

**TRAILL COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2019 ~ HILLSBORO, ND**

The District Board convened on this date and came to order at 9:00am at the office of the Traill County Water Resource District in Hillsboro, ND. Managers present were: Joel Halvorson, Gary Thompson, Jason Lovas and Andy Neset with Jason Siegert presiding as Chairman. Also present was: Chris Gross, Moore Engineering, Inc.

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Manager Halvorson moved to approve the October 1, 2019 recurrent meeting minutes as presented. Manager Thompson 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 October 2 – October 15, 2019 bills and the electronic funds transfers, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

GRAND FORKS-TRAILL JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

The Board discussed the special meeting that was held by both Traill County managers and Grand Forks managers on October 9th, 2019 in Hillsboro. This meeting was to approve the Resolution to create a joint water resource district known as the Grand Forks-Traill Joint Water Resource District. Included in the agreement was to appoint joint board members, officers, chair and vice-chair, secretary, treasurer and other agents. Project issues, administration procedures, costs and expenses, and the engineering selection process were all included in the discussion of the joint board as well.

SNAGGING AND CLEARING

(No new updates) Public hearings for the Goose and Elm Rivers and the Buffalo Coulee will be held in early 2020 to stress the importance of snagging and clearing projects to the Commissioners and the land patrons. The ND State Water Commission is allowing for cost-sharing these projects again.

DRAIN BUSINESS

Proposed Camrud Drain No. 79

Chris Gross continues to work with Chris Hong on the creation of this drain.

Proposed Hong Drain No. 81

Chris Gross said that he has been in contact with Chris Hong who is still in the process of trying to collect signatures for this project.

McCoy McCradie 4-14

(No new updates) Chris told the Board that the culverts are on order for the McCoy Drain No. 14. He anticipates the project will be completed this fall.

Stavanger-Belmont Drain No. 52

Updates were given on the current status of the improvement project. Chris Gross indicated that he is waiting for a pay application by contractor JAV Construction. Seeding is yet to be established.

Chris stated that he still awaits an estimate from a contractor to cut down the bank as per a discussion held on October 1st, 2019. Due to the wet conditions, this may be on hold until next year.

Mayville Airport (S. Mayville Drain No. 9)

(No new updates) Manager Neset has brought the easement to the Airport Authority for their review and signatures. He indicated that they have not met on it at this time.

Paulson Drain No. 7

(No new updates) The Board discussed a set of culverts in the last mile of the drain that were set incorrectly. Manager Siegert stated that he would like to see them replaced.

Discussion was revisited on the possibility of putting in some approaches in Section 5. (This was a request made by Neil Pulskamp). Jason Siegert said he will provide an estimate to have the work done.

Murray Drain No. 17

Corey Martin, Traill County Highway Department, said that they are intending to install the culvert in Section 32 of Mayville Township but are waiting for the utility company to do the boring first as there is a fiber optic cable that will need to be relocated.

Kevin Braaten met with the Board this morning requesting that an area in this drain be sprayed for cattails. The Board informed Mr. Braaten that there are not available funds to do any spraying at this time but will reconsider his request next year.

Blanchard-Norman Drain No. 23-40

(No new updates). Discussion was revisited on the possibility of re-voting a reconstruction project for this drain and/or any maintenance projects that would improve the functionality of this drain.

Viking-Lindaas Drain No. 44

Spencer Endrud has requested a culvert be installed in Section 30 of Lindaas Township. Chris Gross provided a map of contours for the Board to review.

Kelso Floodway

(No new updates). Adam Grothman will commence with the work when weather permits.

Nelson Drain No. 28

Discussion was revisited on the status of the culvert install in the NE ¼ of Section 31 of Hillsboro Township. (See August 20th minutes). Contractor Chad Hanson will perform the work when weather allows.

McCoy Drain No. 14

Comstock Construction will commence with the washout repairs when weather permits.

Norway Drain No. 38

Comstock Construction will commence with the washout repairs in 2020.

Preston Floodway and Greenfield-Bohnsack Drain No. 57A

(No new updates). KRB Gravel will commence with the work on both legal drains when the Agreement has been satisfied and the weather permits.

Buxton Drain No. 68

Jason Siegert met with landowners yesterday regarding some berm issues that are occurring in Section 22. Minimum berm elevations need to be met.

Red Owl Drain No. 55

Chris Gross told the Board that the survey has been completed for the request to increase the size of the culvert at the outlet in Section 32 of Blanchard Township. He will provide the plans for the Board to review once they are put together.

Carson Drain No. 10

Jason Siegert told the Board that a culvert in an approach in the NW ¼ of Section 34 of Belmont Township is failing and causing flooding in a farmstead. Discussion was held on the possibility of taking out another bond to perform the work which would include installing 2 new culverts and cleaning the ditch for at least 1.5 miles. The grade would be changed which would require a permit. Jason said that he will provide the board with culvert sizes once the water goes down.

Mowing and Spraying of Drains

Shawn and Diane Morten, owners of Dakota Helicopters, met with the Board this morning in regards to the spraying that was done to our legal drains this fall. It was discovered that there was a misunderstanding of the instructions and mapping by the applicators so the majority of the drains were sprayed beyond what was indicated on the maps thus the Board was exceedingly overcharged. After further discussion, Manager Lovas moved to compensate Dakota Helicopters for the acres of legal drains that were scheduled to be sprayed, and to also compensate them approximately 50% of additional acres that were sprayed, but not on the list. There were 8 drains on the list that were sprayed but have limited or no funds in their account therefore compensation for those drains cannot be made. Manager Halvorson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried.

TRAILL COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Corey Martin, Traill County Highway Superintendent and their engineer met with the Board to go over county road and bridge issues with the Board.

PERMITS

APPLICATION FOR SURFACE DRAIN NO. 5270 - HILLSBORO DRAIN NO. 26 CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Board reviewed information from the State Engineer regarding APPLICATION FOR SURFACE DRAIN NO. 5270, previously submitted by the Traill County Water Resource District regarding a channel reconstruction and improvement project for Hillsboro Drain No. 26. The Traill County Water Resource District owns, operates, and maintains Hillsboro Drain No. 26 as a legal assessment drain.

The project will include channel improvements along County Road 11 and 165½ Avenue NE, in the Southeast Quarter of Section 33 and the West Half of Section 34 in Eldorado Township in Traill County. The project will provide safer side slopes and replacement of the Drain outlet structure.

The State Engineer concluded the project is not “of statewide or interdistrict significance.” The Board adopted Moore Engineering’s proposed responses to the eight elements under 89-02-01-09.2 of the North Dakota Administrative Code. The Board further determined no hearing was necessary under 89-02-01-09.1(2) of the North Dakota Administrative Code; the Board will obtain any right of way necessary to accommodate the project and the landowners in the area support the project.

Manager Lovas moved to approve APPLICATION FOR SURFACE DRAIN NO. 5270 regarding the improvements to Hillsboro Drain No. 26, subject to any conditions attached by the State Engineer, and to authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to sign PERMIT FOR SURFACE DRAIN NO. 5270. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Sean Fredricks will send the permit materials to the State Engineer’s Office.

Having no further topics to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:15am without objection.



Jason Siegert, Chairman

Nettie Johnson, Secretary