

Barnes County Water Resource District

PO Box 306

Valley City, ND. 58072

701-845-8508

Minutes

06/08/2009

Present: Jeff McMillan, Pat Hurley & Don Johnson

Also present: Harlan Opdahl, Brent Gustufson, Jerry & LaWanna Hieb, Milo & Karen Bucholz and Kerry Johnson.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Jeff McMillan.

Pat moved to approve the minutes of the May meeting with corrections. Second by Don, the motion carried. Don moved to approve the Revenue & Expenditure reports. Don seconded. The motion carried.

Jerry & LuWanna Hieb, EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection program) sponsorship request for spring flood damage to land that is located in Marsh Township, SE ¼ of section 28. The NRCS will cost share 75% for the structural repair to the river embankment. The remaining 25% would be Mr. Hieb's responsibility. Pat moved and Don seconded the motion to sponsor the EWP for the project.

Jeff reported on the Dazey drain. During the spring flood The City of Dazey was inundated with flood waters. Through cooperation with the US Fish & Wildlife, City of Dazey and the Water Resource District the drain that was previously closed was reopened. Jeff visited with city official James Sherlock and noted that all was working well and that all concerned parties were satisfied.

Mylo Bucholz reported on the current status of the Norma drain. He stated that the water was within the banks of the drain, water was running and that Myrons culvert was full. He took pictures and presented them to the board. He also presented a photo of the spoil piles from the last cleanout. Jeff asked if Mylo had proof of an obstruction. Mylo reported that the water was backed up onto his property, and that was the proof. Karen Bucholz noted that they had 54 acres under water. The board informed the Bucholz's that NRCS would be doing a soil survey once all 1026 forms were filled out by the Nelsons and the Hendricksons. Jamie will contact Hendrickson's to verify that they get this signed. With authorization by these landowners, NRCS will have soil scientists test sediment accumulations. Brent noted that the control point will be the culvert in Myron Nelson's driveway.

Kerry Johnson, Barnes County Highway Superintendent, presented two locations of possible culvert installations. The first spot was between sections 7/18 of Svea Township on County road 32. Although this is a very small accumulation of water it affects the approach into the fields. Century Code states that a road can not act as a dam. Kerry was

requesting a recommendation for installation. He stated that Barnes County standards are for a minimum of 24" with a 1 foot minimum cover. It was the consensus of the board that if there was an easement that this standard would protect that wetland. Pat moved and Don seconded to recommend the placement of a 24" culvert between sections 7/18 of Svea Township. (in the SW corner of section 7 and the NW corner of section 18). The motion carried. The Highway Dept. will install the culvert. Jamie will pass on the location to NRCS.

The second location for culvert installation is between section 6&7 of Greenland Township on County Road 38 West. This spot has been a troublesome area for numerous years, and water has continually runs over the county road during spring thaw. When the water recedes, the road holds it back on section 6. Kerry noted concern as to where the water would end up. By reviewing aerial maps it was decided that it would end up in Stutsman County by the Richman farmstead. The Board would like to further look into this prior to making a recommendation for installation.

It was the consensus of the board to organize a meeting for the Thordenskjold Drain assessment district. The drain is in need of a cleanout on the South End near the Nome/Kathryn road (County Road 38E) Pat will be acquiring an cost estimate from Cummings excavation. Jamie will assemble a list of the persons in the assessment district.

Discussion was held on how to handle drain tile permits that involve a legal drain.

Discussion on Section 25 of Ashtabula Township (Bill Hass/Lynn Holcomb) was held. It was decided to have Jamie and Jeff survey the proposed drain from the outlet of the slough onto Holcomb's ½ mile south. The board discussed the option of dropping the drain outlet 14" (in the free flowing ditch) and installing a culvert with a gate to control the outflow. The board will revisit this option once the survey is complete.

Bentonite reimbursements of \$250.00 per well, were approved for Al Bender (for the City of Sibley), Harvey Abraham and Matt Powers.

Jamie reported on the progress of damaged dams. Moore engineering has completed their Hydrology reports. This information has been sent to the SWC for their review. Notice was given to Marcella Wochinick regarding the "Heinze dam" that is located in Sibley Trail Township. NRCS is working with her on a cost hare for repairs.

LiDar mapping has been ordered for Hobart Township. Columbia grain has agreed to pay the \$500.00 fee. Jeff and Jamie will be going to Moore Engineering in West Fargo to look into options available for mapping the entire county.

Review of the South East Cass County Water Resource District pump policy. Board will take a copy home and make suggestions at the July meeting.

Pat moved to increase wages to \$100.00 a month in regards to Senate Bill # 2251. The newly passed bill states that: "Each member of a water resource board shall receive the sum of at least seventy-five dollars but not more than one hundred thirty-five dollars per day while performing duties as a member of the board, and an allowance for meals and lodging expenses at the same rate and under the same conditions as provided for state officials and employees. The allowance for travel expenses shall be at the same rate as provided by section 11-10-15 and shall be evidenced by a sub voucher or receipt as provided by section 21-05-01."

Jeff reported that John Schwehr is looking into the possibility of establishing a new legal drain in Anderson and Stewart Township. Mr. Schwehr will be stopping by the office with a map showing the location of the proposed drain and also a list of interested landowners.

Jeff will be taking his 4 wheeler out to the West ½ of section 22 to look for possible blockage in the natural drain.

Don reported that the Lower Sheyenne Joint Water Resource District is looking into the possibility of establishing retention ponds along the river. Don was requested to present this to the Barnes County Water Resource District and to see if there was any possibility of Barnes County participating in a cost share. This was discussed, and was decided that more information would be needed prior to a commitment.

A note will be submitted to the Litchville Bulletin and the Valley City Times Record to express the Boards appreciation to the numerous volunteers whom assisted during the washout of the emergency spillway at Clausen Springs Dam, especially the Kathryn Fire Department, Sanborn Fire Department and David & Wade Smith.

Pat moved and Don seconded to adjourn the meeting. The next meeting will be on July 13th in the conference room of the Barnes County Highway Department.