# TRAILL COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT RECURRENT MEETING FEBRUARY 6, 2018 ~ 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, Andy Neset, Joel Halvorson, and Vice-chair Jason Lovas with Chairman Jason Siegert presiding. Also present was: Sean Fredricks, Attorney for the Board and Engineer Chris Gross, Moore Engineering, Inc.

### AGENDA

Manager Lovas moved to accept the agenda. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

## **MINUTES**

Manager Lovas moved to approve the January 16, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Manager Siegert seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **FINANCIAL**

It was moved by Manager Neset and seconded by Manager Lovas to approve payment of the January 17 – February 6, 2018 bills and the electronic funds transfers, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **DRAIN BUSINESS**

Snagging & clearing matters were talked about. Chris Gross stated that American Enterprises has commenced the snagging and clearing of the Goose River at the Steele – Traill line. Chris also provided contractor agreements for both the Goose and Elm River for the Board to review. After discussion, Manager Lovas moved to approve both agreements. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. A copy of AEI's Certificate of Liability Insurance will be requested by Chris and attached to the agreements. Chris added that he will gage the costs of the projects as they progress and keep the Board informed of them.

The Thoreson Drain No. 64 assessments were discussed by the Board. The assessment list that was utilized for assessments was the preliminary list that was developed for the project hearing and assessment vote. During the hearing, comments were submitted and changes were requested. The District did modify the assessment list based on comments at the Assessment hearing. Unfortunately, those changes were not included in the assessment list utilized for tax statements. Manager Lovas moved to mail a letter to the land patrons affected with an explanation of the error. The letter will include either an invoice to collect for an additional amount due or instructions on how to obtain a WRD check for overpayment of their taxes. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Gary Thompson told the Board that Paul Sproule has requested to have cleaning done in Section 31 of the Carson Drain No. 10. The Board determined that no work can be done on this drain for several years as there is a bond that needs to be paid off first.

Updates on the **Mayville Airport** right of way exchange effort were given by Attorney Fredricks. Some of the landowners have signed and returned the documents Ohnstad Twichell Law Firm provided them, some have not. At some point the Board may elect to pursue litigation against holdouts. In the meantime, Ohnstad Twichell will continue to negotiate on the parcel documents the landowners have not signed.

Discussion was held again on a installing a **new drop structure** in the NE ¼ of the NE corner of Section 15 of Norman Township in the **Blanchard-Norman 23-40 Drain**. On January 16<sup>th</sup>, the Board directed Chris Gross to prepare a cost estimate for the drop structure. Today, Manager Neset moved to put the cost estimate on hold until the Board can discuss this topic further later on this year. Manager Halvorson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Board revisited discussion from January 16<sup>th</sup> regarding subcontractor costs that were still owed to Pro Landscaping by Adelman Concrete and Excavating, Inc. for seeding done on the Buxton Drain No. 68 Improvement Project. After further discussion, Manager Lovas moved to approve final payment to Adelman Concrete and Excavating, Inc. less any attorney and engineering costs incurred since the subcontractor claims were made last year. Manager Thompson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Corey Martin, Traill County Highway Superintendent, met with the Board to go over county road and bridge issues with the Board. Mr. Martin informed the Board of his concern of trees and debris up against a bridge in the Goose River. The Board directed him to contact Moore Engineering's Project Representative to coordinate the work to be done with AEI. Discussion was also held on cost-sharing for possible work to be done on the Hillsboro Drain No. 26.

The Board asked Chris Gross about his findings pertaining to the **Steele-Traill Drain No. 17** assessments as discussed on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Questions were asked about the bond on this drain. After further discussion, the Board directed Attorney Fredricks to examine the possibility of paying off the bond on this drain early. He will report back to us at our March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Drain complaint updates** were given by Attorney Fredricks. All three complaints are pending at this time.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

The 2019 – 2021 Water Development Plan was addressed. The Board and Chris Gross put together a "wish list" for the next biennium to include the following drains: Blanchard-Norman Drain No. 23-40, Camrud Drain No. 79, Hatton Drain No. 45, Hillsboro Drain No. 26, Morgan Drain No. 36, Norway Drain No. 38, Paulson Drain No. 7, Preston Floodway, Roseville Drain No. 19 and Thompson Drain No. 71. Chris Gross will assist us in submitting this list to the State Water Commission.

Having no further topics to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:30am without objection.

Lason Siegert, Chairman

Vettie Johnson/Secretary