

Barnes County Water Resource District

PO Box 306

Valley City, ND. 58072

701-845-8508

04-11-2011

Minutes

Present: Chairman-Jeff McMillan and Board Members-Pat Hurley and Duane Lettenmaier

Also present: See attached list

The meeting was held in the Commissioner's Chamber's at the Barnes County Courthouse. The meeting was called to order by Chairman McMillan at 9:00 AM.

Pat Hurley moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Duane Lettenmaier seconded. The motion carried. Pat moved to approve the Revenue and Expenditure reports. Duane seconded the motion.

Chad Zorn, US Fish & Wildlife Service, was present to discuss Stoney Run and Clausen Springs Dam. He reported that the Stoney Run structure was holding its own and that all boards have been removed from the west structure that backs water up to the North East (near Jake Olson). These can be used for retention but he had concerns as no water has been flowing out. Chad believes that there could be an obstruction somewhere between their main structure and the Clausen Springs Dam. Pat moved to investigate the run for possible obstructions. Duane seconded, the motion carried. A discussion was held on proper sizing of culverts. The USFWS will continue to assist in stream flow monitoring for the Clausen Springs Dam.

Chad brought up neighborhood concerns about USFWS holding to much water. He reported that their agency has hired an engineering firm to complete a study of documents and survey to verify the proper water levels. They will be using the 1997 water permits as those are the most current agreements. When the report is complete the USFWS will hold a public meeting. The Barnes County Water Resource District will receive a copy of the report.

Emergency drainage is need in Thordenskjold Township. Kevin Loibl in Section 28 is losing his farm and home to flood waters. Discussion was held on assisting by digging and emergency drain thru Section 22 (Dan Lahlum property). It was decided to assist Dan with the Emergency Drain application. Pat and the Secretary will work on completing the application. Mr. Lahlum will also need to complete a 1026 with the NRCS. The USFWS will assist with this project.

Discussion was held on Tomahawk Dam in Rogers Township. The USFWS controls and maintains this structure. Water is running over the Texas crossing. The USFWS is still seeking federal funds for repairs. They may do a complete facelift.

Clausen Springs Dam utilized the emergency spillway this past week. Excavating Inc was able to complete emergency work on time so that there was minimal erosion to the spillway. Moore Engineering was onsite to help monitor flows. The North Dakota State Water Commission provided an Engineer and a construction crew with equipment to help with any erosion problems. The SWC installed an electronic gauge so that pool levels could be monitored remotely.

Sanborn Lake project was discussed. The District still has not heard back from the State Water Commission in regards to the permit application to lower lake levels.

Discussion was held on the Eckelson Lake natural water course cleanout project. Work will continue when conditions are favorable.

Kevin Becker of Dazey Township was in attendance in regards to cleaning out of a natural drain on his property. He supplied the board with a copy of the NRCS 1026 and the Corps 404 clearance. Since this is not new drainage, there is no permit required on the state and local level.

Dave Lokken, manager of Columbia Grain, has concerns regarding Hobart Lake levels. He was also concerned about long range planning for the lake. Mr. Lokken made a request for an additional culvert to be placed between sections 23/24 of Hobart Township. Mr. Lokken was instructed that he would need to put in a request with Hobart Township as they are the road authority.

A brief discussion was held on Fox Lake. Several Eckelson Township residents were in attendance to discuss the increased lake level and how it was affecting roads.

Binghampton Township requests that the Board make a recommendation to Canadian Pacific Rail Road to increase the size of a culvert located in the NW corner of the NW ¼, Section 20. Pat will do an onsite inspection prior to making a recommendation to the rail road.

Arlen Huber complaint was reviewed. Mr. Huber has filed a complaint against the Barnes County Highway Department and the US Farm Service Agency. Since this was tabled at the March meeting, Chairman McMillan asked for comments from the Board. Notes from the March meeting with the US Farm Service Agency and the Barnes County Highway Department were reviewed. Hurley moved to deny Mr. Huber's complaint against the Barnes County Highway Department. Duane seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion was held on Mr. Huber's complaint against the US Farm Service Agency. Barnes County Water Resource District does not have jurisdiction over Federal agencies, their policies and programs Pat moved to deny Mr. Huber's complaint against the US Farms Service Agency. Duane seconded the motion, the motion carried.

A culvert request was made by Vernon Ussastis, SW ¼ of Section 13 and the SE ¼ of Section 14, Thordenskjold Township. Since this is a Township section line, Thordenskjold Township has the authority. The Secretary will contact Mr. Ussastis.

North Country Trail has been using the Clausen Springs Dam as part of their hiking trail. There is no agreement in place between the North Country Trail Association and the Barnes County Water Resource District allowing hiking on the dam. Discussion was held on liability issues. It was decided to invite the North Country Trail Association to the next meeting to resolve this issue.

Duane reported on the Sheyenne Joint Water Resource District meeting that he attended. This meeting was held as an informational session about possible retention/detention sites all along the Sheyenne River. Two sites were identified in Barnes County. One site is located on the Bald Hill Creek (Dazey Twp.) and one located in Stewart Township, south of the Tomahawk dam. Duane reported that fifteen Barnes County residents were in attendance and that for the most part they were against this proposal. Griggs County is opposed to the Bald Hill Creek site.

The Corps of Engineers is moving forward on a feasibility study. The Sheyenne Joint Water Resource District is actively perusing funding for retention/detention projects all along the Sheyenne River. Duane said that the following entities can sponsor a project; a water resource district, North Dakota State Water Commission and the Board of County Commissioners.

Kent Sortland, Svea Township, discussed the need for a county road ditch cleanout by Doug Lettenmaier's. Water is not getting around and out of Lettenmaier's land. Discussion was held. More background work is needed. The NRCS will need to review this and well as the Barnes County Highway Department. Mr. Sortland was advised to begin discussions with both entities.

Meadow Lake was discussed. Pat will be attending the Stutsman County Water Resource District meeting in regards to a possible outlet.

Barnes County Commission requested the Board publish a more detailed agenda. Chairman McMillan stated the agenda issue has been discussed and that the Board has decided not to publish the agenda and that the current agenda format is satisfactory.

Duane moved to approve the bills as submitted. Pat seconded the motion. Chairman McMillan called for a roll call vote. The results are as follows; Hurley-yes, Lettenmaier-yes, McMillan-yes. The motion carried.

Being no further business, Duane moved to adjourn the meeting. Pat seconded the motion. The motion carried. The next meeting will be held on May 9th, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Smith
Secretary

Barnes County Water Resource District

04/11/2011

Meeting Attendance

Please sign in below

Radger Berntson
Ralph Greer

Kent Southard
Gary Jensen

Jammy Jacobson
Chad Horn

Dana Dider
Scott Dulluhson

Joen Frøelie

Javla Jøker

Dan E

Kerim Becker

Shelly Nelson

Diane Suttle