

**TRAILL COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
RECURRENT MEETING  
FEBRUARY 18, 2020 ~ 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: Joel Halvorson, Jason Siegert (by phone), Gary Thompson and Andy Neset with Vice-Chair Jason Lovas presiding as Chairman. Also present was Chris Gross, Moore Engineering, Inc.

**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 February 4, 2020 recurrent meeting minutes as presented. Manager Neset 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 February 5 - 18, 2020 bills and the electronic funds transfers, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Manager Halvorson and seconded by Manager Thompson to approve the January 2020 checking and saving account statements. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

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

(No new updates) The assessment hearing for the Thompson Drain No. 72 Improvement Project will be held on February 24, 2020 at 9:00am at the office of the Traill County WRD.

(Update) The consideration of the Vote Tally, Benefit Cost Analysis, and the Order to Establish the Grand Forks Drain No. 59 will be held tomorrow at 10:00am at the office of the Grand Forks County WRD.

**SNAGGING AND CLEARING**

(No new updates) Several of the water board managers will be meeting with the county commissioners on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am to remind them of the importance of snagging and clearing projects for the purpose of protecting infrastructure and land. It is with hope that they will resume funding snagging and clearing projects.

## **DRAIN BUSINESS**

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

(No new updates) Chris Gross said that Chris Hong continues to speak to landowners and attempts to collect the bond and signatures for this proposed project.

### **JASON SIEGERT LEFT THE MEETING AT 10:00AM.**

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

(Update) Chris Gross said that the cost-share application has been submitted to the State Water Commission (SWC) Regulatory Division and will be on their April 9<sup>th</sup> agenda to review/approve. The subcommittee will be meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> to review and recommend approval to the SWC for cost-sharing this project. Chris suggests that representatives from our Board be in attendance.

Chris said that the survey crew will be on site this week.

### **McCoy Drain No. 14**

(No new updates) Chris told the Board that Comstock Construction has requested an extension for the project due to inclement weather. Manager Halvorson moved to approve Change Order No. 1 for the request to extend the completion date of the contract which will most likely transpire in 2020. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

### **Stavanger-Belmont Drain No. 52**

(No new updates) \$5,000.00 is being retained until the seeding can be established this year.

### **Mayville Airport (S. Mayville Drain No. 9)**

(No new updates) Lance Fugleberg, President of the Airport Authority, was here this morning to speak with the Board about the difficulty they are having with signing the easement agreement. The WRD is proposing to acquire a 25' easement. The Airport Authority feels that the agreement benefits the water board and excludes any for the Airport Authority. Mr. Fugleberg added that they are unwilling to give up any land as they have little to build on already but are willing to work with the water board and allow them to work there when necessary. Sean Fredricks said that he will revise the agreement to make it more palatable for all parties involved and will also work with their legal counsel on agreement matters. Chris Gross said that they anticipate putting stakes in the ground in the next several weeks which will give the Airport Authority an opportunity to visualize on the ground what the easement boundary is. Hopefully this will lead them to granting an easement once they see the impacts are non-existent.

### **Paulson Drain No. 7**

(No new updates) Jason Siegert said that most of the berm-spoil has been levelled on this drain with only a mile and a half mile left to clean, spoil, and place a culvert.

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.

#### **Hillsboro Drain No. 26**

(Update) Chris Gross stated that a cost-share application was submitted to the SWC on February 4<sup>th</sup> for the purpose of requesting assistance to cover costs in the amount of \$72,041.05 for the box culvert and channel work that is not included in the bond.

#### **Viking-Lindaas Drain No. 44**

(No new updates) 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.

#### **Red Owl Drain No. 55**

(No new updates) Chris Gross specified that he has sent Harlan Erickson maps, preliminary drawings, and a cost estimate for the possible reconstruction of this drain. Mr. Erickson will be speaking to landowners to gauge their interest in moving forward with this project.

#### **Carson Drain No. 10**

(No new updates) A culvert in an approach in the NW ¼ of Section 34 of Belmont Township is failing and causing flooding in a farmstead. The Board and Chris Gross will put a plan together to replace 2 culverts and clean the ditch from County Road 2 west and proceed one and a half miles through the farmstead.

#### **Roseville Drain No. 19**

(No new updates) Discussion was revisited on Pete Haugen's request to find a solution to drainage problems that are occurring on his land due to the condition of this drain. Chris Gross provided a quad map of the area of the drain that was proposed to be reconstructed in 2007, but failed. The Board suggests having Mr. Haugen visit with landowners who are assessed into this drain and gauge the interest in reconstructing it. Chris will work with Pete Haugen on these issues and report back to the Board.

#### **Norway Drain No. 38**

(Update) Dan Overmoe and his sister Janice Tingum met with the Board this morning to discuss the status of their request to build a new approach in the North Half of the SE Quarter of Section 9 of Norway Township in order for the new owner to have legal access. After a lengthy discussion, the Board determined that they will grant the Overmoe family an easement for a culvert crossing and pay for any engineering costs to ensure the work meets design standards but will not provide compensation for installation costs. Manager Halvorson moved to direct Moore Engineering to size a crossing with a culvert to include flared end sections. Manager Neset seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **TRAILL COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

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

### **COMPLAINTS**

(No new updates) Discussion was revisited on the Reimer vs. Koenig complaint and the status of recovering attorney fees and engineering costs incurred due to this complaint. The District is entitled to assess the Koenig property to recover its costs under Section 61-16.1-51.

At our meeting on January 7th, The Board and attorney Fredricks discussed the Koenig-Reimer expenses. Mr. Fredricks was planning on directing Traill County to levy assessments against the Koenig property to collect the Board's costs. However, in the meantime, Dan Gaustad (appointed by NDIRF to defend the Board in Koenig's attempted appeal of the Board's cost decision) filed a Motion to Dismiss Koenig's attempted appeal for failure to properly and timely serve the Board.

This matter will be re-addressed when we know the Court's decision on the motion before directing the County to levy.

### **PERMITS**

None.

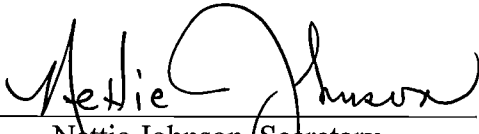
### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further topics to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:40am without objection.

  
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Jason Lovas, Vice-Chairman

  
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Nettie Johnson, Secretary