

Barnes County Water Resource District
PO Box 306
Valley City, ND. 58072
701-845-8508

Minutes of Meeting
03/08/2010

Present: Jeff McMillan, Pat Hurley, Don Johnson

Also present: Dean Carpenter, Randy Johnson, and those listed on the attached list.

Pat moved to approve the minutes of the January meeting. Don seconded, the motion carried. Note: There was not a meeting in February due to inclement weather.

Pat moved to approve the Revenue & Expense reports. Don seconded the motion to approve Revenue & Expense Reports. The motion carried.

Dean Carpenter updated the Board on the progress of his drainage project. Mr. Carpenter is currently applying for a drain tile permit for an 18" pipe to run between the NW ¼ of Section 1 and the NE ¼ of Section 2, Thordenskjold Township. He also asked if the Board would be willing to waive the downstream landowner requirement. The Board will discuss this request and notify Mr. Carpenter.

Legal Drain # 2 Advisory Committee is requesting that gravel be placed on the Beth Didier driveway. Culverts were placed in the driveway in the fall of 2008 and the driveway has settled over the culverts. They are also requesting that a contractor be hired to open the drain in early spring. Pat moved to approve both requests, Don seconded. The motion to place gravel in the Didier driveway and to hire a contractor to open up the drain carried. Jamie Smith noted that the Legal Drain # 2 fund balance has been transferred from Stewart Township. The Drain funds have separate fund numbers and the money is kept separate from other District funds.

Randy Johnson, representing the Fingal Wildlife Club was present to request assistance in the repair of the Martin Thoreson Wildlife Dam located in the East ½ of Section 23, Nelson Township. Johnson noted that this dam was built in 1966 and is approximately 14.6 acre feet in size. The spillway is eroded; the culvert has rusted out and Beavers

have been a problem. NRCS has dam repair programs that cost share 75% of the cost of repairs. The landowner would be responsible for the remaining 25%. Since the cost estimate of repair is \$70,000.00 it could cost the landowner \$20,000.00. This is not feasible for the current landowner alone. Johnson and the Wildlife Club would like to see the dam refurbished for wildlife and fish habitat. Johnson estimated that the Wildlife Club could come up with \$6,000.00 to help with the project. Board member Hurley will look into State Water Commission funding possibilities. It was also noted that the dam provides very minimal flood protection.

The Thordenskjold Drain Hearing was held on February 10th at the Kathryn Fire Hall. Landowners within the drain assessment district were informed of the need of a cleanout on the south end of the drain. A \$2.00 per acre assessment was proposed. Many meeting attendees were against the assessment and had concerns with the assessment district size. The deadline for all votes was February 17th at 5:00 PM. There were 1,831.31 acres voting no and 2,091.12 yes votes out of the 7,755.48 possible votes. The assessment needed 51% of the total acres voting yes to pass. The vote failed. Currently the Board is looking into other options. Legal advice is being sought in how to proceed. Sean Fredicks of Ohnstad, Twitchell is looking into our options.

Kadrmass, Lee and Jackson have been contacted to complete a more comprehensive survey of the drain from State Hwy #1 east. BNSF Rail Road is now interested in this project. A new contact has been established.

Chairman McMillan will be present at the Spring Meeting of the Barnes County Township Officers Association on March 25th.

Discussion was held on repairs that are needed on the pump. Pat moved to have Barnes County Weed Officer James McAlister order new discharge hose, intake hose and a tool box. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried. A total cost must be submitted to Chairman McMillan prior to purchase.

Vernon Ussastis submitted a letter requesting a culvert be replaced between sections 13 & 14 of Thordenskjold Township. Mr. Ussastis feels that the District should replace this pipe as it lies within the Thordenskjold Drain assessment district. The area in question is approximately 1 and ¼ mile east of the drain. The District is not responsible for culverts that lie outside the physical drain. The appears to be a Township issue. Mr. Ussastis will be advised by mail to seek assistance from Thordenskjold Township as well as the NRCS and The US Fish & Wild Life Service.

Board member Johnson reported on the Corps of Engineers meeting that was held in Valley City on March 2nd. It was reported that there was currently snow/water equivalent of 4.5" in the watershed and 29" of ice on Lake Ashtabula and 18" of ice on the river. They reviewed the events of last year. It was also noted that rain driven events will drive the flood this year as well as the melt rate. In mid March the Corps will have the pool level of Lake Ashtabula at 1257 in prep for the spring flood.

A design update for repairs on the Clausen Springs Dam spillway was presented by Mike Opat of Moore Engineering. The Baffle Shute design cannot be utilized due to poor plasticity of the soils in the existing spillway. It simply will not be feasible to extend the concrete Shute. Currently the studies are being completed to see if a spillway can be placed on the face of the dam, thus lowering the flood storage. This will take roughly 6-8 weeks. Repairs will not be completed this year due to the length of time that is purposed to complete design.

Bills were submitted and approved for payment.

Emergency planning was discussed for the Clausen Springs Dam. Stoney Run/slough holds roughly 750 acre feet of water on a good year, due to the run functioning poorly it will only hold 300 to 350 acre feet this year. There is 4-5" of snow/water content in the basin. Discussion was held on the placement of stop logs on the US Fish & Wildlife Structure. The State Water Commission will work with the Fish & Wildlife Service on the timing of placement. Daily readings of a gauge placed in the Clausen Springs Lake will be taken by Paul Fischer and Tim Tangen then reported to the office. These levels will then be reported to the Engineer's, SWC and Game & Fish. The gauge will be placed by the SWC within the week. Discussion was held on Pre Flooding reinforcement of the spillway. Pat moved to have Moore Engineering develop an Emergency Operations Plan for the spillway along with a design for placing material to armor the compromised spillway. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried. Discussion was held on chain of command. The Barnes County Water Resource is the Chief entity and will be represented by Moore Engineering. Reports/notifications will be sent to the SWC, BC Emergency Management and NDGF Dept. Jon Kelsch of the SWC noted that it would be difficult to set specific trigger points. It was noted that when the lake level reaches higher than the Wier of the dam, emergency actions will begin. Jamie will establish an Emergency contact list for the dam. The City of Kathryn will be set up on the Code Red List. An informational meeting will be held on March 18th at 7:00 pm, Kathryn Fire Hall. The purpose of this meeting will be to update citizens of the status of the dam and on preparations for emergency actions.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Smith, Secretary