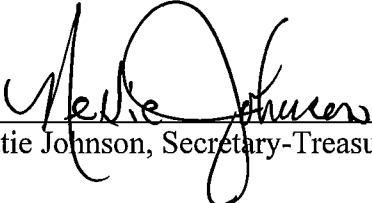
Manager Lovas moved to accept the Agreement as presented. Manager Halvorson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

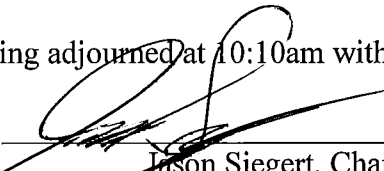
### **Sale of Company Ford Pickup**

Manager Lovas moved to sell the company Ford F-150 pickup for \$17,000.00. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further topics to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:10am without objection.

  
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Nettie Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer

  
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Jason Siegert, Chair