

**TRAILL COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
RECURRENT MEETING
MAY 1, 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 were: Sean Fredricks, Attorney and Engineer Chris Gross, Moore Engineering, Inc.

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Manager Halvorson moved to approve the April 17, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL

It was moved by Manager Neset and seconded by Manager Halvorson to approve payment of the April 18 – May 1, 2018 bills and the electronic funds transfers, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

DRAIN BUSINESS

Engineer Chris Gross gave **updates** on the Elm River **snagging & clearing project**. He indicated that the contractor hasn't commenced work yet, but is anticipating that he will soon. The Board discussed the status of the possibility of getting state funding back on snagging and clearing projects and the dire importance of it.

Manager Lovas moved to have Engineer Gross investigate the **right-of-way** at the end of the **Elm River Diversion** and in Section 31 of the **Christopherson Drain No. 50** of Blanchard Township. Manager Thompson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held on the **work that remains** on the **Stavanger-Belmont Drain No. 52** between Sections 17 and 20 of Belmont Township which includes extending the short culvert at the end of the drain that was previously installed incorrectly. Engineer Gross informed the Board that he has initiated the change order and is waiting to hear back from the contractor. The repair of **several washouts** will also be necessary.

Jason Siegert told the Board that there are also **washouts** in the **Buxton Drain No. 68** that will need to be addressed.

At 8:30am, **Paul Mueller** and **Jon Berg** met with the Board to discuss **erosion issues** in Ervin Township between the **Paulson Drain No. 7** and the **Mickelson Drain No. 13**. Jon Berg said the erosion has caused holes to form in the road. Jason Siegert suggested the township put a design or specs together for the purpose of repairs. An option of the WRD taking over the maintenance

of it thereafter was talked about. It was added that an intercept pipe and possibly the placement of riprap would be beneficial. Chris Gross stated that the least expensive option would be to have no culvert.

Jon Berg told the Board that a **culvert needs to be lowered** in the NW ¼ of Section 33 of Ervin Township and Section 4 of Eldorado Township in the **Mickelson Drain No. 13**. The Board directed Chris Gross to look at the plans and bring his findings back to the Board.

Corey Martin, Traill County Highway Superintendent, met with the Board to go over county road and bridge issues with the Board. Discussion was held on doing dirt work to help repair roads within the county.

At 9:00am, **Curt and Stacey Reimer** met with the Board to talk about a **summons** he received from **LaVerne Koenig** in reference to a **drainage complaint** that was filed in April 2017 against Koenig. This documentation can be found in the office of the Secretary-Treasurer. Attorney Fredricks explained the steps to be taken to file a motion to dismiss this case. Mr. Reimer asked advice on how he should handle the situation. Mr. Fredricks advised him to be prepared by speaking to his attorney and insurance company and to file his response within the required 21 days. Mr. Fredricks will keep the Board and Mr. Reimer informed of any actions and/or events as they occur.

Ken Knutson stopped in to get **updates** on the Stavanger-Belmont Drain No. 52. Jason Siegert told him that there is culvert work yet to be done and washouts that will be addressed this spring.

Chris Gross updated the Board on the status of the **Norway Drain No. 38 Improvement Project**. He said that he is currently working with the contractor and then described the contract between the Board and the contractor Comstock Construction, Inc. which has been reviewed by Attorney Fredricks. Mr. Gross recommended signing off on the contract whereas work will then commence in a few weeks. After further discussion, Chairman Siegert and Secretary Johnson both signed the contract within the project manual.

Discussion was revisited regarding the **proposed improvements** to the **Hillsboro Drain No. 26**. Chris Gross provided a survey of cross sections in Section 34 of Eldorado Township along County Road 11 and the township road on the east side of the section. The Board will determine which preliminary engineering option is best to go with in the next few weeks. Right-of-way issues will still need to be resolved.

Discussion was held on acquiring easements necessary for the **cleanout** in the **Morgan Drain No. 36** north of County Road 21. Our engineer's office will be conversing with the landowners involved regarding legal documentation and land acquisition. Obtaining an Access Agreement was considered as an option. After further discussion Manager Lovas moved to pay \$150.00 per acre for crop damages in the East ½ of Section 26 of Morgan Township and the SE ¼ of Section 23 of Morgan Township. Andy Neset seconded the motion. Roll call taken: Neset-yea, Halvorson-yea, Thompson-nay, Lovas-yea, Siegert-yea. Motion carried.

Landowners in Section 26 of **Morgan Township** are **requesting a wider crossing** for access for their machinery. Currently there is a 60" culvert there. Chris Gross told the Board that adding additional length to the existing culvert, along with gravel and installation, it would be estimated to cost between \$15,000.00 and \$20,000.00. Mr. Gross will coordinate bids with several contractors to do the work.

Landowners on the north side of Section 11 of Ervin Township would like their **berm built up** to prevent water from coming into their yard. Jason Siegert said that he will speak to the landowners and inform them that this is not our responsibility or jurisdiction.

Andy Neset stated that a **landowner** in the SW ¼ Section 21 approached him asking for our assistance in **building a berm** in his yard as there is a swale in an embankment near there. Andy said a culvert, cap and berm is needed there also. The Board determined that this is not our responsibility or jurisdiction.

Larry Syverson and Shawn Knutson spoke with Manager Neset and informed him that there are **holes in the road due to a non-functioning culvert** in the NE ¼ of Section 34 of the **Roseville Drain No. 19**. The Board decided that this will be looked at once the water recedes in the drain.

The **rebuilding of the berm** in Section 19 of the **S. Mayville Drain No. 9** in Mayville Township was discussed. This will be looked at in the near future.

OTHER BUSINESS

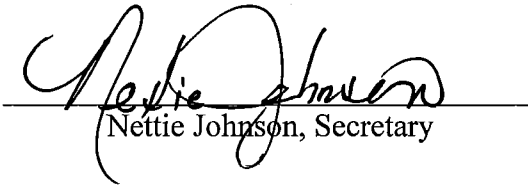
Attorney Fredricks indicated that some landowners recently approached the **Rush River WRD** regarding the **potential development of an assessment district** to maintain portions of the Rush River. The project could ultimately benefit properties in Traill County and, with that in mind, the creation of an assessment district may have to include Traill County properties. That would require either the creation of a new joint board by the Rush and Traill Co WRDs, or just a Joint Powers Agreement between the two boards (either works legally). Mr. Fredricks will provide more information for us in June after meeting with the Rush River WRD at their next meeting.

Attorney Fredricks presented a **draft amendment** to the Board's current agreement **with Moore Engineering, Inc.** We completed the engineering selection process as required by the SWC cost-share rules, and the Board selected Moore Engineering. The amendment extends the agreement for an additional three years, and deletes some provisions from the current agreement (e.g., provisions that require the Board to obtain certain insurance, etc.). Jason Lovas moved to approve the First Amendment Agreement between the Traill County WRD and Engineering Firm Moore Engineering, Inc. for professional purposes. Andy Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Having no further topics to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:00pm without objection.



Jason Siegert, Chairman



Nettie Johnson, Secretary