

Barnes County Water Resource District

PO Box 306

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August 9th, 2010

Minutes

Present: Chairman: Jeff McMillan

Board member's: Pat Hurley and Don Johnson

Also present: See attached roll call sheet.

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman McMillan.

Board member Hurley moved to approve the minutes of the July 2010 meetings. Board member Johnson seconded. The motion carried. Hurley moved to approve the Revenue and Expenditure reports. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Hurley led a discussion on the possibility of lowering the water level in Sanborn Lake. Hurley stated that ultimately the goal is to remove sheet water to a depth of 5 feet. There are two options that require a ditch to be cut around the hill in section 7 of Hobart Township. He also stated that there would be an adjustable gate installed on the culvert to provide a controlled release. Brent Gustufson from the NRCS stated that the NRCS would allow a Temporary Minimal Effects for a period of 1-3 yrs. Richard Bartz expressed concern over the ditch being placed on his property. However he agreed that something needed to be done to control the lake level. Mr. Bartz was asked to consider how much he would need to be compensated to allow a ditch to be dug on his property. Several members of the audience expressed concerns over how the lake is affecting the County Road system and the BN Rail Road. A member of the audience requested that each landowner be sent a letter specifically outlining how this drainage would affect their property; this letter should also include a contact number for landowners to call with questions. The board agreed that this would be a good idea and would try to keep the landowners as informed as possible. Hurley moved to schedule a Hearing with the State Water Commission, Seconded by Johnson. The motion carried. The Secretary was instructed to contact the State Water Commission.

Richard Betting representing the group "People to Save the Sheyenne" addressed the board in regards to the Red River Joint Water Resource District's support of an East end outlet for Devils Lake. Betting presented the Board with a copy of the Red River Joint Water Resource District Resolution of Support for Devils Lake Structural Outlet. He asked if the board had voted in supported of an East end outlet. Chairman McMillan stated that the Barnes County Water Resource District is a member of the Red River Joint Water Resource District and that the Barnes County did not vote in favor of the East end outlet. Professor Andre Delorme from Valley State University expressed concerns over water quality and has a prepared statement that he will present the board at a later date. Some discussion was held as to water quality. Betting presented the Board with a sample Resolution urging the armoring of the Tolna Coulee at the East end of Devils Lake. He asked the Board to pass the resolution. The Board took this into advisement and noted that they would have to become more informed prior to signing the resolution. The Board would like to also discuss the matter of the Red River Joint Water Resource Resolution with the Red River Joint Board. It was agreed to contact Richard Betting when a decision was reached.

Hemen Township Board members requested that the Board place a cap or gate on the 18" culvert that they were court ordered to install between section's 10/15. They feel that this culvert may cause an emergency situation for roads downstream. The secretary is to check if the District has authority to place a cap on this culvert prior to making a decision.

Chairman McMillan reported on the Eckelson Lake natural outlet cleanout. The cleanout has been completed to the township road between Sections 15/22 of Anderson Township. The board decided that they would hold out on any further cleanout until water levels lower so that high spots can be identified in section 22.

The Emergency License to drain application for Section 36 of Ashtabula Township (submitted by Lynn Holcomb) was approved by the State Water Commission. Discussion was held on placing the 24"x 24' culvert with a cap. The board agreed that a cap would be placed on the culvert in order to control flows should flooding conditions should arise for downstream landowners. It was decided to have Chairman McMillan to contact a contractor to begin work as soon as conditions are favorable. Lynn Holcomb noted that there was 11" of water over the road and that Albert Wittenberg Jr. would be installing a Texas crossing on the Ashtabula 36/Getchell 1 line.

Discussion held on becoming the "Local" Sponsor for the Bald Hill Dam. After further information was gathered, Hurley moved to rescind his motion to become the "local" sponsor for the Bald Hill dam. Chairman McMillan called for a roll call vote. Hurley and Johnson both

voted yes. The motion to rescind carried. Hurley moved to decline the request from the Sheyenne River Joint Water District to become the "local" sponsor for the Bald Hill Dam. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Hurley moved to decline a request for membership dues from the Red River Basin Commission. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The 2011 Budget was considered and completed for approval by the Barnes County Commission.

Clausen Spring Dam Emergency spillway repair project update was given by the secretary. Correspondence from the ND State Water Commission was read to the Board. The SWC has agreed to allow for an exception to the Dam design handbook. The State Engineer will allow the emergency spillway to be repaired to support a .3 pmp event. Moore Engineering is working with the SWC to work out the details of the repair. Moore will notify the board of their findings. It is hoped that repair work will begin in the fall.

Bills were reviewed and approved for payment.

Being no further business, Hurley moved and Johnson seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The next meeting will be, September 13th, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Smith
Secretary